Patient at Risk: Wisconsin’s EIF Repository Program for Children with Special Healthcare Needs

Purpose:

Patient at Risk Program will develop a web-based Emergency Information Form for children with Special Healthcare Needs (CSHCN) and promote and train a critical mass of families, support organizations and medical personnel in its’ use. Utilizing the hospital and pre-hospital partners, along with the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Foundation, partners will promote the Patient at Risk Program to families across Wisconsin and encourage them to enter their child’s medical information into a web based EIF format. Once registered, their information can be access by emergency medical services providers and receiving hospitals in the event of an emergency.

Addressing local needs of the targeted population in ways that are culturally sensitive and inclusive:

Partners have developed kit version one and received feedback from all of the community partners on development of this version. The kit contains an explanatory brochure which communicates the objectives and benefits the Patient At Risk program offers children with Special Healthcare Needs (CSHCN) and their families. The kit will be distributed to support the enrollment process. A focus group session was held to evaluate the ease of patient enrollment. Discrepancies between the kit and the software were identified and necessary corrections are currently being addressed by the software company. As a result of these necessary software upgrades, partners decided not to distribute kit version one to the public, but to engage through feedback and modification. Partners developed version two, which will be distributed in December 2011 and January 2012.

Working together to bring about system and community change:

The partnership was surveyed at the May biannual meeting. Survey results indicate partners are enthusiastic about their sphere of influence. The project experienced a change in leadership, both at the PI and the coordinator levels. Dr. Kathleen Beckmann, DO, Associate Professor Medical College of Wisconsin, has assumed the PI role. Partners have been engaged through phone and in-person meetings throughout this process to assure that partner relationships are preserved. These changes have invigorated the program and the partners are optimistic about recent accomplishments. The September biannual meeting has been rescheduled for January 18, 2012 to allow for change in leadership.

Goal:

Patient at Risk will further develop Wisconsin’s web-based Emergency Information Form (EIF) Program for Children with Special Healthcare Needs and to promote and train a critical mass of families, support organizations, and medical personnel in its use.

Award:

$199,935 over two years

Project Dates:

2/1/2011 to 1/31/2013

Project partners:

- American Family Children’s Hospital
- Baraboo District Ambulance Service
- Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin
- General Federation of Women’s Club – Oconomowoc Junior Woman’s Club
- Gundersen Lutheran Hospital
- Regional Centers for Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs
- St. Joseph’s Children Hospital
- St. Vincent’s Hospital
- Waukesha Fire Department
- West Allis Fire Department
- Wisconsin Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics Foundation (WIAAP Foundation)
- Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC)
- Medical College of Wisconsin – Department of Pediatrics