PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONERS or NP Tele-Supervision Sub-Committee

Discussion:

First conference call held on 9/29/2014 from 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM. Call in number (916) 552-6503

Second conference call held on 12/16/14 from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Call in number (916) 552-6503

Third conference call held on 2/26/15 from 1:30 to 2:00 PM. Call in number (916) 552-6503. (The notes include updates from this call.)

Update from first call:

b. Some options for discussion: See notes from 12/26/15 call for details.
c. This was answered in a. above. See notes from 9/29/14 for details.
d. Type of County liability. See notes from 9/29/14 for details.
e. Feasibility of a group of counties contracting with a Telepsychiatrist coordinated through a JPA or through a Managed Care Organization. John Lawless checked with CalMHSA to their willingness to help. He spoke with Ann Collentine from CalMHSA on Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2015. She indicated CalMHSA would be interested in helping us set up a program for hiring a Psychiatric Nurse, a Nurse Practitioner or a psychiatrist that would contract with the JPA and work for the counties. She asked that we identify what specifically what we need from them.
f. Questions to ask CalMHSA about working together on the next call (and some comments:)
   i. What does the process of different counties working to create an MOU or contract with CalMHSA look like? (Amador wrote, “A contract would be easier. It would have to go through our General Services Administration & County Counsel, then the CAO’s office and finally to the Board or Sups for approval.”) 2/24/15. Tuolumne agrees 2/26/15.
   ii. What would each county need to do to participate? (Amador wrote, “We would need to have an initial discussion with our internal Leadership Team then our HHS Director would need to discuss and receive preliminary approval from the CAO.”) 2/24/15
   iii. Who would provide oversight of this individual or individuals? (Amador wrote, “We have a part-time psychiatrist who has offered to provide supervision.”) 2/24/15. Madera also said they would provide supervision. 2/26/15
   iv. What would it cost each county to participate in such a program? (Amador wrote. “Unknown.”) 2/24/15 This seems to be a question all counties on the call had. 2/26/15 Gina from CIBHS stated that the Central Region could possibly help with admin costs. 2/26/15
   v. Continuity of Care. 2/26/15
vi. How could the JPA help us in hiring J1 or H1 doctors? (Amador wrote, “Unknown. Not sure Amador would be interested in this option.”) 2/24/15 Other counties on the call did not express a great deal of interest in this option.” 2/26/15. From a search of the internet the following information is summarized for each group.

1. **H-1B**
   a. On the H-1B visa, we would be able to hire a doctor who is already in this country and has been benched (is not currently employed.)
   b. We would need to establish and pay them the prevailing wage for this position.
   c. The H-1B visa would allow foreign skilled workers to stay in the US for up to six years and apply for permanent residency in the interim.
   d. This information came from the internet, based on a search of H1B employees.

2. **J-1**
   a. This classification is authorized for those who intend to participate in an approved program for the purpose of teaching, instructing or lecturing, studying, observing, conducting research, consulting, demonstrating special skills, receiving training or to receive graduate medical education or training.
   b. They must demonstrate that they have a residence abroad which they do not intend to abandon.
   c. This information came from the internet based on a search of J1 employees.

   g. Where would they (Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners) be recruited from?
      i. See notes from 12/16/15 for details.
      ii. John Lawless has contacted UCSF and found a contact person he will talk to and get details about their program before the next phone call. (I left a message for Chris Rainor, supervisor of the nursing program at UCSF. I called on 12/17/14 and 2/25/15. Left messages both times.)
      iii. Karen Markland from Fresno county said they have a renewed interest in working with CSU,Fresno regarding Nurse Practitioners. 2/26/15
      iv. Christa Thompson from Amador County stated, “A PA under the supervision of a physician can diagnose and prescribe. A nurse practitioner can diagnose and prescribe without the supervision of a physician." This was taken from some conversations that her county was having with DHCS...in case it impacts folks' thoughts on who to contract with or hire...” 2/26/15

   h. Nothing new on CSU,Fresno at this time. See notes from 9/29/14 for details. (No update as of 2/26/15. I emailed Terea Giannetta tereag@csufresno.edu but no response at this time) 2/26/15
i. Coordination of schedules. See notes from 9/29/14 for details.
   i. Who would supervise them (Nurse Practitioners or Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners)? See notes from 12/16/15 for details.
   ii. Would it be feasible to go with Locum Tenens? See notes from 12/16/15 for details.

j. Would it be feasible to get more time with current Telepsych providers or recruit for others to provide Telepsych services? See 12/16/14 for details.

2) Cost:
   a. What are counties currently paying Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners. See notes from 9/29/14 for details.
   b. For Telepsych doctors. See notes from 9/29/14 for details.
   c. Cost of additional Telepsychiatrists for counties to share. See notes from 9/29/14 for details.
   d. Cost of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners: See notes from 9/29/14 for details.
   e. Cost of Telepsych supervision (per hour)? See notes from 9/29/14 for details.