REACHING the UNDERSERVED
South Carolina
Assessing & Defining

Objectives:
Determine underserved communities as it relates to respite services and availability of care.

Example Question Types:
1) How do we define “underserved”?  
   a. Services provided  
      i. What parts of the state have never received any respite services?  
      ii. Where is highest/lowest percentages of Medicaid/Medicare enrollment?
   b. Services available  
      i. What counties have minimal services, physicians, etc.  
      ii. Any counties without availability to providers? (agencies, long term care, etc)
   c. Population  
      i. Graph out each county with total populations, age groups (0-18 and 19-90) and by race (Asian/pacific islander, Hispanic, Caucasian, African American, Native American, Other)  
      ii. Determine population of DDSN by geography and race
   d. Veteran Population (VA Regional Centers as source)  
      i. Population and geography of paralyzed veterans  
      ii. Evaluate possible other data points from VA/ Social Work Team

2) What services are available by county?  
   a. Mobile medical clinics  
   b. Hospital  
   c. Long term care  
   d. Skilled nursing facilities  
   e. Hospice/Home Health

Data Points to Get Started:
Identify by county: Once we have county data, we will add together into 4 major regions.

1) Populations (total, by race)  
2) Population age groups: 0-18, 19-90  
3) Populations of disability/specials (DDSN) (total, age groups, percent by race)  
4) Paralyzed Veterans  
5) Medicaid / Medicare enrollment  
6) DDSN enrollment (separate independent from dependent and 24/7 care)

Organizing & Evaluating

• Created Excel Spreadsheet to evaluate data points
• Compared data points to determine areas of need by county
• What we were looking for:
  • Counties with highest populations and lowest distribution of respite vouchers.
  • Counties with lowest available resources (ie: family physicians, nursing facilities)
  • Dept. of Disability/Special Needs county board registration
• Who needs respite, but might not have the community resources for info.
Are You A Family Caregiver?

It’s OK To Take A Break!

We know being a family caregiver is something you take great pride in. We also know how hard it can be. Respite—a short-term break from hands-on caregiving—is the break you can’t afford not to take. Let us help guide you into tailoring a plan for your family. That may include a voucher to pay for short-term care, whether it’s a weekend away or scheduled weekly relief.

Respite is not selfish or a luxury. It is care for the caregiver and your self-care is part of your healthcare. Help yourself so you can take better care of your loved one.

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