Coalition Building:
Partnerships in Mental Health and Aging

Worksheet

DEFINING AND PREDICTING SUCCESS

1. List three issues that you would like your coalition on mental health and aging to address:
   A. Education
   B. Accessibility
   C. Alternatives to funding

2. List three activities through which your coalition might do to accomplish each of the three issues above:
   Issue A Education (Reduce Stigma):
   - legislation - fact sheets - physicians (PCC education)
   - long-term care education
   - work C existing statewide conferences to incorp MH tracts
   - create #booklet
   Issue B Accessibility:
   - T need for Psychiatrists, rural, urban
   - PCC, ARNP
   - in-home MH, assess & treatment program
   - train peer support system & develop (recruit)
   Issue C Alternatives to funding:
   - Volunteers: retired, MH, Health Care Wkrs
   - Dues, & skal:
   - In-kind contributions

3. List three factors that are critical to the success of your coalition:
   A. Recruiting all players/keep people
   B. Leadership from attending members/Coordination/Network
   C. Follow-through (requires agency support & commitment)
4. List three challenges that your coalition on mental health and aging is likely to face and then list possible solutions for each challenge:

A. Challenge: Time constraints of coalition members
   Solution:

B. Challenge: Mental health issues are viewed negatively & minimized
   Solution:

C. Challenge: Loss of current leadership
   Solution:

FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS

List the organizations whose participation is critical to the existence of your coalition on mental health and aging: (i.e. substance abuse organizations, mental health organizations, etc.)

* NAME of IA:
  Interfaith Alliance of Iowa
  DMARC
* Public Health Dept.
  IA HHS Care Asso.
* IA Med Asso.
  IA Nurses Asso.
* Assoc of Community Mental Health Centers (ICMHC)
* County Supervisors from ea. county - (UCPC)
  OIL
  VA
* AAA
* Elder Affairs
* NASW

List the organizations whose participation is preferable, but without whom your coalition could still exist without:  <num> items go here
List three strategies for encouraging consumer involvement and input in your mental health and aging coalition:

1. Work with NAMI – do
2. Consumer Advocate Group –
3. Utilize MH Conf to recruit – CMLTC to get word out –

List three strategies for fostering consensus and managing conflict among your coalition members:

1. Rules & someone to enforce
2. Adhere to mission statement
3. Encourage & respect all viewpoints/dissenters
4. Willingness to compromise (come to consensus)

MANAGING THE LIFE OF A COALITION

How could you ensure that your coalition members are united on an issue?

- Mission Statement - kept in front
- All viewpoints have been shared

How could you ensure that your coalition members carry their own weight?

- Statement of responsibilities on membership application
- Require participation on one committee
- Assignments are specific & timelines

List three of the most important rules under which your coalition will operate:

- A. Adhere to mission statement (review MS periodically)
- B. Each meeting results in required action & timelines
- C. Participants are committed to attending meetings
What human resources will your coalition require to maintain its existence and motivation?

- IT
- organize/setup/communicate at meetings & needs
- key contact person
- membership chair
- committees, project

How will you meet these human resource needs?

- volunteers from agencies
- recruit specific skills
- paid coordinator (directed by members)
- apply for grants

What financial demands will your coalition have?

- materials
- meeting places
- speakers

How will you meet these financial needs?

- members pay for lunch, travel, lodging
- grants
- approach legislature
- recruit sponsors

How will you know if your coalition is a real “good” coalition?

- strong attendance/commitment to goals
- goals from wkb groups are being met
- when IA legislature looks to this group as the authority on aging

PLANNING GUIDE

1. When do you intend to conduct your next coalition meeting?
   
   Feb 2006
2. What do you intend to accomplish at the next coalition meeting?
   A. Mission Statement - Strategic Plan
   B.
   C. Identify Needed Committee

3. Who are the primary agencies you will invite that have not been involved so far? Substance Abuse
   • 

4. Who are the other agencies you will invite to become involved?
   •
   •

5. What potential problems will arise during the first meeting and how would you deal with these problems?
   •
   •

6. What type of staff support will you require to organize and keep your coalition going?
   •
   •

7. What logistics will you consider when arranging your meeting?
   •
   •

8. Who will provide the financial support for your coalition building meeting (computer time, mailing cost, supplies, etc.?)
   •
   •

9. What type of technical assistance will you need to improve the effectiveness of your coalition?
   •
   •
   •
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