

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
January 25, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Lina Chavez-Hauser, Cindy Butler, Gaylene Dunn, Pat Giacin, Emily Ostmann, Tony Russo, Debra Stephens, Alison Tucker, Marsha Wild, Maranda Witherspoon, Chae Li Yong

Chae Li Yong opened the meeting. Meeting minutes from November 15, 2007 were approved.

IDPH and MDHSS have still not had a meeting to discuss Gateway ESSENCE. It was thought the meeting would take place sometime the week of January 28 – February 1st.

Hilda Adams mentioned that we can receive an extension on the funding. Currently the money has to be spent by January 2009. MDHSS and East-West Gateway are willing to extend, but there has been no official approval.

GEOC members agreed that 2 data feeds a day into ESSENCE would be better than the current 1 feed a day. In order for this to occur, hospitals need to be on real-time feeds. Cindy Butler will check with Amy Kelsey to determine if all hospitals in the state need to have real-time feeds in order for this to take place, or if we just need all Region C and Illinois Hospitals to have real time feeds for the purpose of Gateway ESSENCE.

We have heard nothing back from MDHSS on policy to release named data. Right now MDHSS has to run a SAS reverse look-up program to obtain names and DOB from ESSENCE data and this could several hours. Cindy Butler will talk with Amy Kelsey to get a better understanding of the reverse look-up system and whether this is something we can improve. A decision was made to not ask Illinois for named data feeds.

The proposed MDHSS Scope of Work for the Sub Award to MDHSS was discussed and several small changes and edits were made. Changes can be seen in red text in the attached document.

The next meeting is Friday, February 22, 2008.

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
February 22, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Lina Chavez-Hauser, Cindy Butler, Emily Ostmann, Alison Tucker, Marsha Wild, Maranda Witherspoon, Chae Li Yong

Chae Li Yong opened the meeting. Meeting minutes from January 25, 2008 were approved.

IDPH and MDHSS had a meeting on 1/30/2008 and both sides seemed happy with the outcome. All IDPH's questions were answered by DHSS and they have agreed to move forward.

STARRS board gave a deadline of the end of May to have contract in place before they reallocate the funds. Aaron Winslow at DHSS sent an update to the Public Health Committee saying that the final sub-award contract should be ready by March 15th. Cindy spoke with him recently and it looks like it might be finished in the next couple weeks.

A letter was sent to Director of Missouri Department of Public Safety, Governor's Representative to Homeland Security Advisory Council and the Coordinator of Missouri Homeland Security asking for assistance with moving the Gateway ESSENCE project along and asking to set up a conference call.

Lastly, the group went through the Target Capability List for Epidemiological Surveillance and Investigation. Identifying gaps in the list and suggesting potential solutions to fix those gaps will be outlined for the Missouri State Preparedness Report and will be included in the FY2008 UASI application. The list was discussed and Hilda will write a report and send it to GEOC members for approval.

Future GEOC meetings were selected (for IL to get out of state travel approval):
7/25/08, 8/22/08, 9/26/08, 10/24/08, 11/21/08, 12/19/08

The next meeting is Friday, March 28, 2008

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
March 28, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, David Noe, Heather Zimmerman, Kelly Fluharty, Emily Ostmann, Marsha Wild, Cindy Butler, Gaylene Dunn, Alison Tucker, Chae Li Yong, Maranda Witherspoon

Alison opened the meeting. Meeting minutes from 2/22/08 were approved by all.

We received the scope of work from MDHSS. Alison facilitated the discussion regarding this proposal from the state. After their review, the epidemiologists suggest the following:

- Verify ArcGIS vs. ArcIMS (St. Louis County will find out more.)
- Cindy will ask Amy Kelsey about details and procedures for Subtask 11 (internal web application for searches).
- Cindy will check with Sheri regarding viability of veterinary surveillance.
- Cindy will investigate coverage of National Retail Data Monitoring System.
- Add weather and mold counts. (Specifying what was in Task 2, Subtask 1)
- Offer using 2 servers instead of 1 for the enhanced Gateway ESSENCE.
- Replace the term "Gateway view" with "Gateway ESSENCE"
- Replace "St. Louis Metropolitan MO-IL Regional Surveillance System" as "Gateway ESSENCE"
- Request APL's help with Gateway ESSENCE training. We will pay for their travel.
- Create and distribute copies of training products.
- Remove duplicate patients from sub-syndrome queries or add warning to screen stating that query will produce duplicate patients.
- Change age groups, specifically the 18-64 age group {suggestions – 0-4, 5-17, 18-24, 25-39, 40-64, 65+}
- Recommend removing "Category 2: Evaluation" from the scope of work since this relates to state policy procedure and not scope of work for Gateway ESSENCE.

