Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

August 2nd and 3rd, 2010

The SPF SIG Advisory Council, Epidemiology Workgroup and Evidence Based Interventions Workgroup met in Anchorage, Alaska on the 2nd and 3rd of August, 2010. In attendance representing the Advisory Council were the following members: Melissa Stone, Kathy Allely, Donn Bennice, Krysti Bland, Peggy Brown, Kate Burkhart, Cindy Cashen, L. Diane Casto, Delisa Culpepper, Sarah Dewane, Anna Fairclough, Shirley Gifford, Kathy Graves, Barbara Henjum, Audie Holloway, Steven King, John Moller, Marny Rivera, Sandy Samaniego, June Sobocinski and Cristy Willer. In attendance representing the Epidemiology Workgroup were the following: Jodi Barnett, Randy Burton, Bill Herman, Deborah Hull-Jilly, Andrew Jessen, Becky Judd, Jesse Metzger, Laurie Orell, Alice Rarig, Jim Sellers, Michael Powell, and Charles Utermohle. In attendance representing the Evidence Based Interventions Workgroup were the following members: Katie Baldwin-Johnson, Susan Christianson, Genevieve Casey, Cathie Clements, Shirley Holmberg, Marcia Howell, Natasha Pineda, Elizabeth Ripley, Sally Rue, Michael Sobocinski and Mary Sullivan. SPF SIG project staff Devon Urquhart was in attendance and Division of Behavioral Health staff member Tony Piper also attended.

❖ Where Do We Start?

As the process began, it was important to remind all members that his project is specifically aimed at: substance use and prevention. The three (3) goals of the SPF SIG project are:

1. Prevent the onset and reduce the progression of substance abuse, including childhood and underage drinking;
2. Reduce substance abuse-related problems in communities;
3. Build prevention capacity and infrastructure at the State and community levels.

Considering this, group members discussed where in the cycle of use we would focus our priority efforts. The substance abuse continuum of care includes the following:

1. Promotion
2. Prevention
3. Early Intervention
4. Treatment
5. Recovery

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This project will focus only on areas 1-3; treatment and recovery will not be addressed with these grant funds. After great discussion it was decided to focus our efforts where changeability is the most relevant; in practice, policy and environmental strategies. Examples of these efforts may include aggressive media campaigning regarding youth alcohol access to parents and policy makers; changes to community or agency practices and policies; and impacting laws and regulations related to substance use at the community level.

❖ Data Challenges

The SPF SIG is a data driven process; during the collection, analysis and evaluation process of the data, several data challenges became evident:

- Availability of community/regional data;
- Data showing poly-drug use to include both alcohol and other drugs. The workgroup wanted them separated in terms of death and other consequences to determine what our priority drugs were;
- Lack of data to show relation of alcohol/drug use to infant mortality;
- Trauma data—data appears limited and there is not a single location where such data is currently collected. How is trauma related to alcohol and other drug consumption?;
- Lack of data on prescription drugs; the workgroup members were interested in learning more about both youth and adult abuse of prescription drugs – this area has been identified as an emerging issue;
- Data on other drug use and driving, including prescription drugs;
- Data limitation in reference to Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) crashes/fatalities. Workgroup members would like to see areas off of roadways represented in a data source, such as crashes/fatalities while driving snow machine or ATV. While ATV on trafficways can be tracked through HAS data system, the ATV crash/fatalities are not documented for those off of the trafficway.
- Youth and adult alcohol arrest data;
- Youth and adult drug arrest data;
- Hospital data: admission, ER, discharge data related to alcohol and drug use/abuse;
- Office of Children's Services (OCS) data: child protection and number of cases where drugs and alcohol are present;
- Disproportionality among races (especially Alaska Native populations) in consumption/consequence data;

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- *Adverse Childhood Experience (ACES) report: this could be a viable data source, but how can it be applied to our priority areas and our strategies for change?

