



**Steering Committee Minutes
(Conference Call)
10/14/14**

Members present: Heidi Blossom, Barb Jefts, Rita Cheek, Mary Nielsen, Kailyn Dorhauer, Kris Juliar, Casey Blumenthal, Sandy Kuntz

Absent: Cynthia Gustafson, Deb Charlton, Helen Melland, Shannon Holland

Invited Guest: Carol Kennedy

1. **Update on HealthCARE grant:** Mary provided an excellent summary to the group about the status of this grant; she is in the process of writing a PowerPoint and summary of how the work of the HealthCARE and APIN grants converge. Kaye Norris will present this ppt at the APIN site visit in Bozeman on Oct. 28, since Mary will be traveling. Mary has officially applied for the Nursing Education Curriculum Coordinator position! She also related that U of M President Royce Engstrom has stated that providing a vehicle for BSN completion is the highest priority for next year. Mary and Karen have been conspiring that this be done by having MT Tech extend its RN to BSN program to Missoula instead of having U of M come up with its own program.
2. **Mentoring Advisory Group:** Rita held the first meeting of this group on Tuesday afternoon. They would like to become a subgroup of the Transition to Practice Council, so their work can continue beyond the grant. The Committee voted to bring the MAG under TTP, by unanimous consent! We also discussed the need for mentoring nurse managers, and how a Nurse Leadership course of some sort is badly needed. It could either be a certificate program through a school, or a continuing ed kind of thing that uses a mixed media approach. More discussion to be had.
3. **Nurse Leadership track at MHA Health Summit:** We need to get this planning going very soon so we can decide on content/speakers for the Summit in March (11-13). Some of the possible topics brought forward (to add to previous topic of nursing roles of the future under HC reform) include: Gerontology—how to help an aging population stay healthy; Succession planning (fits in with Recruitment and Retention that was identified at MHA's Education and Member Development Committee today); Rita would like to present something on mentoring at the Summit. Rita also mentioned that LeAnn Ogilvie has a new role w/Providence putting together telehealth nursing, so she might be able to speak to that.
4. **Discussion of CAHN Strategic Communication Plan:** The idea of having CAHN "live" at MHA within the MHREF (where its bank account currently resides) until such time as it can become its own 501c3 was discussed. Dick Brown (MHA CEO) is supportive of this idea. The goal is to have CAHN become an independent subsidiary of MHA; we can use MHA's address as our own, and eventually rent office space if we ever have a paid staff person. As a 501c3, we can also put in RFPs and receive grants on our own to further our mission. No one on the phone objected to the plan; Rita, Mary, and Kris voiced support.
5. **Updates:** Kailyn reported on Faye Uppman's visit October 23rd & 24th and the APIN site visit on October 28th & 29th. We should have a nice variety of attendees at both meetings.
6. **Action Groups:** Kailyn said several people did sign up for these groups, so Cynthia and Casey need to write up the Roles & Responsibilities for their charges. Donna McDaniel from St. Luke's in Ronan is interested in Mentoring, Employer Support, and Nursing Education; Rita K from MSU-B is



interested in Nursing Education; Pat Dudley is interested in Employer Support; and Janet Thurston (Jonas Scholar) is interested in Nursing Ed, Employer Support, and Diversity.

Casey has since spoken with Janet Thurston, who lives in Missoula and has a lot of experience working with Native American students. She has to do a project as part of her Jonas Scholar work, so we have asked her if she would be interested in heading up the Diversity part of our APIN II Action Plan. She is amenable to this; plans are to talk more at the APIN site visit, which she said she would attend.

Next Meeting (Conference Call): January 13, 2015, 2:00-4:00 pm