

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
January 23, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Patrick Behnke, Lina Chavez-Hauser, Cindy Butler, Gaylene Dunn, Pat Giacin, Eleanor Peters, Alison Tucker, Marsha Wild, Chae Li Yong, Heather Zimmerman

Chae Li Yong opened the meeting.

Correction to November 21, 2008 minutes were made. Last sentence under "Update on Illinois Hospitals" should have read "Hilda will follow-up with emails to Hospitals IT." Minutes approved.

Update on Illinois Hospitals:

- Five of 9 hospitals in Illinois have signed and returned DSA's and contracts. Those include: Alton Memorial Hospital, Anderson Hospital, Memorial Hospital, St. Joseph and St. Elizabeth Hospital.
- Three hospitals have submitted test data to MDHSS and MDHSS will soon be ready to receive that data. Those hospitals include: Memorial Hospital, Alton Memorial and St. Joseph.
- That leaves Gateway Regional, St. Anthony's, Kenneth Hall and Touchette Regional to be signed.

MDHSS subaward:

APL working on upgrades to ESSENCE. VPN lines should be ready by next week to receive data from hospitals that have submitted test data.

ESSENCE Training:

APL needs 45 day notice to set up training for hospitals and local health departments. We will wait for IL test data to be transmitting to MDHSS before sending the 45 day notice (this should take place within the next week).

FY 09 UASI Grant:

- GEOC asked for \$10, 000 for training to address some of the gaps in our TCL.
- GEOC decided to also include \$10,000 towards a Multi Area Investment Justification with MARC in Kansas City. The \$10,000 will go towards buying scanners for the 9 counties in our UASI region that can be used with a program called X-Sentinel. Kansas City area currently uses X-Sentinel to transmit lab reports from one county to another and one State to another (Kansas and Missouri). Missouri and Illinois plan to collaborate to accomplish the same system for our region. If they accomplish this the scanners will be needed for each health department.

The next meeting is Friday, February 27th, 2009.

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
February 27, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Lina Chavez-Hauser, Cindy Butler, Myla Oliver-Bradford, Emily Ostmann, Eleanor Peters, Alison Tucker, Marsha Wild, Chae Li Yong, Heather Zimmerman

Chae Li Yong opened the meeting.

January 23rd, 2009 minutes were approved.

Update on Illinois Hospitals:

- Seven of 9 hospitals in Illinois have signed and returned DSA's and contracts. Those include: Alton Memorial Hospital, Anderson Hospital, Memorial Hospital, St. Joseph, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Kenneth Hall and Touchette Regional.
- Four hospitals have submitted test data to MDHSS and MDHSS will be ready to receive that data sometime after May 1st, 2009. Those hospitals include: Memorial Hospital, Alton Memorial, St. Elizabeth and St. Joseph.
- That leaves Gateway Regional and St. Anthony's to be signed.

MDHSS subaward:

STARRS and MDHSS will request an extension for the 2006 grant money from Homeland Security. This will have to be done by mid April. In order to justify this extension STARRS needs to demonstrate significant progress and money spent. STARRS will need bills and invoices from MDHSS on money spent.

ESSENCE Training:

It was discussed that training for Illinois Health Departments and Hospitals would be best set for late May 2009 (Tentative dates are May 27-28 and the second week of June). May was considered the best option since: 1) APL needs 45 day notice to set up training 2) MDHSS should be receiving live data by May 1st.

An integrated training between APL and MDHSS would be beneficial.

FY 09 UASI Grant:

GEOC will no longer be asking for the \$10,000 in the FY 09 UASI Grant to support X-Sentinel.

Cook County, Illinois ESSENCE

Myla and Chae Li travelled to Cook County to meet with them and observe how they use ESSENCE and Poison Control data. They learned that Chicago and Kane did not choose RODS as had been previously announced. This means it would not be as difficult to go statewide with ESSENCE since no county appears to be using RODS. Cook County gave us permission to revise the different ESSENCE documents they currently use.

Hilda Adams

Hilda announced that she will be working part-time at STARRS starting the middle of March, but will continue her work with ESSENCE.

The next meeting is Friday, March 27th, 2009.

