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DRAFT
WIB Healthcare Committee
Capital Health
September 20, 2011—12:30 PM

Present: Scott Clemmensen (Capital Health), Sharon Nemeth (MCTS), JoAnne San Paolo (Aging Advisors, LLC), Marjorie Cadet-Henriquez (Strategic Fit Staffing), Mindy Bharj (Strategic Fit Staffing), Bonny Ross (St. Francis), Beverly Mills (Mercer WIB), Denise Dougherty (Hamilton Grove), Gloria Frederick (Wonderful Women Working for Empowerment), June Gray, (Children's Futures), S. Lucille Jones (MCTS), Linda Martin (MCCC), Cheryl Prall (Robert Wood Johnson Hamilton), Hilary Murray (Buckingham Health Services), Sheryl Hutchinson, (State Employment Training Commission)

Opening:

Meeting was opened by Scott Clemmenson with introductions and welcome to members and new attendees.

Minutes from the June 21, 2011 meeting were reviewed – a motion was made by Bonny Ross and seconded by Lucille Jones to approve the minutes. The minutes will be placed on the Mercer County WIB website.

Healthcare Council and the NJ Talent Network

Healthcare Council:

Sheryl Hutchinson, NJ SETC Policy Analyst (and liaison to Mercer WIB) gave a brief update on current discussions with the Healthcare Council and NJ Talent Network.

The Healthcare Council, formed in July 2010 with the Governor's endorsement, is charged to take a look at healthcare occupations specifically as they apply to employer needs. A one year HERSA grant was obtained to set goals and set up baseline needs projected to 2014. HERSA awarded 25 grants to determine needs and capacity *i.e.*, primary care workers, career pathways and expansion. What are our local resources and how to apply best practices from other states? HERSA will also look at how state agencies set up and share workforce data since there is a national push from the Federal government to capture more data from the States. Without this data it could potentially inhibit States from easily applying for grants.

Education & Data Task Force has been focusing on future delivery models with trends pointing more toward community involvement (preventative care and capacity building) and less toward less acute care. They are also

looking at priority occupations such as Radiographers, Physician Assistants and front line staff; second tier include Physical and Speech therapists, Geriatrics and Mental Health occupations.

Sheryl further mentioned opportunities in Healthcare IT; major information exchange structures are going to be implemented in hospitals and assistance will be available in soliciting the appropriate software package. Since these IT systems are very expensive there may also be assistance to with funding through NJ High Tech (with RWJ as lead?)

Scott mentioned that the Trenton Healthcare Plan is working on a similar project but issues about privacy have come up. Goal is for all systems programmed to “talk” to each other.

NJ Talent Networks:

Six industries key to New Jersey have been identified: Transportation/Logistics/Distribution; Life Sciences; Advanced Manufacturing; Financial Services; Healthcare and Technology and Entrepreneurships. Six grantees have been funded to bring employers and education together to work toward a better informed curriculum.

Mercer Healthcare Academy Update:

Lucille Jones updated on behalf of the Mercer Academy – the Healthcare Academy (the first in Mercer County) is entering into its second year. Twenty-nine 9th graders and twenty-one 10th graders have returned. 10th graders are taking college level courses such as microbiology, dynamics of healthcare, chemistry and pre-calculus. Standards and curriculum are very stringent; the Academy’s population comes from schools countywide and from this population 60% are minority students mostly from Ewing and Trenton. The 9th and 10th graders are required to perform 40 hours of volunteer time, 11th graders to job shadow and 12th graders will have one semester of internship. Recruitment will begin in October, 2011 for 8th graders for next year.

CNA Collaboration (Healthcare Career Center & Hamilton Grove):

The Healthcare Career Center and Hamilton Grove are collaborating and met with Serenity Hospice to work on a career pathway for Certified Nursing Assistants and Home Health Aids (dual certification more marketable). Other points mentioned:

- The healthcare system is comprised of 60% foreign born – awareness of cultural diversity important
- Students start their “clinicals” on Saturdays from October, 2011 – February, 2012
- CVS Pharmacy Tech program is entering into its 3rd year through the State YTTW grant (so far 10 students have completed)

Preceptor Program:

Bonny Ross reported that the NJ Nursing Initiative is concerned about losing people in residency programs. Committee discussed a Preceptor Program and the HERSA grant; can Mercer be tied into a pilot? Studies show hospitals cannot afford to do these types of programs. As healthcare moves into the community this would be a good way to tie into a pilot for Mercer. The Regional Action Coalition has developed curriculum for preceptorships and residency programs. It was suggested asking Lynne Mertz to attend the next healthcare meeting to map out how this could possibly be done. Questions: What about sustainability? Need employer input – can we ask the employers from the Talent Network? Need to float questions to the operational arm.

Open Discussion:

Linda Martin mentioned that 12 students from MCCC have preceptorships/externships with RWJ – RWJ pays their tuition once they meet the criteria. She will also be presenting to the college's curriculum committee on a proposal to enter into a joint program with UMDNJ for an Associates Degree for Occupational Therapy Assistant. Mercer County will provide the first two semesters and UMDNJ will provide the last three semesters. Linda reported the second program MCCC is currently working on is an Associates Degree in Public Health to articulate the UMDNJ's four year public health degree. These plans are in a very early stage of development. The third program is an Associates Degree in Sustainability that will articulate with either Kean or Rider University's four year Sustainability degree which may perhaps allow MCCC to develop a track in Environmental Health.

Meeting was adjourned.

The WIB Healthcare Committee will not meet the month of October

Due to the demands of our schedules the Healthcare committee will now meet every other month. Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 back at Capital Health (Bellevue Avenue Campus), Conference Room A&B from 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM.

A reminder will go out closer to the date.