

May 26, 2009

Update on five main grant programmatic activities

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Staff Gatekeeper Trainings: Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) training continues to roll along nicely – So far 7 trainings with one hundred and thirteen participants have taken place, with community members who happen to be foster parents, as well as grandparents and mental health professionals. Kristy, Mental Health America's mental health educator, has been trained and is working with Virginia to conduct QPR trainings in the community. MHA has also been working with the other newly trained gatekeeper trainers to help get them ready to begin training on their own. Virginia recently provided an additional training/ support session with these trainers to go over any questions, review evaluation materials, etc. In addition, MHA has been trying to incorporate culturally-appropriate information to selected populations. MHA has also made a plan to focus on community outreach to encourage personnel from agencies/organizations to attend QPR trainings and/or become involved with suicide prevention efforts. The MHA outreach efforts are focused on mental health, public health, education (e.g., colleges), and faith-based organizations. **On the evaluation side**, preliminary data has been analyzed and a data report has been generated for feedback to the trainers and to assess the evaluation measure on an ongoing basis. So far, we are seeing a gain in knowledge based on the training and an overall satisfaction with the trainings.

Case Management/ Crisis Services: Ray, our County Case Manager, has been collaboratively working with MHA and their QPR training schedule. So far, he hasn't received any calls, but is prepared and ready to provide case management services. **On the evaluation side**, Ray has been able to go through the Child Guidance mobile team records to track crisis response baseline data, from Jan 2008 to present. Ray will continue to track crisis response data on a monthly basis, which we'll receive in a database format. United Way 211 Crisis Services have also given us some preliminary pre-grant crisis data from Jan 2009 to April 2009.

School Based Prevention: Kathy Bowles, our liaison with the Duval County school system, has been quite busy in the last month and has made some wonderful progress. Kathy has been working to develop several master point plans that will allow school personnel to participate in QPR training. Kathy has also been working with her contacts to identify which high schools and middle schools might be the best schools to target for our first round of implementation. Kathy, Virginia, our two QPR school-based trainers and Kim met this past month in Duval County, and discussed strengths, challenges and key issues regarding implementation of QPR training with school staff and SOS training with students. **On the evaluation side**, we have been busy working on creating the evaluation component of the student gatekeeper training (SOS) program which will be implemented in middle and high schools. The high school version of the SOS program is familiar to many members of our grantee team, and we are in the final stages of creating evaluation materials, including a pre, post and follow up survey for youth who participate in the training, as well as an evaluation manual similar to what we have made for QPR.

Parent Involvement: First, there have been several QPR trainings targeted to foster care parents over the last month. One of our trainers who is affiliated with DCF will continue to target this population throughout the year; the goal is to train all new foster parents. In addition, MHA has developed and started to implement a parent involvement strategic plan. Susan has also been collaborating with the school board to coordinate and implement components of the Family Guide in a day treatment school, targeting SED students. Susan met with school staff, and they are assessing this potential program and materials. The school supported the idea, committed to providing space and contact with potential parents. **On the evaluation side**, we have been analyzing our first batch of parent targeted QPR data. We are also documenting all parent involvement activities as they occur.

Social Marketing:

Through the cooperative efforts of Susan, Erin MacInnes and Allyson Adolphson from the Florida Office of Suicide Prevention, members of my evaluation team, Dan Reidenberg our social marketing consultant, and Gail putting out some feelers for us, we have identified a couple of good leads on

potential social marketing firms for the grant. We want to utilize a Florida based company because we feel they will be more familiar with issues specific to Florida needs and we want test marketing focus groups to be part of the eventual strategic plan of our social marketing firm and we think these will be easier to do if the company is based in Florida.

Macro Update: The Products and Services Inventory (PSI) data was entered by the evaluation team and the Training Exit Surveys (TES) will be entered on the SPDC during the first week of June and will continue on a quarterly basis. We have collected all of the data for the Existing Database Inventory (EDI) and we are preparing to enter it.

FUTURE PLANS:

Staff Gatekeeper Trainings: We are quite happy to say that several QPR trainings are projected to take place this month; targeted populations include foster parents, grandparents, the housing authority, and mental health personnel. Susan and Virginia plan to continue to pull together the group of QPR trainers together for quarterly meetings to ensure that QPR is being delivered with fidelity, work on skill development, see how the trainings are going, hear lessons learned, and provide supportive services/team-building to the volunteer trainers. MHA also plans to continue their outreach activities to recruit more agencies and persons to receive QPR training. **On the evaluation side**, we plan to continue to analyze data as it comes in and report feedback to MHA and all the trainers. As QPR trainer schedules become more set, Susan and Virginia are planning on doing several observations of training to evaluate implementation with each QPR trainer.

Case Management services: Hopefully, Ray will start to receive contacts about identified and referred kids soon as he is ready to go. He also will continue to collaborate with MHA and attend QPR trainings as they are scheduled to introduce himself as the key person trainees should contact when they identify a youth at risk. **On the evaluation side**, we are ready to start tracking and interviewing identified and referred youths. Virginia from MHA is actually also coming down with Ray for an in-person meeting and

to learn more about our evaluation procedures. Terri, the 211 manager, is planning to try to go back to collect crisis data from Jan 2008-Dec 2008. Terry and Ray also plan to give us current crisis services utilization data on a quarterly basis.

School Based Prevention: Kathy has recently met with the school board on SOS and QPR plans and has another meeting coming up in June. Child Guidance where Ray our county case manager works, MHA, and Kathy will get together in the next couple of weeks to discuss what was approved/not approved from the board and whatever happened with relevant legislation. As previously mentioned, Kathy is still working on finalizing a list of schools that will be the primary targets to receive QPR and SOS training. **On the evaluation side,** our high school SOS evaluation measure should be done soon and we are continuing on developing a middle school evaluation version. Once the SOS evaluation materials for the high schools are completed, we plan to submit an IRB to USF and the Duval County School Board- an important necessary step to work in the school system.

Parent Involvement: Besides many additional QPR trainings, Susan and Virginia from MHA plan to research additional schools or venues for parent involvement activities. They will continue to review the literature and other resources as well as consult with experts. Because there have been low turnouts at some of the child mental health meetings, MHA plans to host ongoing meetings with advocates, parents, etc to get them involved in our efforts to develop a family advisory/parent involvement committee. **On the evaluation side,** we plan to coordinate with Susan and Virginia to figure out any other ways we can evaluate parent involvement activities as they unfold.

Social Marketing: We have leads on several social marketing firms. We plan to communicate with each of the potential firms and let them know our expectations of high levels of communication, taking a team approach, focusing on grant specified goals, and following the SAMHSA/SPRC framework for developing a social marketing plan. Information about these firms will be shared with our team and Susan and Marc will collaboratively decide on which social marketing firm seems to best fit our grant

needs. **On the evaluation side**, we plan to work with the social marketing firm so that evaluation activities will be weaved into programmatic activities. We hope to incorporate Theory of Planned Behavior materials into this evaluation.

MACRO Update: INS going out today.

Other Updates: Feedback from Grantees – Federal Activity (e.g. Grantee Meeting, Video-Conference)
Administrative News – We will be receiving full funding for year 2 of our grant with no budget cuts!!!
SAMHSA feels that our grant team is doing extremely well.