

Morgan County Healthcare Horizon Council
December 18, 2009 7:00am to 9:00am

Meeting Minutes

Participants

Martha Beiber	Barbara Bradshaw
Alan Dahms	Kerry Hart
Kari Linker	Ron Marshall
Mike Patterson	Nancy Schmid
Laura Teague	Howard Wickham
Coordinator: Denise Denton	

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the November Council meeting were approved.

First RHW Meeting – 12/10/2009

Based on the comments and feedback, the Council members agreed the first RHW meeting was positive and that participants thought the information presented was valuable. There was some concern that this first meeting did not have a great deal of audience participation, but it is assumed the next meetings will involve more participant interaction. They will explore the feasibility of using a different room so that participants are not seated theater-style, which might also encourage discussion.

The members discussed participation and agreed to take additional steps to encourage new and ongoing participation.

Evaluation of RHW Meeting

The members agreed to hold off on sending an evaluation of the RHW meeting to participants until after the second meeting.

Educational Presentation

The Council Members were joined by conference call to the invited presenters – John Hopkins, Mike Weber, and Bob Wilson of Rocky Mountain Health Plans, Mesa County. Barbara had invited them to speak about the history of collaboration in Mesa County and the factors they thought contributed to their success. A few lessons offered by the presenters:

- *It took a long time. The players in Mesa County have been working on their collaboration since the early 1970s.*
- *In Mesa County, the physicians played a key role in instigating and leading the project. They were motivated by a desire to have more control of decision-making for their patients and practices; to provide better care; and to improve reimbursement levels.*
- *The group had strong, consistent leadership and a shared vision for how they wanted the healthcare system in Mesa County to look.*
- *Shared electronic health records helped strengthen and support the collaboration.*
- *Everyone was expected to share the vision and share a commitment to high quality care.*

Council Physician Representative

The Council members discussed the need to more actively engage the Morgan County physician community. They voted to add a physician representative to the Council.

RHW Community Survey

There was concern that a random telephone survey would not reach all pockets of Morgan County's population; that the Hispanic community in particular might be reluctant to

respond. The members agreed however that to keep the survey random, they would not conduct any additional targeted surveys, and instead hope that through county-wide publicity and encouragement, most individuals would respond. They agreed that as the Council identifies areas of focus, they might conduct additional needs assessments or focus groups to make sure all voices are heard.

While the members identified several items they would like to see changed on the community survey draft, they decided not to make many revisions other than helping RHW staff update a few questions to reflect Morgan County geography. They decided allowing the community to have more involvement and input would probably give them more ownership.

The group agreed that it would not be necessary to do participant introductions this time, but to bring name tags and table tents so that individuals can identify themselves.

Educational Presenter Options

Participants reviewed the presenters and topics being considered for future educational presentations. The only presenter confirmed at this time is Steve Ward, Colorado Hospital Association, for December 15th. The others being considered include:

- Jack Westfall, MD, Associate Dean for Rural Health, Director Colorado Area Health Education Center (AHEC) System to discuss physician recruitment and retention, opportunities for clerkships and preceptorships in Morgan County, and rural health in general.
- Cathy Battaglia, Joffit Group, to discuss out-migration studies.
- Representative from the North Colorado Health Alliance to discuss the history of their health collaborative.

Various Council members agreed to assist in discussions and planning with the presenters to make sure their presentation is tailored to Horizon Council interests.

MCHHC Web Site

The participants discussed the Council's website and the process for approving contents. They agreed the Council should approve new materials prior to their being posted. They agreed this approval did not require a formal vote, simply notification with three days to oppose. The Council members agreed to hold off on the idea of a community bulletin board for now.

Program Evaluation

In addition to evaluating Council meetings, the grant application proposed to evaluate the collaborative process throughout the year so that other communities might learn from what works, and what doesn't. Denise will draft a simple process evaluation form and send it to the members for input and approval. The evaluation would then be distributed on a quarterly basis to assess members' confidence level that the process will lead to collaboration. Denise will compile the responses and present them in summary format to assure anonymity.

RFP to Identify Facilitator Collaboration Discussions

The Council Members will need to develop a Request For Proposal (RFP) to solicit interest in the role of facilitating the collaboration discussions, which will start next spring. The members asked Denise to develop a draft of an RFP for consideration at a future meeting.

Adjournment

Next RHW Meeting – Thursday January 14, 2009 12:00-1:00pm
Next MCHHC Meeting – Friday January 15, 2009 7:00-9:00am

Minutes prepared by: Denise Denton