THE PROGRAM/PROPOSAL LOGIC MODEL

Identifying the Problem: Doing Community Needs Assessments

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Needs Assessments

❖ Needs Assessments→Strategic Planning→Strong Health Center Programs
❖ The Needs Assessment informs the Strategic Planning processes which forms the basis for the health care plan and service delivery model, which lays out a rational and logical approach to the implementing of that plan, which is supported by a reasonable, realistic cost effective budget

Rules

➢ Rule #1A
  ▪ Identified needs have to relate to the program
    ● Health Disparities = Services/Service Package
    ● Access Problems/Limitations = Staffing Profile
    ● Barriers = Service Delivery Model & Strategy
➢ Rule #1B
  ▪ Identified needs have to relate to the program
    ● Identifying scores of problems without corresponding program is not a winning strategy
❖ From the HRSA Funding Guidance:
  ➢ “Information provided on need should serve as the basis for, and align with, the proposed activities and goals described in the health care and business plans and throughout the application.”

Identifying Need

➢ Health Disparities
  ▪ Health outcome data demonstrating that the target population experiences disparities in health outcomes compared to the general population in the Service Area or other benchmarks
➢ Access to Care
  ▪ Data demonstrating that there is not an adequate quantity of accessible primary health care providers for the target population
➢ Barriers to Care
  ▪ Even if there are health care resources why is it that the target population cannot use them fully?
    ● Cultural and/or linguistic
    ● Geographic/transportation
    ● Insurance/available income
    ● Other factors creating barriers
    ● Unique health care needs
From Need to Program—The Logic
- [The needs identified then need to be served through a logical solution—which is the program]
  - Health Disparities: Services
  - Access [to Care] Limitations: Staffing profile
  - Barriers [to Care]: Service delivery model and strategy

Identifying Need
- Attention Everybody!
  - Look for required needs data! But do not limit your analysis to those indicators!
- Community Based Needs Assessment → Need for Primary Care Services

Levels of Description
- Service Area
- Target Population
- Patients

Service Area
- Define Service Area
  - A geographic area from which your target population will be drawn (census tracts, counties, MUAs, HPSAs, etc)
  - A logical and rational area from providing health care services that relates to your target population and their accessibility and barrier issues
- This is the character of the area:
  - Environmental/geographic characteristics
  - Housing
  - Economy
    - Types of economic activity
- This is how the people here live
  - Education
  - Income
  - Livelihood
    - Transportation
    - Socio-demographic information
- And all of these things relate to potential health risks and barriers to care
- And all of these things relate to:
  - Potential health risks
  - Decreased access
  - Barriers to care

Target Population
- These are the people in the service area that I am focusing on designing a program for:
  - Socio-demographic indicators
    - Race
    - Income
    - Education
    - Age
    - Employment/unemployment
  - Ethnicity
    - Language/culture
    - Insurance status
    - Free/reduced lunch
  - Health Status Indicators/Health Disparities
    - Maternal/Child health indicators
      - Infant mortality
      - Low birth weight
      - Prenatal care
      - Teen pregnancy
    - Immunizations
    - Lead paint exposure/poisoning
    - Other [maternal/child health indicators]
- Chronic Diseases
  - Cancer
  - Diabetes
  - Asthma
- Mental Health Problems
  - Depression
  - Suicide
  - Substance abuse
- Oral Health Problems
  - Caries
  - HIV/AIDS
  - Nutrition/hunger
  - Obesity
- Conditions specific to special populations
  - Environmental exposure
  - Pesticide exposure
  - Other [oral health problems]
  - Skin disorders
  - Accidents

**Identifying Need**

- Define Special Populations
  - Specific health problems and health care needs
  - Significant changes in the past year impacting specific special populations
- Special Populations Additional Descriptions
  - MCH [Migrant Community Health]
    - Agricultural environment/crops
    - Growing seasons
    - Special circumstances impacting demand
  - HCH [Homeless Community Health]
    - Availability of housing and other factors that impact demand for services
  - PHPC [Public Housing Primary Care]
    - Recent changes in availability of public housing and impact on demand

**Patients**

- Patients AND Community Based Needs Assessment→Need for Primary Care Services
- Patients—Just the Tip of the Iceberg
  - Health Status
  - Access to Care
  - Barriers to Health Care
    - Patient surveys
    - Focus groups
  - Chart audits
  - Anecdotal information
- Identifying Need
  - For those already providing health care to the target population (existing grantees—Service Area Competition and Expansion Applications—and other operational applicants)
    - Who are you serving now? How many?
  - For everyone
    - How many will be served and how many projected encounters throughout the proposed project
      - Give data for end of each project year and at full capacity!
      - Make sure the data is consistent
  - Remember
    - Patient derived data and information is not population-based data!
    - Always use the correct data for the question being asked
Other Area Providers
- Other area providers + Patients + Community Based Needs Assessment → Need for Primary Care Services

Access to Care—How Many Providers are There?
- Access to Care
  - Are health care resources available to the target population?
    - Data demonstrating that the target population has restricted access to primary health care
      - Numbers of providers available
      - Other providing resources/services to the target population
      - Other FQHCs/Section 330 grantees, rural health clinics, public health services, etc.
    - Discussion of the adequacy and effectiveness of the existing network of care for the target population
      - Absolute shortage of primary, oral, behavioral care providers
      - Shortage specifically for target population
      - Numbers of providers accepting Medicaid, SCHIP, sliding fee scale
      - Waiting times to get appointments, etc.

Barriers to Care
- Barriers to Care + Other Area Providers + Patients + Community Based Needs Assessment → Need for Primary Care Services
- Even if there are health care resources, why is it that the target population cannot use them fully?
  - Cultural and/or linguistic
  - Geographic/transportation
  - Insurance/available income
  - Other factors creating barriers
  - Unique health care needs

Environmental Context
- Environmental Context + Barriers to Care + Other Area Providers + Patients + Community Based Needs Assessment → Need for Primary Care Services
- Health Care Environment
  - What is happening in the state, region, local area that impacts the health care status and access to care for the target population?
    - Federal, state, county, local Medicaid, welfare, other health care reforms
    - Implementation of 1115 and 1915(b) waivers, Medicaid PPS, SCHIP, others
    - Direction of state environment and health policy is going including trends in state budgets, unemployment, etc
  - How do these trends and policies impact the future fiscal well-being of the proposed program and applicant organization?
- Environment—Not just health care
  - What other environmental/policy/politics will impact the proposed program?
    - Immigration laws
    - Changing economic structure
    - Employment trends
    - Others

State Priorities
- State Priorities + Barriers to Care + Other Area Providers + Patients + Community Based Needs Assessment → Need for Primary Care Services
- How does the proposed new site fit into the state priorities regarding health care for the underserved?
  - Market place analysis
  - Statewide strategic plan
  - Other analyses of health care access