

Drug Demand Reduction Coalition (DDRC) - Treatment Team

MINUTES

Wednesday 4/17/13

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Location: NORAPC - 2601 Tulane Ave., Ste 400, NOLA 70119

Attendees: Natasha Dowell (New Orleans Health Department), Debra Morton (Recovery School District), Erika Sugimori (New Orleans Regional AIDS Planning Council), Bob Gallati (MHSD - Needs Assessment Subcontractor), Peter Winsauer (LSU Health Sciences Center), Richard LaPratt (ViaLink), Michelle Gaiennie (Grace House), Deborah Levy (DDRC Intern)

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. Review of Agenda

3. N-SSATS Participant Recruitment

The goals of the effort were restated. They are 1) to find out what is the need and 2) to see if the resources meet the need. Essentially, the N-SSATS outreach effort is a needs assessment activity. At this time we do not have a comprehensive medical record to pull information for planning and assessment. This activity expands the utilization of N-SSATS as a comprehensive resource for good comparative data and "big picture" data that can be used meaningfully. Other questions arose: How do we direct people to services? If there is no real place to find out and if we, as providers and a supportive community, don't know, how can we get people into care?

A. Letters & Follow-up – The strategy was discussed. It was determined two letters should be written tailored to two different groups - 1) Those who received the N-SSATS notification from SAMHSA and are therefore in their I-SATS system and 2) Those who are not in the system and must register in I-SATS first. In total, the follow-up should include 100 agencies, of which only 30 are in the first group of those who are in the I-SATS system. The second group entails more intensive outreach.

Magellan has offered to send a notice out in their newsletter if a concise note can be provided. Sugimori would find out any deadlines. It was noted that all communications from different bodies help to legitimize the process and reduce skepticism.

Other posting opportunities were discussed, such as the City website, MHSD, OBH. Morton offered to ask the individuals working on the DDRC website.

B. Interns

- Housing – MHSD had not indicated whether they could supervise interns. Sugimori said she could supervise in the interim and expressed concern that capacity is thin and if an additional intern was required, NORAPC did not have the physical capacity or space – the agency only has three phone lines and can only dedicate one for intern use for this project. Dowell offered to check if the Health Department could devote some intern time to the project.
- Training – Training was discussed and it was decided that Gallati and Sugimori would work together to ensure the intern is trained to outreach and follow-up with providers. Training would begin 4/29 or 4/30. The training would cover the N-SSATS instrument and anticipated comments/questions from providers as well as scripts. Dowell offered to send scripts used in her outreach to Sugimori, Gallati and Levy.

C. Other concerns

- How to get data off of the forms and into a database for DDRC use
 - i. Gaiennie offered to fill out Grace House's form and see what options for printing or formats were available.
 - ii. Gallati would ask the same of SAMHSA

4. **Action Plan** – Tabled

5. **New Business** – None

6. **Announcements** – None

7. **Next Meeting Date** – The group discussed moving the meeting to Thursdays and would start next month by meeting the 3rd Thursday instead – 5/17, 9:30-11:30.

8. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM