

Hillsborough HATS  
Services and Cross-System Relationship-Building Workgroup Conference Call  
Wednesday September 28th 5pm – 6pm

On the call: Lynn Ringenberg, Joanne Angel, Janet Hess, Gene Early, Marybeth Palmigiano. Laurie Woodard and Danny Plasencia joined at 5:30.

**Legislative Update:**

Janet Hess provided an update on a bill that has been introduced for the 2012 legislative session by Senator Stephen Weiss (session starts January 2012). It is similar to last session's bill, however this year we anticipate a House sponsor. Representative Grant or Logan will be the primary House sponsor, and the other will co-sponsor. Dr. Plasencia will contact Rep. Grant to discuss.

The bill would extend care coordination up to age 26 and would formalize FloridaHATS as the state office for health care transition.

There are two concerns with the bill. One is the perceived fiscal impact of extending care coordination to CMS patients up to age 26. There is no request for additional money, however some legislators are concerned about additional cost. The second issue is whether or not the DOH reorganization will have an impact on CMS (and this bill), and what that might be.

**Outreach:**

- Janet Hess held a video conference presentation for all FQHCs in the state.
- Dr. Ringenberg met with Kim Guy, COO and Keri Eisenbeis, Director of Ambulatory Care for St. Joseph's. They are interested in helping to get the word out among St. Joe's staff and will print our article in their newsletter.
- Dr. Ringenberg also submitted the article to Tampa General; we expect it will be published in October's newsletter.
- Marybeth Palmigiano sent the same article to Dr. Buzzeo for submission to University Community Hospital. That request is pending.
- Brief presentation by Dr. Buzzeo to Pediatricians at UCH is tentatively schedule for Oct 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Gene Early will include the article in the Hillsborough County Health Care Plan newsletter.

**Mailing to Adult Primary Care Providers:**

We have compiled a list of 254 adult providers in Hillsborough County and plan to mail a letter of introduction, the HATS brochure, 10 steps guide, postcard and insurance brochure to each provider. A discussion ensued regarding the best way to follow up with the providers to get them to accept transition patients and be included in our Health Services Directory.

It was decided that we shouldn't include anyone in the directory unless we know for sure that they are taking transition patients. We may do follow up phone calls after the mailing to ask the providers for permission to include them in the directory. In the meantime, Janet Hess will check with the Health Services Directory designer to see if we can include a note in the directory pointing patients to a separate list of adult providers who have not yet consented to being in the directory. This way our directory remains a true resource of providers who do accept transition patients. The supplementary list is just an easily accessible informational list of adult providers.

**Other:** Dr. Plasencia mentioned a conversation with Dr. Curran suggesting that there may be funding to support providers who care for transition patients in Hillsborough County. Gene Early will investigate.

**Action Items:**

**Joanne Angel** – Check on our postcard inventory.

**Dr. Plasencia** – Follow up with Rep Grant.

**Gene Early** – Print article in HC Health Care Plan Newsletter. Talk to Dr. Curran about funding in Hillsborough County for transition services.

**Dr. Ringenberg** – Follow up with St. Josephs.

**Marybeth Palmigiano** – Send article to Gene Early. Follow up with Dr. Buzzeo.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Next phone meeting Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm – 6:00pm