

## **TAG MEETING 6/18/09**

- 1) A Networking Survey was distributed focusing on future presentations, trainings and topics for discussion (36 were returned). The topics of interest scoring highest were Working with the Dually Diagnosed (81%), AI Audit Findings (78%) and Revenue Productivity (75%).
- 2) Ken Stewart made an announcement that a group of COBRA Program Directors has been meeting and looking to form an official association to focus on issues that effect COBRA programs and potential lobbying efforts.
- 3) Issues around dual enrollment with Long Term Home Health Care (LTHHC) were discussed. The following procedure was presented: a) COBRA staff needs to meet with client and determine what services are being delivered; b) Staff must contact the LTHHC Agency and confirm that client is enrolled and receiving services.; c) Case must be closed by one of the agencies. Some other protocols were discussed as well (i.e. contacting MAP, enrollment/disenrollment, etc.).
- 4) An update on the current status of the federal regulations was shared: the moratorium remains in effect until September 2009; it is likely that many of the regulatory items will be removed. In addition, it was shared that the AIDS Institute is still putting together a proposal for the State Plan Amendment that includes a new rate methodology and an enhancement of current standards.
- 5) Dan Barkly, Deputy Director of the HIV unit at South Brooklyn Legal gave a presentation on connecting clients with legal services. The presentation focused on the issues one might refer a client to legal services for and also on the realities of legal funding: There is not much funding for housing issues. Mr. Barkly discussed some of the eligibility requirements for receiving services, the conditions under which a successful referral would not be likely and some key points on making the lawyer/case manager relationship more effective.
- 6) A panel presentation was conducted, the panel consisting of COBRA programs from agencies that also have housing programs. Agencies that were represented were: Harlem United, CAMBA, Bailey House and Options. Each presenter discussed the basics of their housing programs including number of units, type of program, referral processes and contact information. The reality at this point is that there are very few current openings in these programs.