

National Training Center for Family Planning

Quarterly E-Newsletter

February 2009

www.fpntc.org

Issue 4

Greetings!

We are pleased to bring you the fourth edition of the National Training Center (NTC) for Family Planning E-Newsletter. The goal of this quarterly newsletter is to keep you informed of the latest news and recent and upcoming events related to training for family planning providers.

The purpose of the NTC for Family Planning is to assist the Office of Population Affairs, Office of Family Planning (OPA/OFP) and their Title X Regional and National Training Centers in planning, developing, and coordinating training activities in order to enhance and support training of personnel to carry out Family Planning service programs. Cicatelli Associates Inc (CAI) coordinates the NTC for OPA/OFP.

We hope you will find this quarterly newsletter useful, and welcome your comments and suggestions about how to improve both our newsletter and related website, www.fpntc.org. Please send us ideas for items – or completed articles – you would like to see featured in the e-newsletter. Contact doris@cicatelli.org.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Gates-Ferris, Project Director
Doris Saintil, Project Coordinator

Featured Items

- **HRSA Launches New Family Health History Tool**
- **National and Regional Training Centers Meeting**
- **New CDC Fact Sheet and Podcast on HIV Transmission Rates in the US**
- **Sentinel Family Planning Clinic Network Project**
- **NTC Tools and Resources Database: ECC**

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- **Region II Training Centers Partner to Deliver Reproductive Health Training in the US VI**
- **Region II RTC Clinic Efficiency Collaboration**
- **Region VIII RTC: Compendium of Strategies to Support Gender Equitable Care**

Upcoming National Events

- **April 15-17, 2009** – *Reproductive Health Update and Adolescent Reproductive Health Institute* in Park City, Utah
- **April 22-24, 2009** – *Title X HIV Prevention Grantee Conference* in San Diego, CA
- **May 4-6, 2009** – *Male Health Conference* in New Orleans, LA
- **July 12-16, 2009** – *Male Health Educator Training Institute* in Dearborn, MI
- **August 19-21, 2009** – *National Title X Grantee Conference* in Chicago, IL

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Featured Items

HRSA Launches New Family Health History Tool

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently released an updated and improved version of the Surgeon General's internet-based family health history tool. The new tool makes it easier for patients to assemble and share family health history and can also help practitioners make better use of health history information. The new tool can help families put their health history to work to improve their health and well-being. Please encourage your colleagues to take advantage of this convenient way to track their family health history. For more detailed information about the new tool, please visit: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/01/20090113a.html>.

National and Regional Training Centers Meeting

The OPA-funded Training Centers meeting took place from January 7-8, 2009 at CAI's New York office and was facilitated by Kristin Bradley-Bull from the New Perspectives Consulting Group. The meeting brought OPA-funded National and Regional Training Centers and OPA/OFP representatives together to discuss their shared goals and expectations. The meeting also looked at how the Training Centers can best evaluate their work in order to show that their efforts are contributing to the long-term outcomes that OPA/OFP seeks to achieve. The group focused on clinic efficiency interventions and looked at how to identify activities that lead to specific impacts in the field. The group also discussed clinic-level indicators for measuring outcomes of their training efforts. Participant evaluations showed improvements in understanding the development of an evaluation plan that includes impacts and outcomes, and other approaches to clinic efficiency interventions.

New CDC Fact Sheet and Podcast on HIV Transmission Rates in the United States

CDC has recently published a new fact sheet and podcast on HIV transmission rates in the United States and the success of prevention efforts nationwide.

To download the fact sheet: www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/factsheets/transmission.htm

To listen to the podcast: www2a.cdc.gov/podcasts/player.asp?f=10261

Sentinel Family Planning Clinic Network Project

Under the Establishment of a Sentinel Family Planning Clinic Network Project, Research Triangle Institute (RTI) will collaborate with OPA/OFP to design, develop, and test a system to gather and analyze family planning service data from a representative sample of Title X-funded clinics ("sentinel sites") that will allow OFP to monitor performance-related and emerging issues and to conduct in-depth analysis on issues that are relevant to Title X policy and programs, as well as enhance OFP's ability to respond to information requests from Congress, public health agencies, and other stakeholders in the Title X program.

NTC Tools and Resources Database: ECC

The training curriculum for *Effective Contraceptive Counseling (ECC): Training Clinicians, Educators and Counselors to Help Clients Use Contraception More Effectively* is now available on the NTC Tools and Resources Database. The curriculum looks at what the Center for Health Training (CHT) has learned during the past 20 years about how to help clients become more effective users of birth control, and what the evidence says about providing effective contraceptive counseling. The purpose of the ECC model and training curriculum is to help providers enhance a client's ability to be more successful with his or her chosen contraceptive method. For a copy of the extensive literature review and an order form for the curriculum, please visit: www.centerforhealthtraining.org/materials_ECC.html.

