

New York State Practice Research Collaborative
Northeastern Practice Research Network
Meeting Summary
Thursday – February 7, 2002

Introduction

This meeting was attended by 30 individuals, which included 6 researchers, 14 practitioners, 5 policy makers, and 5 staff. The following is a summary of the discussions and outcomes of this meeting.

Activities

- *Mini-Grant* – There has been no activity. It appears that the request for money to fund this mini-grant proposal may have to be withdrawn.
- *NIDA Blending Conference* – NIDA is sponsoring a conference on Blending Clinical Practice and Research on March 14 & 15, 2001 in New York City at the Grand Hyatt Hotel. The concept of forging partnerships to enhance chemical dependence treatment and fostering cooperation between providers and researchers is central to the work of the PRNs. All interested PRN participants are encouraged to attend. The registration fee is \$30 and covers materials and lunch. Detailed conference information and online registration can be found at the conference web site www.mac1988.com/blendingnyc There will be a meeting discussing the PRN initiative at the end of the conference. Becky Dixon, Nancy Jones, and Barry Loneck were asked to see if they could attend.
- *Presentation on OASAS Data Capabilities* – Vince Fenlon, Addictions Program Specialist IV, OASAS Data Management Unit
Vince indicated that OASAS was looking to give the provider network information that it could use. He reviewed the reporting forms and reiterated that any information collected is available to give to the providers. For example the PPSI can identify special populations treated by programs and can also identify programs with foreign language speaking staff. All licensed programs are required to report and 90% do so on-line. Data for calendar year 2001 is 75% complete. Any provider interested in receiving an OASAS Directory of Providers should contact Vince. A large part of the discussion centered around the need for the information versus the time it takes to collect and submit it.
Danny van Leeuwen, Chair of the Data Subcommittee said that they were interested in looking at information along a continuum of care. “How well do people move through the system”? They are seeking to understand the patterns of care.
Vince went on to discuss IPMES workscopes, which develop report cards on each program within program types.
In discussing admission and discharge forms it was suggested that OASAS should have only one form used for both actions so the

information doesn't need to be answered twice. For methadone programs this information is updated annually.

Sherrie Gillette suggested adding questions about psychotropic medications used by clients.

- *Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Study* – Susan Brandau reported that there are 12 providers participating in this study in New York City. The thinking is that programs lost clients because they were suffering from undiagnosed TBI. It is hoped that recognizing this condition will help to keep clients engaged in treatment.
- *Next Meeting* – Date set for April 3, 2002 from 12 – 3 p.m. to follow Northeastern Coalition meeting. The meeting after that will be June 6th.