

**NEW YORK STATE PRACTICE RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE  
CENTRAL NEW YORK PRACTICE RESEARCH NETWORK  
MEETING SUMMARY  
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK  
FEBRUARY 21, 2001**

**INTRODUCTION**

The meeting was attended by 13 individuals, which included 5 researchers. The following is a summary of the individuals of the Central New York PRN, Third Meeting.

**STRUCTURE**

1. The Central New York PRN should meet quarterly.
2. Subcommittees should be established to pursue specific issues which the Central New York PRN is interested in advancing during the next year.
3. The Central New York PRN will explore greater coordination with the Consortium of Central New York Providers.
4. The following issues were identified and discussed at the Central New York PRN at its third meeting. There was a consensus that additional time would be required to further develop the full list of issues which should be considered for this year's Central New York PRN agenda, and to establish a prioritization of those issues. It was felt that it was most productive to establish a subcommittee to address this effort. (See Subcommittees below).
  - Prevention Policy- how can data be collected, what data is relevant to justify the needs of the various populations, what risk and protective factors are most important?
  - How to secure funding for the validation of programs
  - What is public awareness about addiction and how can it be changed, (including health care system perceptions)?
  - Professional and health care education, medical schools, nursing schools, social work school etc., provide insufficient preparation in regard to the addictions. What can be done, including efforts of the ATTC?
  - Individual provider agencies need access to a reliable network of research experts who can respond to their individual problems and questions related to research and evaluation. This is especially true of smaller providers who are less likely to have research expertise on staff.
  - Researchers need to communicate to providers about issues which are of interest to the researchers to find out what the providers know about those issues, and what assistance the providers can be in the researchers pursuing their interests.
  - There needs to be a regional workshop on ethics and confidentiality issues, this is important to both researchers and providers, though what each group needs to have emphasized may be different.
  - Prevention issues need to receive specific and sufficient focus as the PRN develops its agenda for future exploration and action.
  - The new OASAS Data-Mart needs to have modification so that it is easier to pull out information related to prevention. This may require revamping points of access so that they have a prevention specific, not just a regional, set of configurations.
  - There needs to be effective outreach to minority individuals to participate in the Central New York PRN. The current diversity is insufficient.
  - It is important to improve the use of the PRC/PRN Website and Listservs for communicating among the Central New York PRN members. The material needs to be more focused and briefer when sent from the PRC/ OASAS/ ASAP to individual providers and researchers.
  - The following individuals were selected to be the representatives for the Central New York PRN to the New York Practice Research Collaborative:
    - Barry Lentz- Bridges
    - Kathryn Sowards- Center for Community Alternatives
    - David Heckeł- Seneca County Community Counseling Center

- Rick Kinsella- Syracuse Behavioral Healthcare

## **SUBCOMMITTEES**

1. Three subcommittees were established, with the subcommittees expected to make presentations at the upcoming meeting of the Central New York PRN.
  - Subcommittee on Issues/ Agenda
    - There was a strong feeling at the meeting that it would take additional time to flush out a full set of issues for the Central New York PRN to consider in developing its agenda for the next year. The best approach to accomplish this appeared to be the establishment of a Subcommittee on Issues/ Agenda to begin its work and report to the full PRN at its next meeting. It was determined to be important that the subcommittee consist of individuals with both research and provider interests and that the subcommittee set priorities after it had developed a full list of issues. It was also seen as important to use the Practice Research Collaborative Website to contact other regional providers, especially those who attended prior Central New York PRN meetings, but who were not able to attend the February 21, 2001 Central New York PRN meeting.
    - The following individuals joined the subcommittee:
      - Kate Thompson-OCM BOCES
      - Rick Kinsella- Syracuse Behavioral Health Care
      - Barry E. Lentz -Bridges
  - Subcommittee on Research Leadership
    - It was determined that the Central New York PRN needs to have a core of researchers who can play a leadership role in the development of a strong and sustainable PRN. There was a consensus that the best way to establish such a research leadership core was to convene a Research Leadership Subcommittee.
    - The following individuals joined the subcommittee:
      - Elaine Wolf- Center for Community Alternatives
      - Kathryn Sowards- Center for Community Alternatives
      - Barry Lentz- Bridges
    - Barry Lentz contacted the following researchers and they have expressed an interest in finding out more about the Central New York PRN, with the possibility that they would become active in its initiatives. These researchers will be invited to join the Research Leadership Subcommittee:
      - Pauline E. Ginsberg, Ph. D., Professor of Psychology, Utica College of Syracuse University
      - Judith Owens-Manley, Ph. D., Research Coordinator, The Arthur Levitt Public Affairs Center, Hamilton College
      - Janet M. Duncan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Special Education, LeMoyne College
  - Prevention Subcommittee
    - There was a feeling in the PRN meeting that the Prevention community in the Central New York PRN needs to establish a subcommittee to focus attention on specific Prevention issues, and bring those issues to the full Central New York PRN.
    - The following individuals joined this subcommittee:
      - Kate Thomsen- OCM BOCES
      - Elaine Wolf- Center for Community Alternatives
    - In addition to seeking additional members to serve on this subcommittee it was decided that there would be an attempt to have initial work of this subcommittee done through E-Mail rather than face to face meetings in order to begin work more quickly and increase the ease of participation, and therefore hopefully the number of participants.

## **DATE, TIME, PLACE AND AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

1. It was determined that the details of the 2/21/01 meeting of the Central New York PRN would be shared with the Consortium of Central New York Providers at its upcoming meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> in order to explore ways of increasing coordination between the two entities.
2. The BOCES location and the time of the first three meetings have been convenient, and would be acceptable to continue for future Central New York PRN meetings.

3. The following were identified as potential agenda items for the next meeting of the Central New York PRN:
- Presentation by the three subcommittees
  - Discussion of how to develop a mini-grant procedure for identifying potential activities and participation for use of the \$ 5,000- \$ 10,000 available to each PRN
  - Discussion on how additional members should be added, such as providers, researchers, consumers and decision-makers
  - Report on the status of the “Research 101” workshop series under development by the Practice Research Collaborative.
  - Discussion of how the Central New York PRN can influence OASAS to renew the Annual Plan process which would be even more valuable to providers, if they were able to use the data in conjunction with researchers. It is also of specific interest to explore how the Central New York PRN can potentially influence how the new Data Mart System can integrate Prevention data into the mainstream for planning and research purposes.
  - Identification and follow up with the Syracuse University researchers who were identified by Kathy Murphy-OASAS- to explore their potential interest in working with the Central New York PRN.