



# Laramie County Community Partnership

## MINUTES

City/County Health

Conference Room

12:15p to 1:25p

January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

Chris Widerspahn opened the meeting with introductions.

**I. In Attendance:** Brenda Birkle, Tracy Brosius, Mary Brown, Kathleen Gillgannon, Alfrieda Gonzales, Linda Goodman, Jeri Griego, Sister Ruth Ann Hehn, Jonna Hilzer-Dickie, Rod Hottle, Kristi Leavitt, Richard Leslie, Gus Lopez, Karen Marcy, Sally Meeker, Linda Reynolds, Eloise Riley, Deb Russell, Rose Sanders, Jacob Sones, Jessica Sprouse, Dave Stratton, Kimberly Webb, Lynne Weidel, Chris Widerspahn, and Terry Williams.

**II. Approval of Minutes:** December minutes were unanimously approved.

### **III. Executive Director's December 2011 Report:**

#### Healthier Laramie County

Jackson Healthcare recently announced that Cheyenne Regional Medical Center is a finalist for a 2011 Hospital Charitable Service Award; a national program seeking best practices in reaching out to America's underserved in sustainable ways.

An independent advisory board selected the 38 finalists from a pool of 197 nominees.

Each nominee had to demonstrate excellence in at least one of five criteria areas: community impact, innovation, collaboration, transferability and/or best practice.

Finalists represent only those nominees that remain in consideration for the awards.

K2 News interviewed Dr. John Lucas, CEO, about the award and what it means to Cheyenne Regional and our community. Townsquare Media's KGAB also interviewed Phyllis Sherard, Ph.D., director of Cheyenne Regional's Office of Community Health and Advocacy, about the award and how the hospital partners with other groups in Laramie County to help vulnerable populations. Congratulations to CRMC and the partners who work on the Healthier Laramie County Action Team.

Tracy Brosius of CRMC said the video submitted with the application is available on CRMC's website at [www.crmcwy.org](http://www.crmcwy.org). Click on the picture of under the "Community Benefits" heading on the right-hand section of the CRMC's homepage to see the video.

### Laramie County Needs Assessment

Work continues on the needs assessment. The Team met again the week before Christmas and discussion included some of the areas of focus listed below:

- Access to Health Services
- Clinical Preventive Services
- Environmental Quality
- Injury and Violence
- Maternal, Infant and Child Health
- Mental Health
- Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity
- Oral Health
- Reproductive and Sexual Health
- Social Determinants – High School Graduation Rate
- Substance Abuse
- Tobacco
- Housing
- Poverty/Self-Sufficiency
- Legal assistance

After reviewing the data for completeness on 1/5/12, there will be a session where the committee will determine the priorities areas.

Although only a core group of individuals that have been part of an action team or have a specific area of expertise have been involved in the steering committee, The data analysis (do we have a comprehensive picture of Laramie County's Assets and Gaps?) will open to larger group. The feedback is important to ensure the completeness of the Needs Assessment. The feedback will be utilized from the group of individuals whom signed on to help at the LCCP Conference this past fall.

Once the data analysis phase is complete, the information will be to reinvigorate action teams and get some new blood. Dr. Mark Friedman will be invited for a workshop to present the Talk-to-Action model for the action teams to begin/continue their work from. Exact date TBA; should be late February early March.

## KGAB Presentation on Wyoming 2-1-1 and Homeless Count

On December 16, Alfrieda participated on the KGAB radio program for the purpose of discussing the Homeless count and the work of LCCP. Alfrieda presented the following information.

- The federal government (HUD) requires all states to pick one day in January to count the homeless population.
- The number of homeless in the state directly correlates to how much funding HUD gives to provide services for the homeless.
- Historically, Wyoming has not turned in very high numbers of homeless population although we know we have more in the state than we are able to count.
  - For example, last year was our highest count in many years at 648. To compare, North Dakota's was 1098 and Washington States' was 20,290 for 2011.
- This year, Laramie County is building a foundation for being able to turn in a better count. We are organizing volunteers, getting businesses to donate things like pizza, doughnuts, etc. for homeless persons, and training all persons on completing forms accurately.
- We will have a central location, such as a hospital conference room, for volunteers to check in for their shifts, gather the forms and donation items needed, and then go out to their locations. After their shifts they will return to turn in their completed count forms.
  - Locations for the street count are the public library, laundry mats, etc. Volunteers can choose whether they would like to go to a certain location or help make phone calls to agencies who are counting their homeless clients from the conference room.
- Two more trainings will be held to train volunteers on completing the forms correctly and how to do the street count including approach and safety for all parties.
  - Dec 13th at 4:30-6pm at the public library – Willow Room
  - Jan 13th at 10-11:30am at the public library – Willow Room
- We will conduct the count Wednesday, January 25th from 5am-10pm. We need volunteers to donate their time and service this day to help count the homeless in efforts to get more funding to provide services for the homeless throughout the state.
- Please emphasize that volunteers will get to choose which count they help with (sheltered or unsheltered) and where they go if they help with the unsheltered count. We will assign police escorts (in casual clothing) and/or case managers who work with the homeless to go with any volunteers who choose to go into

