

SHARP Council
Business Meeting – November 13, 2013
Summary

Event: Scheduled Quarterly Business Meeting
Schedule: November 13, 2013, 8:30am – Noon
Physical locations:
Anchorage: AMHTA Office, 3745 Community Park Loop
Juneau: Alaska Office Building, 350 Main Street, conference room 115
Teleconference option: (800) 944-8766, then pass-code: 18105

Notification: Public Notice, Council Distribution
Presiding: Chair Randi Sweet
Document: Meeting Summary (draft)

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 08:38 am
Present: (see bottom table)

II. Approval of Minutes from October 16, 2013 Meeting

Action: Minutes were corrected: ANA Representative was Pat Senner, and UAA Health Program Representative was Jackie Pflaum
Action: Minutes approved as amended: John Riley moved; Doug Miller 2nd; Council approved the minutes

III. Discuss status of Letter of Conveyance (10/1/13) re: (a) 90 Full Time Equivalents, & (b) Multi-Year Operational Fund

Materials are being prepared by department staff for Commissioner's review.
Preliminary indications are positive on both council recommendations.

IV. Multi-Year Operational Fund Rationale & Recommendation

Discussion: Member stated that "Multi-Year Operational Fund" was now inserted into the Governor's SFY'15 Budget; and also, that OMB and Legislative Finance that that the MYOF concept was a "good idea" and was "fiscally prudent"

- However, for SFY'14 unspent funds to be retained within the envisioned MYOF, it will still be necessary to have that step enacted through the State's SFY'14 Supplemental Budget.

Action: Dan Robinson moved; Delisa Culpepper 2nd; Council approved following:

Rationale: A multi-year financing structure is essential to optimize outcomes of Alaska's SHARP Program. Program objectives, which are to aid in addressing issues of healthcare workforce shortage and mal-distribution, can best be achieved if the SHARP Advisory Council has flexibility to strategically award appropriated

SHARP Council
Business Meeting – November 13, 2013
Summary

monies to fund support-for-service multi-year contracts for participating healthcare clinicians. Given the dynamic nature of the needs of Alaska’s healthcare workforce it is essential that the Council has the flexibility provided through the Multi-Year Operational Fund to focus solely on best use of the appropriated funds.

Council Recommendation: The SHARP Multi-Year Operational Fund structure provides that unexpended support-for-service funds appropriated in any single budget year to be available for use in subsequent fiscal years.

V. Total clinician commitment to-date - Briefing by Robert Sewell

115 = Total SHARP support-for-service program to-date
87 = Active (as of Sept’ 13)
44 = SHARP-II - Solicitation-1
43 = SHARP-I (total)
28 = Done - all prior clinicians w/now-closed MOAs

Total authorized funding for SHARP-II, Solicitation-1:

\$3,750,000 = total SHARP-II Solicitation-1 (n=44)
\$ 707,400 = total employer-match (portion of award)
\$1,250,000 = per-year SFSP cost overall

VI. Report from Budget Subcommittee and recommendation from Council on additional selection of Solicitation-2 candidates.

Budget Committee: Council’s Budget Committee met twice since last Council meeting, one 10/29/13 & 11/15/13. Resulting Committee meeting summaries were provided to Council. Proposal alternatives & related considerations were presented.

Discussion: Council discussed risks & benefits of the alternative levels of selecting Solicitation-2 clinicians: (a) All or most all applicants, now; or (b) focus selection on only Very Hard-to-Fill; or (c) focus on only a sub-set of Very Hard-to-Fill; and (d) the impact of retaining varied levels of discretion for use in later fiscal years; e.g. admitting a group during SFY’ 15, with or without using this retained discretion as “non-federal match” in a plausible next application to HRSA-SLRP (for SHARP-I).

Council discussed its strategies & values, which includes retaining some budgetary discretion (per rationale above), as well as factors of geographic diversity, organizational diversity and catchment area.

Staff provided information on SHARP I to indicate that program focuses on Loan Repayment (not Direct Incentive), Primary Care and with geographical or facility

SHARP Council
Business Meeting – November 13, 2013
Summary

Health Professional Shortage Area. For example, some SHARP-I clinicians work at Southcentral Foundation and at Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center. SHARP I *does not* include several other populations & healthcare settings, such as hospitalists, and those working in geographic locations that are not designated as federal “Health Profession Shortage Areas (HPSAs), and as a result not clinicians working at the Alaska Psychiatric Institute. As regards funding, SHARP-I has been resourced by federal HRSA funding as well as by required non-federal “match” (e.g. State General Fund (GF), and AMHTA funds). For our Cohort-3 (HRSA SLRP grant-2) the non-federal portion has been \$750,000 (i.e. half).

Council discussed issues of: (a) geographic, (b) agency (site), and (c) occupational distribution of SHARP participants; & related issues of impact, equity & visibility. Also, Member said YKHC has received a sizeable I.H.S. funding cut. Another Member said YKHC is not sending some patients into the AMHTA state-hub hospital (ANMC) due cost considerations.

