From: Shaw, Barbara
To: Letavish, George
Cc: Jenkins, Lorri; Irving, Toni; Desai, Reshma
Subject: Program Redesign
Date: Wednesday, August 08, 2012 5:49:41 PM

Hi, George. In follow-up to our discussion earlier today, here area few thoughts about program redesign necessitated by significantly reduced funding:

- One option might be to take a regional approach whereby one lead agency would manage the work in multiple communities. The same approach could be applied to the SBC and Reentry components, i.e. one program could serve multiple communities. For Reentry, there are some communities that may have less need for the services (fewer eligible participants) and so could be handled by a neighboring program. The State would need to make sure that Lead and provider agencies serving multiple communities have adequate staff to perform the program and fiscal monitoring requirements.

- Funding for program components could be reduced; e.g. M+J could serve 40 youth instead of 80 and youth. The length of the program (# of weeks) could also be reduced to further bring down the cost of the program.

- The Safety Net Works Program (SNW) could be fully integrated into NRI and function as one of the components. SNW existed prior to NRI and has a strong support base which hopes to see the program continue under the new funding arrangement. The program provides case management, youth development and youth organizing services that are an important components of a comprehensive continuum of services for youth in the target communities. Please note that there are several downstate sites in the SNW program (Rockford, East St. Louis, Decatur) who should be considered for continued funding, especially since downstate communities feel left out of the NRI program.

- Whole components could be eliminated. I think it would be better to reduce their scope rather than eliminate them, but if I had to eliminate one, it would probably be the PLAN component since it has the least direct impact on youth. The SBC and Reentry components improve the ongoing system of care for youth in school and community settings in partnership with schools, and community mental health providers (SBC), and the juvenile and adult corrections systems (Reentry). The Mentoring Plus Jobs component is very well received at the community level because it provides summer jobs for youth and adult mentors and trains the youth to market safety and wellness messages to their communities.

- Funding should still be made available for training and technical assistance since this is such a young initiative. Funding should also continue for the Data and Evaluation Project. The data system is the principal method for capturing participant, service and outcome data and could be strengthened as the program develops.

- It would be good to gain input from NRI community leaders on all of the above options. These leaders are asking for an opportunity to work on the program redesign and could

provide valuable insights.

I hope these thoughts are useful. However the Gov's Office chooses to proceed, we at IVPA are happy to assist in the transition of the NRI and SNW programs in any way requested over the next weeks and months.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara

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