more difficult street count areas. All volunteers will go in pairs and safety of all is a priority.

Thanks Haley Powis for the information you provided.

Linda Reynolds provided background and the purpose of 2-1-1 to the audience. She did an outstanding job in presenting the information. Note: Linda has a conference call with South Western Wyoming's United Way whom would like to come on board earlier than scheduled. The Wyoming 2-1-1 team is currently working on compiling the agency information for Natrona County and have already received several calls from the area. The 2-1-1 received \$100,000 allocation request within the governor's budget for the next 2-years. The item is scheduled to go before the Appropriations Committee on 1/17/2012.

Additionally, LCCP has been invited back to the hour long program to feature other partner programs. So if you are interested in participating, please let me know and we will make the necessary arrangements.

#### About the Challenge Grant:

December 9, 2010, Cheyenne Regional Medical Center and the Wyoming Integrated Care Network (WY-ICN) invited community partners to join in a brainstorming session to discuss the development of a statewide, collaborative, application for the Health Care Innovation Challenge Grant.

We were told that rural states may have a competitive edge and the emerging WY-ICN is interested in making application for this funding, which is not available to state agencies.

The CMS Center for Medicare Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) has announced the Health Care Innovation Challenge, which is a funding opportunity for compelling new models of delivery and payment that hold the promise of better health, better health care and lower costs for Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. The Innovation Center has budgeted up to \$1 billion to fund projects throughout the country, and expects to make awards ranging from \$1 million to \$30 million for a three-year performance period.

The Health Care Innovation Challenge will fund applicants who propose new service and delivery models and new payment models that "will drive system transformation" and result in better outcomes for Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries. CMS' solicitation notes that the funding opportunity is not intended to be a "prescriptive

solution” but instead represents “an open invitation to applicants” for funding and support for projects that meet the following criteria:

- Identify and test new care delivery and payment models that originate in the field and that produce better care, better health, and reduced cost
- Identify new models of workforce development and deployment and related training and education that support new models either directly or through new infrastructure activities
- Support innovators who can rapidly deploy care improvement models (within six months of award) through new ventures or expansion of existing efforts to new populations of patients, in conjunction (where possible) with other public and private sector partners
- If a provider identifies an innovative program that they think may qualify for funding, a non-binding Letter of Intent to Apply is due by December 19 and all applications for the first round of awards must be submitted by January 27, 2012

#### About the Wyoming Integrated Care Network

The mission of the emerging Wyoming Integrated Care Network is to unite and lead health partners to deliver high-quality, affordable, patient-centered care. The 17 member hospital network envisions an integrated hospital-physician network that has opted to collaborate in transforming the way healthcare is delivered across Wyoming. Key tasks in the network’s formative stage are to: collect data to recognize the systems failures and successes; use that data to challenge the current system and develop solutions to problems; implement solutions effectively; identify the most important initial projects; and lead the organization through the transformation.

A Medical Advisory Council made up of physicians from around the state dedicated to delivering evidence-based care and improving quality, efficiency, and coordination of care will play a key role in shaping and leading the network. The network’s commitment is to ensure that physicians and hospitals have the care coordination infrastructure, fully developed continuums of care, and access to technology and health information necessary to enhance their impact in Wyoming communities, improve the health of its residents, and position the state’s healthcare providers for better reimbursement and future sustainability.

Through the WY-ICN, Wyoming hospitals and providers have been reviewing their internal programs for new models for care delivery to determine if they might qualify for consideration. We believe, with your help, we are in a position to compete well for this application.

