

Hillsborough HATS
Steering Committee Conference Call
9:00am – 10:00am
April 30, 2012

On the call: Janet Hess, Diane Straub, Lynn Ringenberg, Laurie Woodard, Marybeth Palmigiano

Coalition Leadership:

Ms. Hess opened the call with a question about whether we should try to engage Dr. Takagishi, the CMS Asst. Medical Director for this region. Dr. Takagishi's involvement could strengthen the CMS leadership role in the coalition. Ms. Hess will schedule a call with Joanne Angel to discuss.

Follow-up: Ms. Hess talked to both Ms. Angel and Dr. Takagishi. Dr. Takagishi will be added to the coalition member list and will try to participate in the next coalition meeting. Ms. Angel will be out of town the week of June 25, so the coalition meeting should be scheduled prior to that.

Adult Providers:

We continue to struggle with getting adult providers to accept transitioning patients with chronic health conditions, particularly those who have Medicaid. Dawn Smith has made follow up calls from our mailing to ask for provider email addresses so we can send them materials electronically. Unfortunately she has had very little success. Dr. Ringenberg also visited some provider offices and also was not very successful in getting access to the providers.

Dr. Woodard reported that FDDC is funding development of a curriculum regarding the care of people with ID/DD that is targeted to family practitioners and medical residents. The trainings will be part of a webinar series, and transition is included as a curriculum component. Dr. Woodard thinks this initiative might help engage local family physicians in accepting transitioning youth with special needs. She will investigate ways to help identify interested practitioners in Hillsborough County.

In addition, Ms. Hess will be submitting an article to the Family Physician journal. The group discussed writing another article for the HCMA newsletter, and other adult provider groups in the area.

Educating Kids and Families:

Given current financial disincentives that adult providers face – which we cannot control - the committee discussed shifting the bulk of our effort from providers to youth and families. The idea is to better prepare kids for transition and begin at an earlier age. We could try to work more closely with the schools and target kids with IEPs.

It was also suggested that we partner with organizations such as Special Olympics, Self-Reliance Independent Living Center, All People's Life Center, Bakas Equestrian Center, Kids Healthcare Foundation and other similar organizations. We might also try to reach out through church groups. We will invite representatives from these organizations to our next coalition meeting.

Next Steps:

The committee agreed that a full coalition meeting was needed to discuss these ideas further, to reinvigorate the group and the meet potential new coalition members. We will identify a date in mid-June for the meeting.

Action Items:

Janet Hess – Schedule call with Joanne Angel.

Laurie Woodard – Look into identifying local family practitioners who could be added to the services directory.

Marybeth Palmigiano – Schedule full coalition meeting