VII. Council Recommendation (11/13/13) for Admission of SHARP-II Clinicians (that is, Program Cohort-4, produced from the combined SHARP-II Solicitation-1 (Spring 2013) and Solicitation-2 (Fall 2013) selections)

Council discussed Budget Committee’s presented “Motion I” and “Motion II,” at length. Motion was stated for discussion: John Riley moved; Pat Senner 2nd. The result was that Council approved a revised version of Motion II; with all voting in favor, except two opposed. Motion carried.

Recommendation: 71 Clinicians with 44 of those clinicians in VHTF positions.

- 19 Solicitation-2 candidates composed of: (a) 9 Very Hard-to-Fill “Priority” candidates and (b) 10 Very Hard-to-Fill “General” candidates, with the stipulation for this later (VHTF-General) group that there be no more than 2 clinicians per organization (ranked by agency), [\$1,977,000 (GF \$1,543,275 and EM \$433,725)] are selected for service contracts to start on or before January 1, 2014, [see Table below], and,
- 8 Solicitation-3 (TBA): Reserve \$648,000 (GF \$583,200 and EM \$64,800 EM) for 8 Very Hard to Fill Priority candidates to meet minimum regulatory requirement, and if necessary to conduct a targeted Solicitation-3 for this later group of 8 VHTF-Priority candidates (in Spring or Sum’14)
- In combination, this motion plus Solicitation-1 clinicians is [\$6,375,000 (GF \$5,169,075 and EM \$1,205,925), re: 71 clinicians on 3-year MOAs.
- Remaining balance – GF \$1,726,615

Future opportunities

- Retains \$1,726,615 total GF discretion (est. SFY’ 14 GF bal. = \$786,790, plus, Cohort cost is estimated below GF-budget by \$939,825. Employer match (min @10%) est. \$172,662; thus min total discretion: \$1,899,277

SHARP Council
Business Meeting – November 13, 2013
Summary

- If SHARP-I (HRSA-SLRP) were to be applied for, then Solicitation-3 funds (SFY’15) could also be used as part of the required “non-federal match”), if contract start-dates were timed correctly vis a vis a plausible HRSA grant NGA. SLRP provides 100% leverage; that is, approximately double. (For reference, 19 of 29 clinicians (Regular) might be SHARP-I eligible).
- Total amount available for required non-federal match in HRSA-SLRP grant equals: (\$1,899,277 (total GF discretion) + Solicitation-3 match-able spending at \$648,000) = \$2,547,277
- Given that HRSA-SLRP budget matches at 100%, this would provide a total cohort budget of \$5,094,554. Min & Max 3-year clinician census:
 (a) Minimum added SLRP clinicians: Tier-2 regular-fill = 85 clinicians
 (b) Maximum added SLRP clinicians: Tier-1 VHTF = 36 clinicians

Recommendation: Council endorses the following candidate selection from Solicitation-2:

9 <= VHTF-Priority Recommended						
VHTF - Priority Applicant ID	Occupation	FTE Size	Sponsoring Agency	Employer Match	State Funds	Total Amount
ID-0234-NK	Dental Hygienist	0.5	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	10,125	30,375	40,500
ID-0239-MJ	Dental Hygienist	1	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	20,250	60,750	81,000
ID-0232-HN	Pharmacist	1	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	35,250	105,750	141,000
ID-0288-GD	RN-Nurse	1	Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation	20,250	60,750	81,000
ID-0289-WM	RN-Nurse	1	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	20,250	60,750	81,000
ID-0348-BK	Physical Therap.	1	South Peninsula Hospital	20,250	60,750	81,000
ID-0250-GR	Social Worker	0.5	Juneau Alliance for Mental Health, Inc.	4,050	36,450	40,500
ID-0363-CE	Psychologist	1	Juneau Alliance for Mental Health, Inc.	8,100	72,900	81,000
ID-0294-CE	Psychologist	1	Providence Physician Services Org	20,250	60,750	81,000
10 <= VHTF-General Recommended						
VHTF - General Applicant ID	Occupation	FTE Size	Sponsoring Agency	Employer Match	State Funds	Total Amount
ID-0223-KK	Physician	1	Alaska Psychiatric Institute (SOA)	14,100	126,900	141,000
ID-0045-RG	Dentist	0.5	Anchorage Neighborhood Health Ctr.	17,625	52,875	70,500
ID-0336-MT	Physician	1	Norton Sound Health Corporation	14,100	126,900	141,000

SHARP Council
Business Meeting – November 13, 2013
Summary

ID-0359-RJ	Physician	1	Providence Physician Services Org	35,250	105,750	141,000
ID-0301-SS	Physician	0.5	South Peninsula Hospital	17,625	52,875	70,500
ID-0368-RS	Physician	1	South Peninsula Hospital	35,250	105,750	141,000
ID-0241-SS	Dentist	1	Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation	35,250	105,750	141,000
ID-0231-SM	Pharmacist	1	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	35,250	105,750	141,000
ID-0337-LM	Physician	1	ANTHC	35,250	105,750	141,000
ID-0342-LK	Physician	1	ANTHC	35,250	105,750	141,000

Related Action: Staff is directed to re-contact that Site Applicants who have “Regular-Fill” candidates, within the VHTF-Priority categories (i.e. those occupation categories that still have “too many open slots,” with the category below the Statutory minimum of 3 VHTF clinicians per occupation). So as to insure that potentially relevant priority candidates are not being accidentally skipped over, ask Sites: (a) Does the Site actually possess evidence that the position meets the regulation-specified “Very Hard-to-Fill” criteria? And, (b) Is the Site aware that it (could potentially) apply for a partial waiver of required employer match, if it does not have adequate employer-match funds available?

If Statute-required minimum number of VHTF candidates is not identified via combined results of Solicitations-1 (Spring’13) & Solicitation-2 (Fall’13), then another search must be conducted to find relevant clinicians (i.e. Solicitation-3).

Related Action: Leave current (identified 10/16/13) five (5) “Alternates” on the “Active Consideration” list (and thus far, remaining as “Alternates”).

VIII. Recruitment Committee

- Sub-committee was formed to develop & recommend a “recruitment follow-up process” that is, a process for how to route potential clinician recruits. The process would focus on those individuals who have applied for admittance to SHARP; to discuss relation to the Alaska Workforce Investment Board, and the Alaska Health Workforce Coalition
 - Assigned: Doug Miller, & Nancy Merriman; with Robert Sewell (staff)

SHARP Council
Business Meeting – November 13, 2013
Summary

IX. Interim Meeting for Council

- **Action:** Council requested an additional meeting to further discuss and confirm selection criteria prior to the February 12, 2014 Council Business Meeting
 - [This is now scheduled for: December 11th, 2013, from 8:30-11:30 am]
- **Purpose:** To further discuss & define criteria for candidate selection, to provide guidance to staff to thus meet program requirements.
- **Agenda Items** (initial list, from Council 11/13/13 discussion)
 - Selection Criteria Discussion and Recommendations, especially as related to prioritization according to: location & occupational diversity.
 - Member requested that data regarding (a) patient load per agency, and (b) catchment census (size) be gathered & reported
 - Consider a recommendation to remove from Statute language the requirement of a 90-participant cap; for action during upcoming (Winter 2014) legislative session
 - Discuss & provide guidance to Staff re: SHARP Annual Report content

X. Quarterly Business Meeting (Feb 12, 2014)

- Location: Conference rooms in Anchorage (AMHTA) & Juneau (AOB 115)
- Agenda Items for SHARP Business Meeting on February 12, 2014 (Based on items not covered during November 13, 2013 meeting)
- SHARP I and SHARP II presentation and potential integration
- Additional VHTF candidates from reclassification of Solicitation-2 candidates
- Discussion on Succession of Council Members (agencies &/or representatives)

XI. Congratulations to Delisa Culpepper – presentation of plaque to Delisa Culpepper in appreciation for the her contribution to support for services in Alaska

- AMHTA Council Representative –will be Nancy Burke (introduced)

XII. Adjournment: at 12:20 pm

SHARP Council
Business Meeting – November 13, 2013
Summary

Other Business:

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm

Meeting Attendance on 11/13/13:

Member Agency (Voting)	Representative	Present / Absent
United Way of Anchorage	Randi Sweet (Chair)	Present
AK Academy of Physician Assist	John Riley (Vice Ch)	Present
Nat'l Assoc. of Social Workers AK	Mattie Moore	Present
AK Department of Labor	Dan Robinson	Present
AK Mental Health Trust Authority	Delisa Culpepper	Present
AK State Hospital & Nursing Hm As	Jeannie Monk	*Absent
AK Comm on Post-Secondary Ed	Diane Barrans	*Absent
AK Native Tribal Health Consortium	Doug Miller	Present
AK Dental Society	Betty Prentiss	Present
AK State Medical Association	Mike Haugen	*Absent
AK Pharmacists Association	Nancy Davis	Present
AK Primary Care Association	Nancy Merriman	Present
AK Nurses Association	Jackie Pflaum (Alt)	Present
AK Behavioral Health Association	Thomas Chard	Present
University of AK, College of Health	William Hogan	Present
EX-Officio Members	Member	
AK Division of Public Health	Pat Carr	Present
AK Native Health Board	Lincoln Bean	*Absent
Others	Person	
SHARP Program - DHSS	Robert Sewell (Staff)	Present
HPSD – DPH – DHSS	Mary McEwen	Present
HPSD – DPH – DHSS	Susan Mason	Present
HPSD – DPH – DHSS	Eric Peter	Present
University of AK, College of Health	Jackie Pflaum	Present
AK Mental Health Trust Authority	Eric Peter	Present