All potential partners were asked to look at the grant to if they could benefit from this opportunity and if they decided to participate in the grant development were asked to develop their thoughts about a Wyoming application. LCCP submitted a one-page summary document describing what our role would be in a statewide effort to transform care delivery and/or healthcare payment in Wyoming. An LOI was is due by December 19th. A complete rundown on eligibility, the application process, requirements and key deadlines, can be found at: <http://innovations.cms.gov/documents/pdf/innovation-challenge-foa.pdf>

What an exciting opportunity for our community and the state.

#### **IV. Community Needs Assessment**

Tracy Brosius reported the Core Committee for the Community Needs Assessment is gathering data indicators from a federal to local levels. For example, Health People 2020, Wyoming Behavioral Risk Assessment, Wyoming Health Matters Data, this includes Laramie county data to national data. The Committee's goal is to be as comprehensive as possible. 75 indicators are currently being discussed and 25-35 indicators will most likely be added in the meeting on 01/05/12. The final outcome of the Community Needs Assessment will not be a big binder of Needs Assessment's past but a visual, user-friendly, widely-available pocket card. Tracy will be using the LCCP distribution list for feedback on the indicators identified.

#### **V. Action Team Reports**

##### Youth Prevention Action Coalition

Kathleen Gillgannon reported that the school district and the After-School for Kids Program would be partnering for a reading program, which is requirement of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant. Especially Kathleen will be working with Mary Beth Emmons the Language and Arts Coordinator for LCSD #1. Kathleen is working on receiving additional foundation grants to cover the costs involved in implementing this program.

Jenny Coelho reported the ASK Program will be reading and producing a program of Hans Christen Anderson's Snow Queen. The book is chapter and curriculum based and will culminate in a performance for the family and community.

##### Healthy Laramie County

See "IV. Community Needs Assessment" above.

No meetings in December 2011.

## Self-Sufficiency

No meetings in December 2011.

## Housing

Terry Williams said the next and final training for the volunteers for the upcoming Homeless-Point-In-Time Count (1/25/12) would be 1/13 at the Laramie County Library @10:30a. A least 10 Dad's Making a Difference Participants have attended the trainings. Terry said that all the programs that relate to the homeless depend on this count and we need to truly identify the need. There will a facility at the hospital the day of the count to use as the count coordination center.

## **VI. Good to the Order:**

Lynne Weidel announced there is a new family practitioner at the Cheyenne Health and Wellness Center that will begin seeing patients next week. The CHWC now has 2 physicians and 2 physicians' assistants see patients. 75% of the clients the CHWC sees are uninsured. Lynne wanted everyone to know the CHWC does accept insured patients, including both Medicaid and Medicare. The Centralized Pharmacy, located at CHWC, accepts all patients at 200% or less of the federal poverty level that have no insurance and will provide meds at little to no cost.

Jonna Hilzer-Dickie from Peak Wellness Center handed out a flyer in regards to Early Childhood Mental Health Professional Certification Program. The program was established in 2006 with an act of legislation. In 2009, University of Wyoming began offering the courses, but registration is low.

Mary Brown announced the upcoming Parent Leadership Training Institutes upcoming open house on 1/14/2012 at the Laramie County Library from 4p-6p. Also, Julie's Closet will be the non-profit recipient for Thankful Thursday at the Redwood Lounge on 1/19/2012 from 4p-7p. The PLTI could still use donations auction-able items (drop off at Express Employment of call Renee # 634-1635 to have picked-up).

Rod Hottle of the United Way announced on 1/25/2012 the Wyoming Free Tax Site for low income families will be running included an earned income tax credit day. Also, the test-bed for GoalConnect using the CareScope software is ready for implementation and will be a wonderful tracking mechanism and data collection for those families utilizing community services and referrals.

Kristi Leavitt with Peak Wellness Center said to "like" Peak Wellness on Facebook for updates. Also, the new website is search enabled & on 1/19/2012 at 7p at Recovery Wyoming comedian Jesse Joyce will perform "Recovery Comedy."

Chris Wiederspahn announced the Department of Workforce Services' Facebook Page was up and running encouraged everyone to fan the page and LCCP page. The Dad's Making a Difference Program is currently accepting applications for its upcoming session.

Sally Meeker announced the FREE Survival Skills for Healthy Families Session will start again on 1/26/2012. The program is DFS approved and offers parenting skills and support along with a full meal and childcare.

Gus Lopez said the City/County Health Department's first major project is getting the word out in regards to the different programs and services available in the community.

**Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:25.**

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Sprouse, LCCP Office Administrator