

TELEHEALTH PROJECT SUMMARY TEMPLATE

Please provide information on all major projects in the last ten years (1998-2008) and any planned future projects

SUMMARY WRITER: **Jaclyn Griffin, NP**

PROJECT NAME: **Telehealth Primary Care – Mental Health Integrated Care Chronic Pain Management Group**

ORGANIZATION/AGENCY (and primary contact): **Department of Veteran's Affairs**

FUNDING (source and amount): **VA**

START UP FUNDS: **N/A; using existing equipment**

REIMBURSEMENT (submitted/not submitted): **N/A**

DURATION (start time and date): **9/1/08**

PURPOSE/INTENT (100 words maximum):

Primary Care – Mental Health Integrated Care Chronic Pain Management Group:

Clinic Name: Hon TH Psychology ICT

Purpose: The purpose of the PC-MH integrated care chronic pain management group is to provide psychological evaluation and treatment to veterans with chronic pain in the primary care location. Chronic pain is considered to be pain lasting three months or more. The chronic pain management group is a time-limited, structured, skills training group that will require the active participation of the veteran. Referred veterans will have a psychological evaluation to determine their needs and suitability for the group treatment. If the group treatment is determined not to meet their needs, the psychologist will explore with them other resources or provide individual care on a time-limited basis. The group will meet weekly for ten weeks. The length of each session will be 90 minutes. Each session will have a didactic part and an experiential part. The goals of all treatment are to decrease the level of pain and/or suffering the veteran is experiencing, to reduce the patient's inappropriate use of medical interventions, and to increase his or her ability to effectively cope with pain on a daily basis.

(information obtained from Dr. Chukabarah)

MAJOR CRITICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

10 week recurrent clinic with Kona CBOC on every Thursday of the month

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS:

Support from local (Honolulu) Telehealth coordination on the first of clinic and periodically over the subsequent month

CRITICAL BARRIERS (overcome or not):

Overcome: reluctance to initiate a Telehealth clinic as a component of the existing in person clinic available to Honolulu VA patients only.

Unresolved: staffing constraints at the Hilo, American Samoa, and Guam CBOCs that have prohibited expansion to all outlying CBOCs.

MAJOR LESSON LEARNED:

Imperative to have proper clinics set-up complete prior to initiation of the clinic to ensure proper work load credit.

CURRENT STATUS (active, planned, dormant, completed, other?):

Active: Kona CBOC; Planned: Hilo, Maui, Kauai, Guam, and American Samoa CBOC

PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS:

N/A

IS THERE A CLINICAL CHAMPION OR A COMMITTEE OVERSEEING THE TELEMEDICINE PROGRAM?

Dr. Christine Chukabarah

TECHNOLOGY USED: **Tandberg HCSIII**