Recap of Feb. 14, 2013 Meeting

Good afternoon everyone:

Yesterday’s meeting of the Population Health Workgroup has set us on a path toward our goal of working collaboratively to assess community health needs, select priorities, and then complete a Community Service Plan (CSP) or Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), as the need may be. Overlaying this goal is hospitals’ mandate to meet the community health needs assessment IRS requirement set forth in the ACA.

Here is a brief recap of what we discussed and next steps we will take:

The Suffolk County Health Department (SCHD) is in the process of designing a survey that it will send to its list of contacts – CBOs, etc. Jane Corrarino from the SCHD is heading the needs assessment and improvement plan effort for the county.

There is a wealth of data on the State Department of Health website that anyone can access for purposes of determining the health needs of specific communities. SPARCS, etc. This is a good place to begin assessment of needs. SCHD Commissioner Dr. James Tomarken has a CD that is a “tutorial” of sorts to the data contained on the state department of health’s website. It helps the user navigate what is there. The Hospital Council will make copies of this disk and forward to all group members.

SCHD knows of a grad student (under the direction/supervision of a faculty member from Stony Brook University) who could analyze data.

Catholic Health Services of Long Island, as represented by Christine Hendriks, has begun explaining and exploring the process internally and hopes to bring the priority selection to their board in June. At this point, CHS has identified diabetes as an issue.

Stony Brook University Hospital is just now beginning review of data, as it relates to the CSP process.

Eastern Long Island Hospital engaged a consultant to assess community health needs in preparation for CSP and CNHA requirements. A survey has been designed and is ready to go.

The Suffolk group agreed that it makes sense to have just one survey to avoid redundancy of questioning recipients.

Nancy Copperman from the North Shore/LIJ Health System brought the group up-to-speed concerning the progress of the Nassau County Health Department and hospitals in Nassau County. The group has nearly completed a General Population Survey (for the population at large) and developed questions for a Key Informant Interview process for community-based organizations. They developed a list of about 20 CBOs they will contact via the Key Informant Interviews. But first, assigned task force members will make initial contact with these CBOs. The interviews will be taped and transcribed and they will hire an academic to analyze
interviews/data. Some hospitals may also conduct small focus groups. Priorities will be selected by the end of April.

The Suffolk group developed a survey subgroup that will meet next Friday, Feb. 22 noon to 1 p.m. at the Council offices. Members of this subgroup are: Jane Corrarino (SCHD); Janine Logan (NSHC); Christine Hendriks (CHSLI); Nancy Copperman (North Shore/LIJ Health System); Juliet Frodella (Eastern Long Island Hospital). First order of business at that meeting will be review of current surveys (Eastern LI Hospital survey, the SCDH’s survey under construction, and the general population survey the Nassau group developed). The subgroup will use these surveys as a guide to develop their own uniform survey for use by the Suffolk county group. Subgroup members will be sent these surveys prior to the Feb. 22nd meeting, so everyone can review and come to meeting with questions/revisions, etc.

**Survey from Nassau group.** Nancy Copperman said it will be finalized on Monday, 2/18 and she will send to the Hospital Council for forwarding.

**Survey from SCDH.** Jane Corrarino will send to Hospital Council for forwarding.

Looking forward to working with you all on this project.