

Morgan County Healthcare Horizon Council
October 23,, 2009 *7:00am to 9:00am*
Meeting Minutes

Participants

Martha Beiber	Sandi Boren
Barbara Bradshaw	John Crosthwait
Alan Dahms	Kerry Hart
Dale Ingmire	Kari Linker
Ron Marshall	Mike Patterson
Nancy Schmid	Suzanna Spears
Laura Teague	Howard Wickham

Special Guest, Karol Kopetzky, Morgan County IT.

The First meeting of the Morgan County Horizon Healthcare Council (HHC) was called to order at 7:05am on October 23, 2009 in the board room at the Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center. Introductions were made among the group with Barb Bradshaw volunteering to be the meeting facilitator and Laura Teague agreeing to be the note taker.

Website

The Board of County Commissioners for Morgan County have agreed to provide in-kind services through their IT department for website development, design, and maintenance with the lead contact for HHC being Karol Kopetzky, head of IT for Morgan County. Karol explained that the HCC website will be handled like the county website. She indicated that the use of PDF files works best for consistency and compatibility—but emails and information can be sent to her in most forms and she will be able to convert it to PDF. She recommended a “ghost” domain name that is easily recognizable to the public which will redirect itself to the county website, and that the HCC pages will look like they are stand alone pages. She explained she can provide linkage to and from the county site, other member’s sites, and any other site that the HCC might see fit.

Domain Name

A domain name was discussed, the consensus of the group was to investigate the availability of www.MOCOHealthCareHorizon.com. Howard made the motion, 2nd by Dr. Hart, motion passed unanimously.

Website Materials and Content

Discussion about what should go on the website ensued. Minutes and Media releases will be two items posted after each meeting. Minutes will be provided to members, Media releases will be provided to the public. Karol suggested that if the group would like to have a logo that they think about one ASAP. The email addresses of the members were provided to Karol for communication. Karol also suggested the use of community pictures. Kari Linker made the suggestion that since they are housed in the same building daily, Kari, Laura, and Karol can work together on getting the website built.

Email Communication

It was mentioned it would be helpful if all HCC correspondence through email contained the subject line Horizon Healthcare Council so they would not be accidentally deleted.

Radio Talk Show

As far as what should and should not be released to the public, The group specified that anything that is released to the website should be considered released to the public. It was noted that a timeslot was scheduled with B106 on October 30 at 8:00AM, and Howard Wickham volunteered to sit in on the talk show with Barb Bradshaw. It was suggested that we have a regularly scheduled time on the radio station for HCC announcements.

Ground Rules

Regarding conduct and ground rules, it was discussed that we consider what hat we would all be wearing. The group agreed that it most important that we keep the consumer in mind. Informal Robert Rules of Order would direct the meeting, and all agreed that business and difficult matters discussed in this room stay in this room. We agreed that we would have disagreements, but the voice and discussion in the community should remain positive. It was noted that everybody here represents a different institution, but ideas should be brought forward and accepted as ideas, with no ties to the institution bringing them. We were reminded of the ground rules that were in our council notebooks. We agreed that we should not rely on any past or preconceived notions but look forward. It was mentioned that we need to define the mission and those most familiar noted that the “grant snapshot” found in our notebooks did so and that this was a very good basis for the website.

Integration

The question was asked about where integration among institutions makes sense, and where does it not. We need to discover what we have, what we need. How do we coordinate the integration? We must follow the grant process. Once we acquire information how do we share it, and what good will come of it? The members of the group will be responsible for dispersing the information.

Alternates

A discussion about the allowance of alternates began. It was suggested that we allow an alternate to attend to keep representation from each sector. It was agreed that discussion is the meat of the issue and without representation from each institution the discussion might lack perspective. A member stated that alternates should have a clear understanding of the ground rules, and another member was opposed to having alternates participate—because the members should be willing to make the commitment to come to meetings. A member thought communication would break down if alternates were allowed, and another thought that with too many participants the group would lose control. A founding member said that members were handpicked for open-mindedness. It was noted that there would be two kinds of meetings; organizational and educational, perhaps alternates could attend different kinds of meetings. Alternates would require a great amount of briefing to participate; and with the timeframe for the grant, things could not be held up if members did not attend. The group was

reminded that if ground rules were followed and members brought objective ideas not tied to an institution and organizations, agendas and minutes would be important. The consensus of the group was to not allow alternates.