GEOC agreed to pay to bring St. Alexius Hospital up to real time data feed upon approval from the Public Health Committee. GEOC agreed to increase the expenditure for Illinois hospital feeds from \$10,000 to \$15,000 upon approval from the Public Health Committee. GEOC could ask for money for epi classes.

We reviewed the deadlines.

4/4 - STARRS Board of Directors

4/10 – STARRS Advisory Council, Sub-award formalized through EWG, DHSS Fiscal

4/16 - EWG Executive Advisory Council

4/23 - EWG Board of Directors

The next meeting is Friday, April 25, 2008.

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
October 24, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Heather Zimmerman, Kelly Fluharty, Emily Ostmann, Myla Blandford, Cindy Butler, Alison Tucker, Chae Li Yong, Gaylene Dunn

Alison opened the meeting.

Alison gave an update regarding why we went with IDPH authorization letter instead of MOU between the two states. IDPH sent out the authorization letter to the Illinois hospitals this past week. We talked about the status of each hospital. Two hospitals (St. Elizabeth's and Anderson) have signed and returned the contract. Three hospitals (St. Elizabeth's, Anderson and Gateway Regional) have signed the DSA.

Hilda said everything for ESSENCE project needs to be completed, invoiced and paid for by June 2009. If an urban area cannot complete a project on time, Homeland Security will give an extension. If either area Kansas City or St. Louis asks for an extension, it will be for both locations.

Cindy Butler said the Hopkins contract has been signed and returned to MDHSS. She also announced that the new grant for MDHSS will link INEDSS and MOHSIS.

The group agreed that the November and December meetings will be the third Friday of the month instead of the fourth Friday.

The next meeting is Friday, November 21, 2008.

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
November 21, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Lina Chavez-Hauser, Cindy Butler, Alison Tucker, Marsha Wild, Chae Li Yong, Eleanor Peters, Heather Zimmerman, Kelly Fluharty, Patrick Behnke, Myla Blandford

Chae Li Yong opened the meeting.

Correction to October 24, 2008 minutes were made. Paragraph 3 should have read “new grant for MDHSS will link INEDSS and MOHSIS.” Minutes approved.

Update on Illinois Hospitals:

- Four of 9 hospitals in Illinois have signed and returned DSA’s and contracts. Those include: Alton Memorial Hospital, Anderson Hospital, Memorial Hospital, and St. Elizabeth Hospital.
- Chae Li spoke with CEO at St. Joseph’s Hospital and they have agreed to sign and return DSA and contract soon.
- That leaves Gateway Regional, St. Anthony’s, Kenneth Hall and Touchette Regional to be signed. Hilda will follow-up with emails to their IT.

MDHSS subaward:

The subaward with MDHSS is signed and executed. MDHSS has also signed subaward with APL for upgrades to ESSENCE.

IPDH Meeting December 10:

IPDH have been discussing the option of going statewide with ESSENCE. They have invited us to a meeting to discuss implementation and demonstrate how we use ESSENCE from a state, regional and local level. We are in the process of confirming a December 10th meeting.

ESSENCE Training:

Training with Illinois hospital and local health departments will be coordinated between GEOC and Myla.

OTC Data:

MDHSS is adding over-the-counter (OTC) data to ESSENCE. It was discussed whether GEOC would like to request funding from STARRS to add Illinois data. This would include 20 stores in Madison County, 3 stores in Monroe County and 13 stores in St. Clair County (total = 36 stores). The cost is \$33 per store per month or \$14, 256 per year. Since this is a lot of money, GEOC decided to table the idea and perhaps look at it again after MDHSS adds OTC data to ESSENCE and a few of us have had a chance to evaluate its usefulness.

The next meeting is Friday, December 19th, 2008.