RTC News

Title X Family Planning RTCs Deliver National Audio Conference on Human Trafficking

In an effort to increase family planning providers' knowledge and awareness about human trafficking, on January 21, 2009, the Family Planning Regional Training Centers (RTCs) offered a 90-minute audio conference entitled, "Human Trafficking: A Family Planning Perspective." The goals of this program were to define human trafficking, describe "signs to look for" and questions to ask when interviewing clients, and to identify resources and referral information regarding human trafficking. Seven hundred and forty nine participants from family planning agencies throughout the United States took advantage of this learning opportunity. Overall, the evaluation data indicates a high level of participant satisfaction with this audio conference. In an effort to both maximize resources as well as increase collaboration, the RTCs will continue to explore possibilities for future partnerships to deliver training to the field that is of a cross-cutting nature.

Region II Training Centers Join Together to Promote Public/Private Partnerships in Order to Enhance the Delivery of Reproductive Health Services in the US Virgin Islands

The Region II STD/HIV Prevention Training Center, Region II Title X Family Planning Training Center and the Region II Infertility Prevention Project joined together to support the US Virgin Islands in their efforts to reach out to both private and public health care providers to raise awareness and increase skills related to the provision of reproductive health care services. The Centers partnered in designing and delivering a weeklong STD/HIV training in January of 2009 whose overarching goal was to enhance provider skill and collaboration between USVI-based health professionals working in STD, HIV, family planning, private practice and within primary and secondary schools.

A total of 250 participants attended the training programs entitled, "Managing the Sexual Health of Your Patients: Screening, Treatment and Counseling" and "Educating and Counseling Youth on STDs & HIV." Faculty from Columbia University, Cicatelli Associates Inc. (CAI), USVI Department of Health, Callen Lorde Community Health Center, and New York State STD/HIV Prevention Training Center (PTC) all helped to make this event a success. As part of this effort, data was collected from participants to assess current practices in the provision of reproductive health services. This data is in the process of being collated and analyzed and will be drawn upon to support the development of future follow-up and technical assistance activities that can support the integration of learning into practice at the clinical level.

Region II Title X Clinic Efficiency Collaborative Results in Increased Unique Patients, Patient Visits and Revenue for County Health Department Title X Providers in Western New York

Over the last 12 months CAI has been providing technical assistance and training to County Health Departments (CHDs) seeking to improve efficiency and effectiveness of their Title X Programs while containing costs. In this effort, CAI utilized an improvement approach based on the Institute for Health Care Improvement (IHI) breakthrough *Series Collaborative Model* as the framework for the delivery of technical assistance. The model is designed to help organizations close the gap between knowledge and action. It does so by initiating a series of short term Learning Sessions that brings agency multidisciplinary teams (comprised of a fiscal officer, program administrator and medical director) together to seek improvement in a common area and build skill among participants in the areas where they want to make change. Organization teams work together between Learning Sessions during Action Periods to test, implement, and monitor and evaluate changes in their clinical settings.

Through an application process, eight CHDs were accepted into the Collaborative in November of 2007. At the end of the Collaborative, in February of 2009, four CHDs had completed the entire process. Each one of these CHDs had been experiencing significant declines in revenue and patient numbers from 2005 through 2007. Analysis of 2008 data for each of the CHDs who completed the Collaborative process revealed significant increases in revenue, unique patients and patient visits in 2008 as compared to the previous two years. In addition, all participants reported increases in self-efficacy related to use of data for program planning, planning, managing and providing oversight for an improvement project or change in clinic, and in engaging staff in improvement planning, implementation and monitoring.

Participants were asked to assess their level of agreement for the following statement: “How successful was the Collaborative in supporting your CHD in making a positive change in operations in an identified area of improvement,” and 100% of respondents reported that they “Strongly Agreed” with this statement. CAI will continue to engage in evaluation of the Collaborative by conducting an assessment of outcomes for those CHDs that did not complete the Collaborative process.

Region VIII RTC: Compendium of Strategies to Support Gender Equitable Care

Given the different attitudes and expectations that men and women have toward health care, it is increasingly apparent that involving men in their own care requires a different approach from that which has been successful with women in family planning clinics. Therefore, in December 2007, the Region VIII Family Planning Office, with support from JSI, convened an expert panel to determine strategies to increase males’ participation in reproductive health care activities. The ultimate goal of the consultation was to generate ideas that will contribute to the development of a plan for the Regional Office that will guide them in supporting Title X clinics in fully integrating male reproductive services per Title X guidelines.

The outcome of the meeting resulted in two regional goals:

1. Increase number of males getting reproductive health care in clinics
2. Move clinics to a higher level of service provision with regard to reproductive health services

The group also discussed successful strategies related to these two goals to incorporate a gender equitable approach to provision of reproductive health services for both women and men. Panelists concluded that all barriers couldn’t possibly be known and avoided. Therefore, the ‘just do it’ model applies best. The best way to change attitudes is to change behavior.

