

Omaha System User Group  
March 15, 2007  
Summary minutes

Mary Pat Raimondi, CareFacts; Junie Svenson, MDH; Julie Burns, St. Louis County; Linda Schwichtenberg, Scott County; Amy Lytton, Ramsey County; Jill Timm, Karen Monsen, Amy Linder, Diane Benjamin, Ellen Johnson, Washington County; Katie Halder, Douglas County; Renae Allen, Dakota County; Linda Olson Keller, University of Minnesota; David Rosebaugh, CHAMP Software

Announcements:

Karen Lindberg did a wonderful job recruiting poster presenters for the Omaha System conference. Abstracts were of very high quality and the poster presentation promises to showcase Omaha System activities from diverse services and settings. Thanks very much, Karen!

Karen Martin requests volunteers from the Omaha System user group to assist other attendees in feeling comfortable at the conference. A sign up sheet was circulated. Thanks very much to all who volunteered.

Data analysis presentation:

Amy Lytton presented a preliminary version of “Dora the data Explorer” to an appreciative audience, and received excellent feedback. Amy depicted her search for meaningful information within a massive database provided by public health nurses in Ramsey County through their routine computerized documentation. Amy will be giving this presentation at the Omaha System conference next month.

Updates:

Junie: Working on how to utilize public health nursing stories. She is working with a group including Sarah Tellijohn, a master’s student. The group hopes to relate the stories to the intervention wheel, having it on the web site to make an interactive display, and other ways to search through them, such as the essential activities.

Linda Olson Keller: Is enrolled in the DNP (doctor of nursing practice) program at the University of MN School of Nursing. She is very interested in continuing to work with the Omaha System User Group. Linda was in Sacramento working with nursing directors. On July 1, they’re splitting HHS into H and HS (governor driven). They wrote a bill requiring a state PHN director at the deputy level. The directors wanted to hear about what is going on in MN re: documentation. Linda shared this group’s efforts, including the Family Health KBS rating guide. Nurses in California are interested in partners – videoconferencing capacity and support for PHN. Linda will be going back in June – will

make connections! Some folks are coming to the Omaha System conference. The nation is watching us! ☺

Linda is establishing a center for Public Health Nursing at the University of Minnesota, and would like our feedback about what we would like to see the center do; what would we like to see there? She may be coming back to us to ask if we could partner with her in the is in the process of creating this center.

Katie: Katie is involved in teaching the Omaha System to new staff in Douglas County.

Julie: Looking at re-doing our pathways in the buildable pathway fashion. We needed to start by doing our own pathways so we could define our practice but now we want to shorten them and make them easier to use. Successfully accessed MCH grant data accessed in computer. Was also able to access and report computerized PPMRS data. (Time factor for each FTE in each of the 6 categories came from the computer.)

Linda: Scott County has 2 PHN vacancies. They have developed a couple of new pathways. Have a partnership with adolescent program. Two problems on the pathway are Health Care Supervision and Substance Use. Once a month a PHN does a class on STD and pregnancy prevention, so they will use the Sexuality problem and the Communicable/Infectious Condition problem.

Family Health Community Postpartum referral pathway. The intake PHN calls postpartum women. This pathway will be used if postpartum women don't elect to have a visit but the outreach nurse has a conversation and provides interventions by phone. They will now enter the interventions into a community client, with a new visit for each call, and document the person's name in the communication log.

Family Health Community Referral. Similarly, Scott County will now be able to track interventions on calls that come in to the department. Common calls include people who don't have health insurance (Income problem and Health Care Supervision) or ask about community resources. Low cost family planning (may add the Family Planning problem). One PHN does intakes all the time.

Amy Lytton: Has officially resigned from Ramsey County as of the end of June. (The group unanimously and simultaneously offered her jobs at all of our health departments!) ☺ Barb Lescenski has been reassigned to Emergency Preparedness and will no longer be able to attend these meetings. Barb Schommer retired March 1.

Renae: There will be three people from Dakota County at the Omaha System conference. In Family Health, once a month they have a case conference at which they present a case and "KBS" it together. They are having a joint meeting of both teams and reflecting on an example from the book. This has been helpful in advancing the level of practice around using the Omaha System.

Amy Linder: When working with the immigrant population, we could use computer/Omaha System to capture information. We're orientating a new PHN to the Omaha System. We are purchasing a new software – a “Virtual Health Department” from Garrison Enterprises. This web based software has many environmental health functions and will be used throughout our environmental health programs, including some Disease Prevention and Control activities. Amy has been involved in defining the business practices for this process (lots of meetings!).

Linda Olson Keller: Suggested a good resource for understanding business processes: PHII – Taking care of Business [www.phii.org](http://www.phii.org)  
There's a video, web stream to watch. Behooves nursing to understanding.

Jill: We have a new PHN starting who has worked with us in the past. We are opening 2 new service centers in Washington County. Our teams will be split into 3 locations. We are part of the Metro Alliance for Healthy Families – we are making a shift to serve clients identified as significantly stressed first time parents, and will be providing more intensive long term services to these clients. The Community Health Informatics Group from Washington County will have a poster on using the Omaha System across teams. It will have a basketball “team” theme!

Diane and Ellen: Work with adult elderly and disabled populations. Have contracted with health plans to do care coordination. We get community well referrals from the Health Plans and they each get a PHN. It's been an opportunity to look for data in the Omaha System and computer on Immunization status, health care directives, fall prevention. Using Health care supervision, physical activity, Neuro-musculo-skeletal problems. Diane reviewed the new pathway with the group. It's challenging to work with existing programs and their forms and DHS expectations. Goals, target dates are still elusive. We will use this new pathway with all clients and it will give us information that we can share with the county board. We are also planning to add a quality assurance component to it.

David Rosebaugh: Working on a web site to share information about the Omaha System called Omaha System Friends. This will permit social networking among Omaha System users. Could start a conversation and others could join in. May offer a pathways page similar to the one this group started. There is potential for collaboration in the public interest among software companies that support the Omaha System.

Software can become more and more complicated over time and can even implode. With this in mind, David is looking for a way to write simpler software and is developing a new web based application. This product would be more easily used in satellite offices. Requires virtually no IT involvement. Can sync up using cellular technology.

Next meetings: September 6, 2007, and November 29, 11-1 and 1-3 PM, Junie will seek to reserve meeting rooms at SOP