❖ Other Interest Areas

Other interest areas included consequences of drug and alcohol consumption. They are as follows:

- Those involved in an institutions setting; a large majority of inmates and those involved in a corrections environment experience substance abuse issues
- Youth morbidity
- Youth mortality
- Suicide attempts and completions
- Interpersonal and domestic violence among youth
- Interpersonal and domestic violence among adults
- Older Alaskans and their increasing use/abuse of alcohol and other drugs
- Economics/unemployment and how they relate to substance use
- Behavioral health relationships between substance use and mental health
- Historical trauma and cultural identity

❖ Defining Priority Areas

The Advisory Council, EPI Workgroup and EBI Workgroup voted on the following three SPF SIG priority areas, following the data presentation, discussion and debate:

1. Adult Alcohol Heavy and Binge Drinking and Youth Alcohol Use. **16 Votes**
2. Youth Alcohol Use only. **6 Votes**
3. Youth Alcohol (consumption) and Interpersonal/Domestic Violence (consequence). **6 Votes**

After voting and much discussion and debate it was decided by the Advisory Council and Workgroup members that Alaska's substance use priorities are 1) **Youth Alcohol Use** and; 2) **Adult Heavy and Binge Drinking**. A complete overview of the 2-day selection process will be provided following the meeting.

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❖ Where Do We Go From Here?

The next steps of this process are twofold: 1) to determine a methodology for funding community-based efforts, based on what the data is telling us about priority populations impacted by youth alcohol use and adult heavy and binge drinking; and 2) development of Alaska's Strategic Plan for moving forward with our two priority area selections (the Plan is due to CSAP September 17, 2010).

In an effort to better understand where our highest need populations are related to our two priorities, we will "drill down" in the data related to race, age, gender and region, assisting us in determining how best to allocate resources and where to place the most significant efforts. This information will be available for the Advisory Committee prior to their meeting on August 13.

Now that our priority issues have been determined, the Influences sub-committee will review research/data and literature to identify influence/risk & protective factors related to adult heavy and binge drinking, with Mary Sullivan leading that effort. The work of Becky Judd, related to youth influences/risk & protective factors will continue to be refined.

The Evidence Based Interventions Workgroup can now begin identifying and reviewing existing evidence-based interventions related to our two priority areas, as well as establish a plan for how they will review and select approved interventions, as well as how information will be shared with funded communities.

❖ Future Advisory Council/Workgroup Meetings

The **Advisory Council** will have an interim meeting on August 13th, 2010 via "Meet Me" teleconference. During this meeting we will discuss how to allocate SPF SIG funds to our priority areas. The Advisory Council will meet from 9 AM-11 AM; the call-in phone number is 1-800-315-6338 and the call-in code is 8407#. Please review the document handed out at the end of Tuesday titled: *Allocating Resources to Address State-level Substance Abuse Prevention Priorities: Guidance for States*. This document will assist us in selecting an appropriate strategy for our community-level funding process.

The next meeting of the **Epidemiology Workgroup** will be scheduled at a later time.

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The **Evidence Based Interventions Workgroup**, meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, will meet on August 17, 2010 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. The call-in phone number is 1-800-315-6338 and the call-in code is 4984#.

All Workgroup and Advisory Council members are invited to participate in the following webinars:

1. "Preventing Substance Abuse Among Young Adults in the Workforce". This webinar will be hosted from 2:30-4:30 PM on Monday, August 16. To register for this webinar please click the following link: https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/172230387 . We look forward to any group member's participation.
2. "Grief and Loss: A Sensitive Approach to Youth Prevention", August 23 at 10:00 a.m. For more information and to register go to: http://www.mypreventioncommunity.org/?page=grief.

❖ References/Reads

*Adverse Childhood Effects (ACES); Vincent J Felitti, MD. A copy of the report and related information is located at the following two websites:

1. http://www.acestudy.org/
2. www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/ace/about.htm:

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