

MEMO

TO: Kit Meshenberg Mike Preodor
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From: Lisa Merel
RE: Minutes from AIDS Strategy Meeting, 12/6/93
DATE: 12/6/93

The following are environmental issues that have had, or will have, an impact on Horizon's AIDS programming.

We can anticipate an increasing number of:

- * patients with a history of, and/or problem with substance abuse
- * patients with home environments that are deemed "unsafe" due to geographics, illegal activities in the home, and/or compromised caregivers
- * patients whose care warrants 24 hour supervision, either at home or in a facility
- * pediatric patients with AIDS
- * female patients with AIDS

Program ideas to be developed:

1. Program Development

* Consider hiring a staff consultant for substance abuse cases and/or recruit new staff (as positions are added for growth) that have experience in this area. Cultivate current staff to become "resources" for Horizon in areas of specialization; use increased clinical expertise as a means of merit recognition and incentive for professional growth.

* Bonaventure House - consider development of an on-site model of care; reinvest staff time to repair fragmentation of services and become the sole provider of hospice care in this setting.

* Offer a Caregivers Support Group OS.

* Develop a reporting form (generated by HMS) that documents services rendered and associated cost savings for case managers, rate setters and physicians.

* Develop a working network of agencies that possess the skills and expertise to supplement the hospice team's resources when dealing with these complex cases. Expand on work initiated for TIDES Foundation to reduce fragmentation, gaps, & duplication. (approach CDOH clinics)

* Expand bereavement services by enhancing collaboration with other agencies.

* Develop a pain management tool (not audit tool)

* Complete research on caregivers demand tool

* Develop a "tighter" referral relationship with Chicago House's Augusta facility.

OS

3) expansion of services

Yes *

Yes *

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2. Education

* Education series for Horizon staff/volunteers on substance abuse, pediatrics, women and AIDS, and the issues that arise in hospice when dealing with these populations.

* Promote public awareness of Horizon Hospice through community education.

* Continue inservice education for staff on all new therapies in AIDS and oncology, as they pertain to palliation.

* Develop an educational program on hospice services for case managers identified in the "network".

* Utilize NHO's 6 month guide to educate referral sources about appropriate admissions to hospice.

3. Research

* Develop a study that documents patients', therapies upon admission to hospice, in order to better understand how to care for patients on new protocols. Publish findings - the results would be targeted to physicians as a way of educating them about hospice services. Consider the possibility of combining efforts with NWMH Research Institute and Charles Von Guten.

- * Cultural sensitivity ^{training for staff} program. Special award to be able to do this project.
- * Chicago House ~~abstract~~ ~~reassessment~~ CNA staff we hire
- * Continue funding to augment care @ Bonaventure & Home.