



Strategies • Opportunities • Services for Out-of-School Youth

SOSOSY Technical Support Team Meeting

South Padre Island, TX

November 13

Members Present: Peggy Haveard (AL), Tomas Meija (CO), Jorge Echegaray (FL), Kelsey Williams (ID), Brenda Pessin (IL), John Farrell (KS), Emily Hoffman (MA), Taylor Dearman (MS), Barbie Patch (NH), Kiowa Rogers (NE), Sonja Williams (NC), Bruce Wright (SC), Jennifer Almeda (SC), Jessica Castaneda (TN), Bob Lynch (NPC), Patrice Boone (MS), Novelette Seroyer (AL), Cindy Bartelsmeyer (KS), Pam Hightower (KS), and Tracie Kalic (SOSOSY)

Welcome and Introductions

Goals and Objectives of SOSOSY: Tracie included a copy of grant and project narrative charts in the folders for each member. Objectives and outcomes are listed. Tracie discussed the Fidelity Implementation Index with the group.

Objectives and Focus of SOSOSY: Tracie reviewed the Consortium's 3 objectives:

- 90% of staff will report increased capacity to deliver SOSOSY services
- 25% more services will be delivered to OSY enrolled in programs leading to graduation and GED and/or services to meet identified education or career goals
- 25% more OSY that participate in SOSOSY instructional services will demonstrate a 20% gain between pre/post on content-based assessments.

OME will be providing us with feedback on the approved objectives.

Tracie discussed some new areas of focus with the TST including:

- SOSOSY serving as the lead on coordinating and collaborating on OSY objectives with the other funded CIGs. Bob Lynch is facilitating this work. The first meeting with the other CIGs was today; projects shared information and are looking at how projects can work together. All projects are focusing on OSY.
- Develop pre and post assessment, work with NPC to also create web accessible lessons.
- A new piece is to train SOSOSY mentors. Mentors may travel to member states to review state systems of OSY support and provide technical assistance in regard to services for OSY. Develop a rubric, observe what is going on in the states and provide TA. Needs to be a process by which mentors are selected. Need to be sensitive, not monitoring but focused technical assistance.
- The SOSOSY training manual will be updated and include more information, including an emphasis on instruction. More professional development will be provided to the SOSOSY trainers. We will need to create a process to train new trainers. How will we do this? Website has a new tab for the trainers that will require a password. Trainers will receive a certificate.
- SOSOSY will also design a pre-GED writing series.

Purpose of TST: The Technical Support team supports work of SOSOSY through the development and creation of materials. The activities of the TST are described within the Fidelity Implementation Index. State Steering team meets twice a year and guides the work of the Consortium.

Expectations and Responsibilities: All states are required to have a TST member. If a member cannot travel, Skype, or go-to-meeting participation is required. Meet up to 4 times per year. At this point in time, we are discussing 2 full member meetings and potentially smaller work group meetings. Monitoring from OME is much stricter—Tracie has to report on which states are participating.

Review of Fidelity Implementation Index/Activities and Timeline for Completion: Tracie asked the group to review the FII and select top 4 areas of focus that we need to begin right now. The group discussed the following indicators on the FII:

1. 1.8 Develop Materials. On-line professional development course for practitioners? TOT module on ID&R. Interactive, linked to college credit? Module/films/interactive webinar. Package it somehow. Content assessment – how to implement.
2. 2.1 Link the needs. We have the tools to identify needs, but there are year round populations, so not sure what the needs are. A template would be helpful for those shifting from summer to year round. How many states have OSY in the PFS? Is this something we could help other states do? Collect data on which states collect information for CNA/SDP? Who has a plan? Anything in writing? Services, timeline, materials. Case studies? Examples? This would be helpful for mentor idea. Give snapshots. Ties into 3.11.
3. Objective 3 – Assessment. Make sure every mini lesson has 5 questions. Begin tracking who is using what. . The questions must be re-written for data collection. We have to train our people on targeted instruction. Different mindset than just presenting lessons. Have real examples, video tape and have it online so people can see quality instruction. Many people do not have a background in instruction for youth. How can we provide modeling and practice? They must understand the population, too. Our materials must do that for them. We formulate the questions for the instructors. Provide case studies, walk people through. How do you match instruction to need and develop lessons plans? Take what we have and package it. Provide examples on how to differentiate. Show people how to “patch” things together to make it work for them. Have a plan and design for volunteers. Empower them to do the work. Core areas for work groups.

Meeting dates/Locations/Conference Calls: Atlanta in January –travel on Monday – 1.5 days conclude at noon or 1:00 so they can travel that afternoon...dates: week of the 7th- meeting on the 8th and 9th. PA offered to host a meeting –perhaps in the fall. For spring meeting, April 9-10, 2013, Denver or Boise. Nashville or Philadelphia in the fall.

Discussion of Work Groups: We need to know people’s strengths. State directors have been asked to submit a TST nomination form that describes individual’s areas of expertise.

Agenda Planning for January Meeting: We will establish our mission, vision and norms. Tracie will send a letter to the states regarding meeting dates and the request to let TST members attend. Tracie will work with John Wight (GA) to find a location.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.