Meeting Facilitation and Reporting

How will the group stay focused and not get off track? The facilitator and the members would be responsible to help the meeting move along. A member asked the question again about whom we are meeting for and who do we give the final recommendations? Another answered that through discovery the council would make recommendations to the supply side of the equation from the point of consumers. It was stated that the council held the responsibility to report to the foundation—and this report would include what does and does not work. It was agreed that it was important to keep the consumer in mind but we also each brought knowledge to the table from our different representations.

Educational Session Topics

Six educational sessions are scheduled. The group brainstormed about educational sessions with the following ideas:

- How consumer migration into and out of the county affects healthcare
- Recruitment and retention of providers
- What do rural areas in general have and not have?
- Study of existing successful collaborative community models such as Kaiser, Poudre Valley Hospital
- Cost of insurance
- Electronic Medical Records
- National Healthcare reform-what will be the impact in our region?
- Diabetes and its care having a gap in our community with no dialysis. 2/3 of county express budget was taking dialysis patients to Sterling.
- How does legislation affect us?

Rural Health Works will gather inventory about where we currently are. Their findings will be part of discovery process. Denise Denton would be a good resource for finding individuals to present the educational topics. Depending on the topic, the session might be for the general public, providers, or just for the council. Questions and answers might prove more effective in the discovery process when just the council participates. A member asked what the outcome of the educational sessions was expected to be as pertains to the HCC mission. Another member responded that we need to better educate ourselves, later we can educate the community—we need to better our system by discovery without distractions. The consensus of the group was that the educational sessions would be for the council only.

Grant Budget

The grant budget was discussed, with the total award being \$49,957.00. Eben Ezer will be the fiscal agent and handle the monies. There is no personnel required, and in-kind services will also be provided by Morgan County with the website. The group overviewed the budget items by line.

There was discussion whether the group would like to hire Denise Denton as the moderator/facilitator for the group. There was a note that she was expensive, but a founding member familiar with Denise noted that she is excited, efficient, and fast, with incredible networking potential for the Council. Additional discussion ensued with the following questions being asked:

Does anybody know of anybody else we could utilize?

Are we deficient in our budget and if we did not use part of the budget to hire Denise, where would we use it?

Denise already has association with the Colorado Health Foundation

From past experience, group members stated that one hour of Denise's usually turned into much more than an hour.

The motion to hire Denise Denton to facilitate the group was passed unanimously.

Feasibility Studies Funding

A member stated that there might be the possibility for the group to get additional funding through NECALG for additional feasibility studies.

Rural Health Works Meetings

The group discussed the Rural Health Works meetings. Morgan Community College would like to offer a room for these meetings and Dr. Hart would check on the availability. A room for 30-40 people would be necessary—Founders room would be best but Wednesdays would not work, Thursdays would be better for the college. It was considered whether noon would be the best time for providers, and there was the view that institutions would have providers that would be interested in this information. It was also wondered whether providers should also be invited to the educational sessions. A member noted that from her experience the best outreach occurs when am/noon/pm sessions are offered. Should the meetings go to the providers in their workplaces?

The Rural Health Works topics were discussed: The first meeting would be held by Colorado Rural Health Works to facilitate discussion about the data that would be collected. The second meeting would center on the telephone survey and what it is. The 3rd meeting would be a discussion about the demographics of the region, and the 4th meeting would be the results of the telephone survey. The question was asked whether others would be interested in this information. Would providers be interested? It was agreed that the first meeting would be held as planned and successive meetings could be changed if participation required it.

Meeting Evaluation

Finally, the group discussed an evaluation about the selection process and the meeting format. What was good and bad about the selection process?

- 1) Open mindedness
- 2) Those who are most interested in participating have remained on the final council.
- 3) Some people who wanted on the council were not invited or represented.

- 4) Perhaps one piece that is missing is an adhoc consumer—to bring an at large perspective to the table
- 5) A large primary employer in the county is not represented on the council

What was good/bad about today's meeting?

- 1) Well organized.
- 2) Run on discussion. Should we time each item on the agenda?
- 3) Group at hand is positive and a positive tone has been set.

Meeting Schedule

Meeting times were discussed. It was conceded that the 2nd Friday of the month would be a good meeting time but the next meeting would be held November 20, 2009 at 7-9 am at Eben Ezer.