



Prosumer Action Center
(COS Grant – FY 2012)
First Quarter Report FY '12

This report is for the First Quarter, fiscal year 2012 for the Prosumer Action Center.

Narrative:

In the First Quarter for fiscal year 2012, the Prosumer Action Center had a lot of activity.

Members of the Prosumers participated in the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Advisory group for Disability Rights Texas, The ViaHope Advisory Group, the State Local Area Planning Advisory Committee (LANAC), the Bexar County Behavioral Health Planning and Network Advisory Committee (BHPNAC) and the Restraint and Seclusion Task Force.

The Prosumers had members participate in World Congress on Mental Health in Cape Town, South Africa, the Texas Recovery Learning Focus Community Conference and the NAMI Texas Conference. Along with this training several Prosumer Journeymen participated in the Landmark Forum training and one went on to participate in the Landmark Advance Course. The Project Manager participated in an Introduction Leadership Program. One of the Project Coordinators is attending classes for Power and Contribution.

Prosumers were asked to create an event to honor Board Member, Sam Williams Jr. The event is to be held on Dec 3, 2011 at the Action Center. Mr. Williams is a Prosumer and we will create a wall and video to honor him. This is also an outreach opportunity.

The Center for Health Care Services is inviting John Herron, CEO of Harbor City Services, Inc., and Steve Miccio, Executive Director of PEOPLE for a Social Enterprises Summit to begin brainstorming regarding possibilities for social enterprise and/or consumer operated businesses for consumers in San Antonio.

The Prosumers were invited to a Brunch by the Center for Health Care Services with the Editor of the Behavioral Healthcare Magazine, Dennis Grantham. It was an informative meeting with a County Commissioner, the NAMI SA President, one of the County Judges along with CHCS executive staff.

Outreach included speaking at Maria Felix-Ortiz's class at the University of the Incarnate Word, and also speaking at the University of Texas Health Science Center School of Nursing in San Antonio for the nursing students twice. We also had a table at the NAMI Texas Conference.

Prosumers have also taken the lead on the Bexar County Consumer/Family Conference and have begun meeting on a monthly basis.

Prosumers across Texas have written individual Holiday Cards to consumers spending the Holidays in State Facilitates. In San Antonio we are also collecting gifts for the families of the Fairweather Lodge, mostly single mothers with children.

Prosumers created gifts that will be sold at the CHCS Central Office in Dec as well as at the Action Center. We have begun planning a major Fundraising event for April. Our thought is to honor Senator Leticia Van de Putte in a Dinner Gala. Ed and Jackie Dickey have agreed to help us with our first major fundraiser. We hope to raise a minimum of \$10,000 after expenses.

People interested in going to the World Congress on Mental Health in Buenos Arias Argentina in 2013 will start meeting in December to have monthly fundraisers to raise money to go.

The Project Coordinators are Board Members of the Texas Catalyst's for Empowerment (TCE). This is a group that is looking to develop the consumer leaders in Texas. We are planning to have a Leadership Symposium next August to bring tools and skills to the consumers in Texas. One of the Project Coordinators is taking the lead on this.

We continue to grow and expand. We are looking to see about bringing a drumming class to the Prosumer Action Center as well as a Focus for Life ten series study group. We continue to be hopeful that our local artist, Joyce Stalche will be joining us in teaching classes. We also are wanting to start negotiations with Dress for Success to donate our clothing to them and get vouchers for people who need dress clothing for work or school. We would like to set up a system where we take donations for them and they in turn give us vouchers to give to the people that come to the Prosumer Action Center. This would free up our room for classes.

A total of 337 services were provided over the First Quarter of 2012. Of those, 262 were unduplicated services for FY'12.