

**New York State Practice Research Collaborative
Western New York Practice Research Network
Meeting Summary
Buffalo, New York
Friday – January 18, 2002**

Introduction

This meeting was attended by 18 individuals, which included 5 researchers, 8 practitioners, 2 practitioner/researchers, 1 educator, and 2 policymakers. The following is a summary of the discussions and outcomes of this meeting.

Activities

- *Partnering Guidance Document* – Susan Brandau identified this as a means to help the negotiation process between researchers and practitioners. She requested that they review the document and provide comments to her via e-mail so that the document can be finalized.
- *Statewide PIC Advisory Board Meeting*
 - November 29, 2001 – this meeting, held in Albany, was mostly devoted to the events of September 11th and the impact on the chemical dependence system including clients, programs, and staff, in addition to the mental health screening survey. The goal is to get information and literature resources out to practitioners. Latest update on Traumatic Brain Injury Study – Buffalo programs are already screening so there is less interest than in New York City. There are 11 providers participating and approximately 500 should be screened in February. The study looks at organizational (staff and environmental) readiness to change (Texas Christian University researchers) through a questionnaire of 114 questions. After completing the questionnaire and sending to TCU, the providers get back a profile of their staff. The web site for more information is www.ibr.tcu.edu.
 - February 27, 2002 is the date of the next statewide PIC advisory board meeting, which will be held in New York City. Steven Schwartz said that he was willing to attend.
- *Mini-Grant Update – Ellen Roche*

They began with the decision to develop a resource library for practitioners – one in Niagara County and one in Erie County. Jay Swarthout and Nancy Smyth will be providing training (3 two hour blocks) at ADDS and Stutzman. The total package is a 20 hour course of five modules, but the 6 hours is the first two modules. After the initial presentation, you can decide if you want the remainder, but the first two

relate most to trauma screening. The next meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2002 at which all February meetings will be scheduled. Completion date is scheduled for April 30, 2002. Susan reminded the group that there is a new grant cycle coming up so they should think about whether they want to continue with the current grant or do something totally new.

- *ASAP 2002 Conference* – The next Conference is in Syracuse at the OnCenter, October 27 – 30, 2002.
- *Update on Brief Behavioral Couples Therapy* – William Fals Stewart has instituted a study at ADDS which involves a contract between RIA and ADDS which integrates the project into the treatment package at ADDS. Referrals come from clinic staff involving a client and his/her significant other in couples counseling. They screen out for domestic violence issues so there is no concern for coercion. ADDS chose to bring staff in for the project rather than training their own staff because to train their own staff to do the work was seen as more work for their staff. There was a discussion on when couples therapy should take place – at the beginning or end of treatment and the consensus was that it differs for each client. In order to keep clients engaged in the study after treatment, they receive money for post treatment screenings which occur immediately at the end of treatment and at 3, 6, 9, and 12 month assessments. Anyone interested can look at the RIA web site where there is a page for William Fals Stewart.
- *Researcher-in-Residence* – a new announcement will be coming out at the beginning of 2002. There was discussion regarding expanding the motivational enhancement RiR, but questions about who would write it. Susan Brandau agreed to help if she is provided with a first draft. Contact Susan to get a copy of the first round RiR grants.
- *Prevention Subcommittee* – Due to a snowstorm in Cattaraugus County, Linda was not able to make the meeting, so Marsha read the last committee minutes that Linda had faxed to the PRN meeting. The group has agreed to use CSAP's Decision Support System to help evaluate programming. They are setting up a listserv to facilitate discussions. The next committee meeting is set for 2/20/02 at 9:30 a.m. at ECCPASA's Harlem Road location.
- *Study on Clients with Disabilities in Treatment* – Dr. Tim Janikowski of the SUNY Buffalo School of Social Work is Program Director of their Rehabilitation Counseling program. He is seeking to describe the nature and extent of disabilities and functional limitations related to ability to access and benefit from counseling. He is looking for people to look at the survey he developed to see if it measures what they're looking for.

The survey is directed to Program Directors. About 1 hour is needed to review it. He is seeking to validate its content. IPDA will use it to see what impacts treatment and service delivery to develop trainings for counselors. Disability prevalence will be rank ordered. Dr. Janikowski received a number of volunteers to help him review his instrument.

- *General PRN discussion*
 - The group expressed interest in what the other mini-grants were. Susan provided a verbal summary and Marsha will bring a hard copy to the next meeting or send a copy to Steve for his dissemination.
 - Brenda Banach of Horizon Health Services reported on acupuncture as a “best practice” activity in reducing craving and relaxing clients. They are looking at the number of sessions and their relationship to the length of abstinence/goal achievement. Members of the PRN decided they would like an acupuncture demonstration for the next meeting.
- **The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 19, 2002 from 9- 12 at Stutzman ATC. A Coalition meeting will follow from 12– 2 p.m.**