



## National Tuberculosis Nurse Coalition Executive Board Conference Call Notes September 17, 2009

### **I. Welcome and Attendance**

Members in attendance: Kathy Kolaski, Tammy McKenna, Dawn Farrell, Carol Pozsik, Ellen Murray.

### **II. Approval of Notes**

There are some amendments to the August 2009. Minutes are approved with amendments.

### **III. Executive Director Report from Carol Pozsik**

#### **A. TBEDN Workgroup**

- The TBEDN Workgroup composed of representatives from NTCA/CDC/Refugee Health Coordinators have been working on improving TBEDN reporting.
- The reorganization of TBEDN has allowed increased support staff to work on the back log.
- The group will continue to work together to improve notification time.

#### **B. NTCA Awards Committee**

- An Award Committee will be set up to recognize outstanding NTCA members. Title and criteria are to be decided at a later date.
- A suggestion that NTNC may want to follow suit and recognize outstanding members of their group.

#### **C. NTCA Consultation with RESULTS and NASTAD Executive Directors**

- Attendees: Phil Griffin, Sue Etkind, Kim Field and Carol met with NASTAD Executive Directors and RESULTS to consult on interstate provision of care for our most difficult TB patients.
- The group then identified the TB care-related issues that have become prominent on the NTCA agenda. These include:
  - Access to TB medications for MDR-TB and XDR-TB patients
  - Provision of available and accessible specialized regionalized in-patient facilities for complex or non-adherent TB patients
  - Maintenance TB expertise
  - Maintenance of public health infrastructure

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- Role of Health Care Reform
  - Use of federal options – Medicaid waiver
  - The first issue to deal with will be access to TB meds for MDR- TB and XDR patients.
  - The group discussed and compared mechanisms to provide medications for TB and HIV patients, including ADAP and agreements with drug companies; estimated costs related to MDR-TB and XDR-TB treatment, global drug procurement, PEPFAR, the Global Fund, TB legislative support, re-authorization bill, etc.
  - Many strategies were suggested and Joanne Carter from RESULTS will meet with a new workgroup to look at this.
- D. The 2007 TB TI App, for children less than 10 yrs of age was shared with the board.

#### **IV. Old Business**

##### A. Annual Conference Planning

- No report.

##### B. By-Laws

- Final revision completed-changes made under Article 5-Section A. Composition and Terms and Section B. Elections.
- Resent, if no response by Sept 30, 2009, will considered approved and will be posted to NTNC website.

##### C. Formation of Nominating Committee and Potential Candidates

- No report.

##### D. Website

- Have not received web site survey. Tammy will ask Jennifer Kanouse the status.

##### E. National TB Nurse Certification Workgroup

- Discussion surrounding the content of standards needed for ANA recognition of TB as a specialty.
- There are some very specific criteria (14) that must be met and further work needs to be done. The committee report details which criteria has been met and recognizes that TB Competencies need to be completed.
- Ellen Murray will Chair a new subcommittee that will contact the ANA for guidance. The goal is to develop a template on behalf of the NTNC for National Certification. Dawn Farrell has volunteered to work with Ellen. The group will recruit other members.

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## F. Committee Reports

- This month Ellen Murray reported on the committees that she chairs.
- Corrections (Joint committee with NTCA)
  - The Corrections Liaison Core Competency is complete and ready for posting on the website.
  - Group members conduct monthly telephone conferences discussing challenging cases of TB in Correctional Facilities. The goal is to develop the call to include the Corrections Liaison.
  - Ellen recently presented at the Americans Corrections Association National Conference on Correctional Healthcare and has also written an article for publication in Public Health Behind Bars
- Workforce Development Workgroup (Joint Committee with NTCA)
  - This workgroup is tasked with pulling all the competencies together and having them available in one location.
  - Corrections Core Competencies for PH Corrections Liaisons: completed.
  - PHN Consultant Core Competencies: completed.
  - Outreach Worker Core Competencies: completed.
  - Nurse Case Management Core Competencies: under development.
- Staffing Standards
  - Staffing Standards has a new name, Workload Demand Assessment Tool. The workgroup completed its task and has been integrated into the Workforce Development Committee.
  - This tool has been written up and sent for publication to the Journal of Public Health Management under a new name, "Workload Demand Assessment Tools."

## V. Old Business

### A. New Subcommittee for NTNC for National Certification

- Ellen will inform the Board as she progresses with this project.

## VI. Adjournment

## VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2009, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Eastern Time.