**CRC Advisory Minutes**

6/7/18

**Advisory members’ action steps/follow-up requests:**

* **Please share minutes in full or in part as you deem appropriate.**
* **Members rotating off** **CRC Advisory -** **we ask that you** 
  + **recruit your replacement**,
  + **let Ellen know who it is,** and
  + **please continue to represent your team until the Sept. meeting**.

Thanks again for your valued contributions!

* **Before next meeting please ask if your team has any feedback, questions, project ideas, resource sharing or topic suggestions for staff meeting review.**

Thanks for several special volunteers this meeting!

***Style note****- Agenda content in black text; discussion, further information and follow-up requested in* ***purple****.*

**CRC Updates**

* **Elena’s Orientation -** Thanks to Martha for volunteering to have her shadow.
  + Other volunteers? Elaine Shwartz and Mia if desired (thank you!). Elena will be in touch.
* **Elena:**
  + Converted SRO listings to Word for easy printing (CRC Advisory request)
  + Created a new [Baby Supplies](http://healthcare.partners.org/ss/ssframebottom/staffresources/New%20Site/SpecificPopulations/SP_Child-Fams_BabySupplies.html) page – working on handout (CRC Advisory request)
  + Working on a new Nutrition Assistance handout (CRC Advisory request)
  + Now a notary public
* **Petrina:** Created new [Home Modification handout](http://healthcare.partners.org/ss/ssframebottom/staffresources/New%20Site/SpecificPopulations/Home_Modification_Resources_Handout.pdf)
* **Clarification on previously requested handout – a single handout covering housing food, cash assist.** On intake for exampletoo time consuming to gather existing handouts and too overwhelming. Want very simple couple of bullets for each for just the most important contact/place to start. Ideally one for Boston and possibly one for Medford/Malden area.
* **Question: Is there a single place to find all handouts? Yes under** [CRC Patient Handouts](http://healthcare.partners.org/ss/ssframebottom/staffresources/New%20Site/MGH%20I&R/MGH%20I&R_CRC-OurPtHandouts.html), [Handouts](http://healthcare.partners.org/ss/ssframebottom/staffresources/New%20Site/MGH%20I&R/MGH%20I&R_CRC-OurPtHandouts.html)- Patient Community Resource Handouts, and [**Patient Handouts**](http://healthcare.partners.org/ss/ssframebottom/staffresources/New%20Site/MGH%20I&R/MGH%20I&R_CRC-OurPtHandouts.html) (community resources). Request to add keyword under “Forms”- **added keyword:** Forms- [Community Resource Handouts](http://healthcare.partners.org/ss/ssframebottom/staffresources/New%20Site/MGH%20I&R/MGH%20I&R_CRC-OurPtHandouts.html)
* **SS Dept Summer Intern Dorene Kyando** will be working with us on some projects this summer- updating lists (couldn’t join us today). Now’s a good time for new project ideas!

**Team feedback, questions, project ideas, resource sharing or topics for review in staff meeting?**

* None reported; feel free to contact Ellen as ideas arise.

