



Transportation Subcommittee Meeting Minutes May 23, 2017 8:30am – 10:00am

Attendees:

Adelyn Van Tol (DAKC), Allison Rudi (Public Research Project Coordinator), Darlene Bentz (Senior Neighbors), Joan Konyndyk (Hope Network), Johnny Melendez (Health Net of West MI), Kendrick Heinlein (AAAWM), Meegan Joyce (The Rapid), Sherrie Gillespie (ACSET), Steve Burke (Network 180), Sue Sefton (HNCP), Wende Randall (ENTF), Bree Butler (ENTF), Ciarra Adkins (Health Net of West MI), Mindy Klein (American Cancer Society)

I. Introductions

II. Health Net CMS Grant: Ciarra Adkins

The Health Network of West Michigan works to bridge gaps in healthcare by connecting individuals to the basic resources that every human being deserves to live a healthier life. They work primarily with vulnerable populations: they help with a wide variety of health needs, including patient education and connecting individuals with resources. Health Net was recently awarded the CMS grant (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services) federal grant dispersed over the next five years.

The target population are Community Dwelling Beneficiaries/CDBs (anyone on Medicare or Medicaid who have health issues). The grant will cover five central issues; food, housing, inter-personal violence, transportation, and utilities. Any uncovered needs will still be eligible to receive aid through Health Net via other funding sources. The goal of the CMS grant is to aid people in a way that will reduce cost to healthcare. The first step is for Healthnet to meet with CDBs and try to connect them with outreach workers. The second step is an overall screening, screening will be implemented in various clinical sites. Every person who goes through the selected clinical site will fill out a brief survey. Based on survey answers, anyone who has 2 emergency department visits in the last 12 months and health issues are considered high risk and will be connected with an outreach service and tools of navigation through Healthnet. If an individual has 1 emergency department visit in the last 12 months they will receive a list of available resources. Minimum number of people Healthnet needs to reach is 11,000, this number is expected to be reached with the help of Spectrum and Metro. Healthnet was awarded the track 3 grant which means health alignment, nationally only 20 sites were awarded the track 3 grant, for the community alignment piece, creating partner alignment, tracking people, communication between systems. This is not just limited to the hospital systems, there are other sites with clients and patients that are able to receive grant money. The grant money does not apply towards direct services. It can only be used for community alignment and the screening. Participants need to be a Kent County resident. This is a good opportunity for building connectivity. This will help agencies in building relationships and making sure resources are up to date.

The first task is connecting at least 11,000 people with 2 or more emergency department visits with resources. The second part is the opportunity to gather an extensive amount of research due to this project. Part of the intent is to save money on emergency services by helping people receiving resources that may have prevented the visit in the first place.





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III. Citizens Agenda

The Rapid – Expanding Existing Services: Meegan Joyce

New e-fare system to start beta testing in the fall and implementation planned for early 2018. E-fare is a card system that will replace paper bus passes. Vending machines will be available at bus stops. A retail system is currently being built so that card purchase can happen at places outside of bus stops at area stores. Most recent public meetings have a lot of comment about the transfer time limit and the 10-ride card. This resulted in the transfer time being changed so that someone can make a turnaround trip to and from their destination in the allowed transfer time. The 10-ride card will be kept in use. Cap fare will be implemented, this means that if you buy enough rides individually that add up to the amount of the next level ticket (day pass, 7-day, 31-day pass) you will automatically receive that pass. This makes passes available to people who previously couldn't purchase the passes up front. Other benefits include no loss of your card balance. Currently paper tickets can be destroyed easily and balances lost.

Legislative Update: Sue Sefton

Brief discussion about federal budget issues

III. Kentride Website: Joan Konyndyk

Hope network donated \$8.99/year to keep the kentRIDE website up and running. The website is currently up and working smoothly.

IV. Strategic Planning: Allison Rudi

Introduction Letter for Municipal Report Card update:

Adalyn and Wende introduced the idea of the municipal questionnaire at Calvin and talked about how the goal is to better align systems and thinking about how municipalities use transportation and identify transportation needs. The survey was received well and Calvin offered to forward the municipal questionnaire to their contacts. This established a point of access as they have agreed to forward it along for us. Although in order to track results, a better idea might be to gain a contact list from Calvin and send the survey directly from the ENTF. The point of the survey is to give municipalities a chance to sit down and look at their current transportation systems and start to think about transportation needs within their municipalities. Once the questionnaire is complete it would be optimal if some innovative suggestions can be presented as solutions for any issues the municipalities find they may have. Creating talking points for the transportation board to all agree on will help with discussions in the future with consistency and give reference for how to answer questions about the questionnaire. Adalyn currently has her draft of the introductory letter on Trello for feedback from Transportation Committee members.

V. Ridelink

GoBus has been having a difficulty with hiring drivers this year, there is a shortage in finding qualified candidates. Hope has added another vehicle to their fleet which has helped with demand.





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VI. Additional Updates

Participants are wanted for a non-emergency medical transportation focus group taking place on June 8th. Anyone from West MI can attend.

