



Copper River Regional Health Network

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Copper Center, AK 99573
Telephone: 907-259-2266

March 27, 2011

Nancy Merriman
Health Facilities Program Manager
Denali Commission
510 L Street, Suite 410
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. Merriman,

The Copper River Regional Health Network would like to thank the Denali Commission for providing gap funding for the network. Health care in our region has benefited immensely through the network and our endeavors to improve services for all area residents. We have had several major milestones come to pass this past quarter. Please find a few of them are highlighted below.

CRRHN Health Needs Survey Project

Under the guidance of Dr. Garcia and Ms. Lacasse from the University of Alaska, the CRRHN Health Needs Survey results were presented to the CRRHN participants in February. The full results were published in the local paper and posted on the CRRHN Website in March.

The primary success of this project is the region now has patient based health care data specific to our service area. The data is being put to use by local health care agencies in providing better services, expanding needed services and improving the overall health care of the local residents. The information has already assisted local agencies in grant applications, finance endeavors and expansion efforts. As well, there were many lessons learned through this project and similar projects are already being discussed for the near future.

Copper River Community Disaster Preparedness Days and Health Fair

The CRRHN and Copper River LEPC are partnering on a two day event in May 2011. The Copper River LEPC will host "Disaster Days" at the local high school on Friday May 20th, 2011. This event will focus on emergency preparedness in the face of disaster. Information will be dispersed throughout the school day and then a meet and greet will be held at the end of the school day with local emergency responders. This event will allow youth to explore emergency vehicles as well as meet our local providers and responders and have a personal connection with them. Many of the CRRHN Participants are strong supporters in this event.

The health fair will be held on Saturday, May 21st, 2011 at the Glennallen High School and will be a full-fledged health fair sponsored by the CRRHN. A few of the exhibitors at this year's event will be all our local providers, the Providence Imaging Mobile Mammogram Vehicle, the Alaska Health Fair Inc providing health screenings, Safe Kids Alaska, Alaska State Troopers, ANTHC, Southcentral Foundation and many more. This health fair has received region wide recognition of the best so far with more exhibitors than ever before.

CRRHN Letter of Support Guidelines

A set of guidelines was created to aid CRRHN Participants and other organizations in requesting direct support from the health network. Guidelines, a corresponding form and call list form were created, adjusted and approved in March 2011. The guidelines were successfully utilized in several instances in March.

CRRHN Elder Care Committee

The Elder Care Committee met this past quarter to discuss and learn more about extended living facilities. Amanda Lofgren with the State of Alaska was a guest speaker.

CRRHN Informational Website Project

The website www.crrhn.org has been updated regularly with meeting dates and times as well as the survey results. A new page was created specifically for the Elder Care Committee. An annual meeting schedule was created for

the CRRHN and posted to the website as well. The website offers readers an update on network activities, links documents produced by the CRRHN in pdf format, as well as links to several other valuable studies, and a list of CRRHN participants along with their contact information. The CRRHN Coordinator also maintained a Facebook page for the network.

Coordination of the CRRHN and Administrative Services

The coordination and administrative portion of the grant project is on schedule and within budget. The CRRHN coordinator has been successful in coordinating several special and committee meetings and dictating meeting notes for the network from January through March, 2010. The coordinator drafted Letter of Support Guidelines for the CRRHN participants to use. A request form was created and the guidelines amended and approved by the group. A copy of the information is available upon request.

CRRHN Activity Summary

January 2011

- Bi Monthly CRRHN Meeting – Second Tuesday of the month from 11:00am – 2:00pm.
- Drafted Letter of Support Guidelines for CRRHN Participants Review and Comments.
- Complete and disperse minutes from the December 2010 CRRHN Meeting.
- Contact with UAA Graduate Students – Survey Project Progress.
- Complete narrative report for Denali Commission Project.
- Update CRRHN Website and CRRHN Facebook page.
- Maintain a communication flow for network participants through e-mail, telephone and personal contact.
- Monthly contact with MSTC staff.

February 2011

- CRRHN Elder Care Committee Meeting - Second Wednesday of the month from 11:00am - Noon.
- CRRHN Health Fair Planning Committee Meetings began alternate Thursdays, Fair set for May 21.
- Assisted two agencies with letters of support.
- Complete and disperse minutes from the January CRRHN Meeting.
- Final Survey Results Released and Published in Local Paper.
- Update CRRHN Website and CRRHN Facebook page.
- Maintain a communication flow for network participants through e-mail, telephone and personal contact.
- Monthly contact with MSTC staff.

March 2011

- Bi Monthly CRRHN Meeting – Second Tuesday of the month from 11:00am – 2:00pm.
- CRRHN Health Fair Planning Committee Meetings held alternate Thursdays.
- Posted Final Survey Results to the website.
- Created an Elders Committee page for the website.
- Update CRRHN Website and CRRHN Facebook page.
- Maintain a communication flow for network participants through e-mail, telephone and personal contact.
- Monthly contact with MSTC staff.

The CRRHN sincerely thanks the Denali Commission for your support of our network. The continued growth and expansion of participants in the CRRHN is a great indicator of how successful our region wide network has become. Please feel free to contact me with any comments, questions or for further information.

Sincerely,



Kris Winter, Coordinator
Copper River Regional Health Network