**Community Resource Updates and Seeking Feedback**

* **Resource Update: RIDE Paratransit Pilot (Uber/Lyft)** – according to *Commonwealth Magazine* this week the pilot is “scheduled to end at the end of June, but T officials said on Monday they plan to continue it indefinitely while they figure out a 2.0 version.” Per-ride savings, but members using more rides- wipes-out savings.
* **Resource Reminder** (was May Tip of the Month): **Did you know that SSDI eligibility requirements include a RECENT work test? We've gotten a couple of questions about this lately. Having enough work quarters/credits meets the DURATION of work test, but a certain amount of work also has to have been RECENT. If you are 31 or over you must have worked during five years out of the 10-year period ending with the quarter your disability began. (There are prorated requirements for younger workers.) More at:** [SSDI Work History](http://healthcare.partners.org/ss/ssframebottom/staffresources/New%20Site/Basic%20Needs/BN_PB-CA_SSI-SSDI-SSDI_WorkHistory.html)**.**
  + **Clarifications:** you could have been out if the workforce for **up to** 5 years and still qualify - only if you are out of the workforce for **over** 5 years in the last 10 would it be a problem. Out of workforce for over 5 years? Can you document that you were disabled during some/all of that time? (The 10-year look-back period should start from when disabled, not when apply.)
  + **Question:** **Does recent work test apply to** **Social Security** **Retirement** as well? **No**- just need sufficient credits (40); does not have to have been “recent”.
  + **Unrelated SSDI Question: If a disabled PARENT of a disabled child applies for SSDI for himself (parent) – aside from benefit to family finances, will it maximize the CHILD’S benefits (child currently receiving SSI)?**
    - **Bottom line: it may help, it shouldn’t hurt.** More detail:
    - **SSDI Dependents’ Benefits**: If one or both parents receives SSDI because of a disability, the minor child can also receive a monthly cash benefit until the child turns 18 – or 19 if a FT student (not college student). Children over 18 who became disabled before 22 are eligible to continue to draw SSDI benefits based on their parent’s earnings record. (Additionally a spouse caring for a dependent child under age 16 or disabled may qualify for Dependent’s benefits, as may some others.)
      * **One advantage of SSDI dependents’ benefits is that unlike SSI there is no income or asset test, so for instance if the child is able to save money in excess of the SSI asset limit they won’t lose eligibility for the SSDI dependent’s benefit.**
      * **SSDI Benefits: The child can receive 50- 80% of the parent’s benefit amount. The maximum TOTAL FAMILY benefit** (including the SSDI recipient’s benefits) **is 150 – 180% of the disabled person's disability benefit. Whether an individual family member’s dependent benefit is greater or less than SSI depends on several factors including how much the disabled parent’s benefit is, how many people in the family qualify for dependent benefits, and what SSI benefit is (see next bullet). In 2018 the average full SSDI payment is $1,197, the maximum is $2,788.**
      * **SSI Benefits- depends on age of child, type of disability (blind?), living situation and whether full benefit is reduced by certain income or “in-kind support and maintenance”. In MA, with the state supplement the maximum SSI benefit (not blind) is $864.39 ($750 federal benefit plus $114.39 MA state supplement).**
* **Summer Camps list (follow- up from last mtg)** - limited feedback, but what we got led us not to continue updating our own list.We’ve added some camp websites to our website. Group agreed we don’t need to maintain our own list.
* **Request to translate burial packet into Spanish- significant cost. $700 for abridged version, but leadership has approved pending winnowing of list to only funeral homes with Spanish capacity** (thanks leadership)!Dorene is calling the listed funeral homes toconfirm language access and get additional detail prior to us submitting for translation.
  + **Related update** (forgot include in agenda, but reviewed in meeting)**-** Team B had also asked about getting **shelter list translated into Spanish**. We use MA Coalition for the Homeless list and Elena attends their monthly community meeting. She asked if the lists are up-to-date before we have them translated. Coalition appreciated suggestion and said they will ask their Spanish-speaking staff to translate, but it may take a little while. We’ll monitor.
* **Member Rotation:**
  + **Returning Members** (Thank you for helping provide continuity!)
    - **Melanie Cohn-Hopwood** – HIV/ID
    - **Martha Southworth** – Women & Children
  + **Rotating Off** (Thank you for your contributions!)- if you haven’t already, please ask your team for new member:
    - **Eileen Keegan** – **Jessica Clark** new Team C rep
    - **Elaine Shwartz** –Team B
    - **Mia Concordia/Evelyn Lauture** - Intake/MH
    - **Renee Bigaud-Young** – Team A (She’s retiring- congrats Renee!)
  + **TBD**
    - **Eric Hanson** – Oncology Eric will confer with team and let us know. (We prefer he stay for continuity.)
* **Members rotating off CRC Advisory** - **we ask that you** 
  + **recruit your replacement**,
  + **let Ellen know who it is,** and
  + **please continue to represent your team until the Sept. meeting**.

Thanks again for your valued contributions!

* **Ellen working on abbreviated/updated Housing List**- volunteers to help review?
  + Eric and Elaine volunteered to review (thank you).
* **Enhanced Communication Model-** Now that Elena has strong grasp of resources will proceed with designing **pilot**. Would telephone communication work for inpts? Though could meet face-to-face to assess when indicated with the understanding that referrals will follow. As we discussed last month- only change is in direct **communication** at this time- **role is still information & referral** (i.e., NOT case management, application assistance, etc.).
  + **Thought telephone would work for inpts- PFS uses that model; goes to bedside if can’t reach by phone. We will notify staff at July staff meeting of official roll-out**. Will ask that SWs assess first- use clinical judgement when to refer. Reminders- this is still information & referral.

**Next meeting: Thurs Sept 13, 12:00 - 1:00, SS Conf room**