Bartlett Regional Hospital

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Project Name: Pharmacy Safe for Juneau Recovery Hospital (JRH) & Radiology Unit for Dahl Memorial Clinic (Skagway)

Agency: Bartlett Regional Hospital
Grant#: 06-4-C-4896

Close-out for Pharmacy Safe for JRH

Background:
Juneau Recovery Hospital had gained approval from the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA), and the State of Alaska, Division of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, to have a methadone drug treatment program. The Denali Commission provided the funds to enable JRH to be in compliance for administering the methadone program. The methadone is used as a substitute narcotic in decreasing doses in the treatment of individuals dependent on heroin or morphine-like drugs. The main components of this project were the purchase of a safe for the storage of methadone; installation of an enclosure wall; and purchase and installation of safety features.

Activities:
The construction process consisted of dividing a large room into two separate rooms; one room to be for the new methadone program, and the other an exam room. It was originally intended that the Facilities Department of Bartlett Regional Hospital would perform this task, but due to time constraints the work was contracted out. A Dutch style door was installed to facilitate the distribution of the methadone through the open top half of the door. The safe itself was installed in the new room; and several safety features were added to ensure compliance with State and Federal regulations. Safety features include a door security buzzer at the access to the patient corridor, a camera and a panic alarm in the methadone room, and a viewing monitor and alarm in the nurses' station.

Cost Containment:
The estimate for this project was $7,500, and the actual cost of the project was $8,603. The actual amount was higher than expected due to the use of an outside contractor, which was used in order to expedite the completion of the project so that the methadone program could get under way. The overage may be considered in the cost-share match, as well as minor equipment/construction to JRH to fulfill Bartlett Regional Hospital's responsibility for the $7, 500 cost-share match. The project went as planned in that the objectives of containing and securing the methadone were achieved as per the original proposal.

Project Outcome:
The enclosure wall, safety features, and pharmacy safe enabled the start-up of the methadone program. The program is working as expected, providing substance abuse treatment to individuals, while at the same time providing the necessary security to ensure the safety of both patients and staff.

Problems Encountered:
The only problem encountered was the Facilities Department not having time available to install the enclosure wall. Contracting that portion of the work out so as not to delay the start-up of the methadone program solved this problem.

Conclusions and Recommendations:
This project went well, and it is rewarding to see the work completed and the methadone treatment program initiated.

Attachments:
Photos have been previously submitted.

We appreciate the funding provided by the Denali Commission to enable the start-up of this important program. The methadone program is now a reality thanks to their generous contribution.

JoAnne Craig
Grants Writer/Coordinator