As a follow-up to this consultation, JSI-Denver has been working on a variety of activities to support strategies to meet these goals. One of the key components of this project is to create a compendium of best practices and marketing materials targeting males. The compendium will include a collection of best practices and samples of print marketing materials regarding reproductive health services. This effort will also describe successful activities implemented by family planning clinics nationwide. The document will compile a list of ideas from STD clinics, community health centers, and other organizations that provide reproductive health services to males. The compendium will serve as a resource for clinics interested in increasing the level of service for male reproductive health. This resource will also recognize outstanding clinics that are working toward gender equity and increase the number of males served in the family planning clinic environment.

If you have information to share, or you would like a copy of the compendium, please contact Ann Loeffler at JSI Research and Training Institute, 303.262.4302 or email her at ann_loeffler@jsi.com.

Upcoming National Events

March 18, 2009 *Clinic Efficiencies Overview and Next Day Scheduling: Audioconference, 12:00 –1:30 pm MST*

This audio session will provide participants with an overview of Clinic Efficiencies and highlights of Clinic Efficiency projects taking place in Region VIII. Clinic Efficiencies is a process based on patient visit redesign and tailored specifically to Title X clinics and their unique characteristics. The process involves patient tracking and mapping followed by intensive work with clinic staff to create and implement a plan to improve clinic operations and increase revenues while increasing patient and staff satisfaction.

This audioconference will also provide a framework for the implementation of Next Day Scheduling, a key strategy of Clinic Efficiency. The benefits, challenges and outcomes of previous Clinic Efficiency projects implemented in Region VIII will also be explored in order to assist participants in determining whether or not their sites are a good fit for the Clinic Efficiency process and/or Next Day Scheduling.

Upon completion of this audio conference, participants will be able to: 1) Assist in a process to determine if their sites are a good fit for Clinic Efficiency and/or Next Day Scheduling; and 2) Identify a process and the next steps to move forward with Clinic Efficiency and/or Next Day Scheduling, if appropriate.

March 26, 2009 *Making Decisions About Screening for Chlamydia: Audioconference, 12:00 – 1:30 pm MST*

This session will provide participants with an overview of screening criteria and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The session will also include a discussion of appropriate screening, over-screening and Chlamydia screening quality data extracted from the Region VIII Regional Quality Indicators Project and the Infertility Prevention Project.

April 15-17, 2009 *Reproductive Health Update and Adolescent Reproductive Health Institute* in Park City, Utah

The Region VIII Family Planning Training Center invites you to attend the 2009 Reproductive Health Update and Adolescent Reproductive Health Institute. Taking place in Park City, Utah at the Canyons resort from April 15-17, this conference will feature topics ranging from Adolescent Risk-Taking Behavior to updates on Contraception and Sexually Transmitted Infections. The conference will also cover topics related to collaboration and sustainability as well as marketing services to males. This meeting in beautiful Park City is an excellent opportunity to share information colleagues and others in related fields. To register, visit us at: www.region8familyplanning.org.

April 22-24, 2009 *HIV Prevention Grantee Conference* in San Diego, California

The tenth OPA/OFP HIV Prevention Project Annual Technical Support Conference for the OPA-funded HIV Integration projects will be held in April 2009. The conference is open to staff of the OPA-funded HIV Prevention Projects, the OPA training centers, and OPA regional office staff. The conference is being coordinated by the National Training Center under the direction of OPA/OFP. The conference registration packet was emailed to all HIV Prevention Grantees, RPCs and RTCs in January 2009. It is also available online at www.cicatelli.org/NTC. The registration deadline is March 13, 2009.

May 4-6, 2009 *Male Health Conference* in New Orleans, Louisiana

The Family Planning Male Training Center will conduct the 2009 Male Health Conference from May 4-6, 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana. This exciting three-day conference will focus on the issues that challenge male family planning and male reproductive health programs while providing a great

opportunity for professionals working in these areas to network while learning about new developments, emerging trends and refinements of traditional strategies for increasing male involvement. Please visit www.fpmtc.net for additional information.

July 12-16, 2009 *Male Health Educator Training Institute* in Dearborn, Michigan

The Male Health Educator Training Institute is an annual intensive week-long seminar sponsored by Title X to support its continuing commitment to male reproductive health. The Institute is designed to provide health educators with comprehensive knowledge of reproductive health, family planning and basic health education competencies to enable them to work more effectively with male clients in family planning programs and clinics. The Institute presents two training modules each day and attendance at each module is mandatory. Interested health educators must apply by March 27, 2009 to their OPA Regional Program Consultant. For more information, please visit www.cicatelli.org/maleheti.

August 19-21, 2009 *National Title X Grantee Conference* in Chicago, Illinois

The bi-annual meeting of Title X funded programs will be held in Chicago during August 2009. The conference is being coordinated by the National Training Center under the direction of OPA/OFP. A conference planning committee will be developed in the next few months. A "Save-the-Date" flyer was distributed in November 2008 and the conference registration packet will be available in March 2009.