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
April 24, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Heather Zimmerman, Kelly Fluharty, Emily Ostmann, Eleanor Peters, Cindy Butler, Alison Tucker, Chae Li Yong

Alison opened the meeting. The February minutes were approved.

Hilda updated status of hospitals: Touchette, Kenneth Hall, St. Elizabeth's and St. Joseph's are sending live data. Alton Memorial and Belleville Memorial will start sending live data on April 27 and April 28. Anderson has submitted test data. We do not have a date yet on their submission of live data. Saint Anthony's is having EWG contract directly with the vendor Iatric. Gateway Regional will need an extension since they cannot meet the May 20th deadline. Gateway has agreed to send batched data four times per day. They are going to go ahead and start the process. If there is an extension, they will sign a new contract.

Amy Kelsey wants to know which zip codes need to be used in ESSENCE. Hilda says we have enough funding to pay to purchase the latest zip codes for both states. Since the quote is \$4K per state, GEOC approved purchasing a one-time download of Maponics for both MO and IL. Alison will notify Johns Hopkins APL so that it can be purchased under their subaward. This main stipulation will be that MDHSS approves the zip code update for their system.

Amy Kelsey wants to know which counties we want included in summary alerts. GEOC wants two groups: Gateway ESSENCE (including all 8 UASI counties) and Edwardsville Region (including all the counties in IDPH Edwardsville region). Several years ago, GEOC selected IL counties based on IDPH Edwardsville region including: Bond, Calhoun, Christian, Clinton, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Pike, Randolph, Sangamon, Scott, St. Clair and Washington. GEOC agreed to not create another sub-county for East Side Health District as their data can be pulled by queries using zip codes.

Hilda announced that MDHSS has the test version of ESSENCE. The final version will be released April 30th. It looks like the ESSENCE project will come in under budget. Suggestions for the surplus money:

1. Since OTCs are already in ESSENCE, we have the option of trying to obtain OTC data. Before GEOC makes a decision, we need to do the following: Find out where NCR has obtained their data, talk to Regional Manager of two or three pharmacies, and find out from APL what is precisely in the OTC data feed.
2. Send a couple individuals to Syndromic Surveillance Conference.
3. Quarterly, consider having a user conference for ESSENCE users to compare notes.

4. GIS software or training
5. Additional SPSS or advanced epi training

GEOC discussed an option of having an ESSENCE celebration/demo for IL and MO for non-end users.

Chae Li announced that there was no room for MO epis to attend the Madison County training. She did not know if St. Clair County had room at their training. Myla would have to answer that. GEOC gave permission for Alison, Cindy, Hilda and Chae Li to decide on the training evaluations. We will start with Amy Kelsey's evaluation form. Chae Li asked the group what they thought of her asking her administrator to give a brief welcome and thank you at the training on May 18. GEOC supported the suggestion.

Without the extension, the first week of June would be the last two trainings in MO. This would not leave enough time to evaluate the May 18 and 19 trainings. If we get the extension, the second round of training could be in July or August. This is based on when we hear about the extension. They have until June 15th to notify us of the extension.

The conference call on 4/21 was discussed. For the Gateway ESSENCE project, Hilda said STARRS wants GEOC to continue to be the subject matter experts and to oversee the implementation of the project with STARRS. Since GEOC represents the 8 counties in UASI, it needs to be made aware of any sub-regionalization in IL. This means correspondence to the hospitals, to GEOC's contractors and APL must be reviewed by GEOC's co-chairs and STARRS project manager before distribution. GEOC decided that they would copy local health department administrators on GEOC minutes to keep them better informed now that ESSENCE has been implemented. GEOC agreed that a special meeting should be called to work on outbreak protocols. Alison will ask if Hope as Co-Chair of PH Cmte can invite members of PH Cmte to participate in a work group. The work group will document the current, existing collaboration among health departments in surveillance and investigations. The group will review existing policies, procedures and protocols. They will try to create regional guidance while respecting the autonomy of the individual agency. It is critical that Myla and Amy Kelsey be participants as they have responsibilities in this area.

GEOC discussed changing meeting dates. Starting immediately, GEOC meetings will be on the fourth Wednesdays instead of the fourth Fridays to accommodate more of our members. The exception will be November and December when the meetings will be the third Wednesday.

