

2011 UCEDD TA Institute

UCEDD Region 9 & 10 Health Reform Breakout

Facilitator: Bob Jacobs

General notes

- Nevada: down to the money – it's all about the cost these days
 - o There was group consensus that this was a common issue
- Short term versus long term costs
- Oregon is dealing with severe cuts (e.g., clinics)
- Nevada – the Affordable Care Act is not really on the radar
- California is beginning conversations about the exchanges
- There was an overall discussion related to Medicaid eligibility changes in the states in the region (e.g. childless adults)

How is your Center involved in health care reform efforts in your state?

- Some states report that it is not on the radar
- Talking about exchanges
- Research
- Involved with health care system (e.g., Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers)
- Work in and with lawsuits
- Training

What should we be doing?

- Conference calls (collaboration among UCEDDs)
- Discussing impact of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on the DD system
- Advocacy
- Identify critical time points & corresponding actions (e.g., who, what, when, where & how of ACA implementation)
- Clarify traditionally covered groups and how they are impacted by exchanges
- Specify eligibility criteria impacted by the Maintenance of Effort, especially related to people with DD
- What is the vision? → this will help with advocacy efforts
- State based impact study
- Be involved in discussions and studies
- Scan of health effects of policy (study this area)
 - o No pre-existing conditions (e.g., ACA/repeal of ACA, etc.)
 - o Expands coverage up to 133% of FPL
 - o No caps
 - o Cannot consider disability in determining premiums
 - o Access
 - o Training of allied health professionals to work with DD population (primary care)
 - o Define/influence optional services

- Partner with DD Councils/P&As (e.g., meet regularly)
- Assure ACA is not repealed
- Be part of training aspect
- Get involved in home visits (prevention)
- Be aware of Tribal Healthcare System