Future Meeting Dates:

May 27	September 23
June 24	October 28
July 22	November 18 (3 rd Wednesday of the month)
August 26	December 16 (3 rd Wednesday of the month)

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)

May 27, 2009

Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Patrick Behnke, Cindy Butler, Lina Chavez-Hauser, Kelly Fluharty, Myla Oliver-Blandford, Emily Ostmann, Alison Tucker, Chae Li Yong, Heather Zimmerman

Chae Li opened the meeting. The April minutes were approved.

Status of hospitals:

- There are currently 5 hospitals that are showing in the new version of Gateway ESSENCE: Touchette, Kenneth Hall and St. Elizabeth's from St. Clair County and St. Joseph's and Alton Memorial from Madison County.
- Memorial Hospital has been submitting data since May 15, but there was no hospital ID in their system. JHU is currently adding it to their hospital table and it should be available soon.
- Anderson and St. Anthony's are close to submitting data. Anderson has a few modifications to make to their file and St. Anthony's should be ready before June 10th.
- Gateway Regional needs an extension and is waiting for EWG extension.
- The Urgent Care Centers from St. Clair and Monroe are submitting data, but we are not able to see this in ESSENCE yet. Myla and Hilda were going to investigate to determine exactly which urgent cares will or are submitting data.

Discussions were made regarding what items might be available for unspent money.

There was discussion and explanation on some of the new features on the Gateway ESSENCE version.

If we receive an extension from DHS, we can organize another training with the Missouri users. We can aim for late August, depending on everyone's availability.

It was decided to create a subcommittee to work on the Regional Operating Guidelines. Myla is the lead and Hilda, Emily and Chae Li will participate.

Missouri State has a Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity. Cindy thought it would be a good idea to submit the work done on Gateway ESSENCE. GEOC agreed and thought we could submit it under the "innovation" or "technology" category. Cindy, Hilda and Alison will work on this. We will also ask Amy if she would like to help.

The STARRS board would like a presentation on Gateway ESSENCE. They are meeting the 2nd and 3rd Thursday in June (the 11th and 18th). Cindy is available to do the presentation on the 11th and Alison can do the presentation on the 18th.

Future Meeting Dates:

June 24	October 28
July 22	November 18 (3 rd Wednesday of the month)
August 26	December 16 (3 rd Wednesday of the month)
September 23	

Gateway ESSENCE Operations Council (GEOC)
June 24, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Present: Hilda Adams, Heather Zimmerman, Kelly Fluharty, Emily Ostmann, Cindy Butler, Alison Tucker, Chae Li Yong, Kelly Krahl Zara, Myla Oliver, Marsha Wild

Alison opened the meeting. The May minutes were approved.

Update of IL hospitals

In St. Clair County, Touchette, Kenneth Hall, St. Elizabeth's, Belleville Memorial, and 2 urgent cares from St. Elizabeth's are sending live data. In Madison County, Alton Memorial and St. Joseph's are also sending live data. Saint Anthony's went live with their data on 6/12 but it is not yet being displayed in ESSENCE. We are still waiting for Anderson who is waiting for Meditech before going live. Gateway is waiting for an extension.

Update of MDHSS

After the group discussed the decision of MDHSS not to renew the subaward contract, Alison facilitated a discussion about the tasks. The one incomplete task that was heavily discussed was the reverse look up. GEOC said this would **not** be a GEOC issue. If LPHAs want reverse look up, they will have to discuss with MDHSS and STARRS.

Hilda is going to send GIS shape files for IL to Amy at MDHSS. Hilda will check to see if there is a cost associated with the data loaded.

Update from Hilda

We discussed the use of unspent funds. We will discuss the situation with the Public Health Chairs.

On June 11, Cindy gave a Gateway ESSENCE presentation to the STARRS Advisory Council. On June 18, Cindy and Alison gave a Gateway ESSENCE presentation to the STARRS Board. GEOC continues to defer back to local health departments on how they handle ESSENCE questions and issues.

Myla has created SOPs for users for Illinois counties under an IL contract.

Meeting was adjourned.

Future Meeting Dates:

July 22	November 18 (3 rd Wednesday of the month)
August 26	December 16 (3 rd Wednesday of the month)
September 23	
October 21	