

# DRAFT

Virginia State Planning Grant  
Data Workgroup Meeting  
February 9, 2005  
10:00-4:00p

Location: VHHA Conference Room  
Richmond, VA

## **Attendees:**

Bob Archer, Chair, SPG Business Task Force  
Rene Cabral-Daniels- Office of Policy and Planning, VDH (convening)  
Henry Carretta – Health Administration Program, VCU (for Steve Mick)

Tim Henderson, GMU CHPRE  
Linda Henry- Graduate Research Assistant, CHPRE, GMU (recording)  
Steve Horan, Community Health Resource Center  
PJ Maddox, GMU, CHPRE  
Jeff Nelson- Policy and Planning, DMAS  
Deborah Oswald, Virginia Health Care Foundation  
Susan Tlusty- Division of Child and Adolescent Health, VDH  
Kathy Wibberly, Office of Policy and Planning, VDH

## By conference-call:

Meg Brown Good- SHADAC, UMN  
Michael Davern-SHADAC, UMN  
Lynn Blewett-SHADAC, UMN

## Agenda

1. Introduction of participants (Data Workgroup and SPG Leadership Team Data Review Subgroup)
2. Update on Virginia CSCS Household Survey (deliverables)
3. Discussion of Survey findings (documents emailed with meeting announcement):
  - a. Identify survey findings of concern (unexpected results given survey methods and differences from prior surveys)
4. Suggestions for SHADAC's data presentation February 17, 2005
5. Strategies for data utilization moving forward

Discussion Documents (sent via email): 1/26/05 Draft Virginia SPG Final Report Figure and Tables and Draft Talking Points-2004 VA Health Care Access Survey 2/9/05 from SHADAC

Meeting was called to order at 10:25 am by Rene Cabral-Daniels.

**Discussion Agenda Items 1 & 2: Introduction of participants and Update on Virginia CSCS Household Survey (SHADAC Survey of VA Households)**

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Cabral-Daniels introduced members present and explained the importance of this meeting in preparation for the presentation of survey findings to the SPG Leadership Team scheduled for next Thursday (February, 17, 2005). In preparation for SHADAC's presentation, this meeting was scheduled at the request of a subgroup of the SPG Leadership Team to fully understand current survey results, answer questions about survey findings and obtain member recommendations on presentation of results. She noted that Dr. Lynn Blewett and Dr. Michael Davern were scheduled to present at the Leadership Team Meeting.

## **Discussion Agenda Item 3: Discussion of survey findings of concern**

Maddox stated that the mission at this meeting was to develop a consensus of what the continuing issues were so that they could be resolved during the conference call with SHADAC (scheduled at 1:00pm).

The discussion turned to VA household survey findings from the draft materials circulated. Cabral-Daniels began the dialogue noting the number of VA uninsured had been identified as lower than expected. Maddox re-capped three conference call meetings of the SPG Leadership subgroup who had been convened by Cabral-Daniels to discuss findings relative to survey methods and those from other sources (prior VA household surveys and National Data sources). Discussion during these meetings had provided an understanding of survey results that differ because of technical methods. She also explained that while many questions had been resolved, findings for low income groups had remained a concern and asked Horan to elaborate on the issue to be clarified given census data and VHCF survey estimates.

Plusty noted that findings from this survey were similar to those observed from a previous VA survey (conducted by SHADAC) on child health coverage. She observed similarities in findings for groups with incomes < 300% and also commented on changing insurance coverage in recent years.

The workgroup turned their attention to clarification of survey reference points. Horan pointed out that all of the data received to date were for "point in time" (at the point in time the survey was conducted). Wibberly and Oswalt said they would like to see an analysis of all points in time, in side by side charts, along with demographics.

Horan raised several concerns about the rate of uninsurance in low income groups and the standard error associated with estimates. He explained his concern was about uninsurance rates among individuals below 200% of poverty seemed too low given CPS and the previous VHCF survey. He requested that standard error be reported by SHADAC since it would be useful for those who would be using data to understand trends over time (especially for public coverage trends and to understand regional differences).

Plusty requested federal poverty levels be collapsed into groups for children ages 18 and below to produce estimates for income groups at 100-200%, 201-300% and for children only a group using 'up to 133% of federal poverty level'. Maddox and Horan discussed differences across surveys (CPS, CSCS, VHCF) in their age categories (whether individuals aged 18 or 19 are included).

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Additional discussion ensued about changes and trends in Virginia for children's coverage. Oswalt noted tremendous increases in enrollment statewide for FAMIS and commented on impact differences in communities across the state. Nelson reviewed DMAS efforts in recent years to increase enrollment for eligible women and children under FAMIS. Discussion about growth trends in Virginia's by region ensued. Maddox noted that if sufficient historical data were available from DMAS, control charts could be constructed to help clarify growth in enrollment resulting from population growth trends versus other factors (i.e. enrollment increases). Cabral-Daniels noted the focus of the SPG was on the employed uninsured.

Following this, Archer and Nelson asked when data on businesses would be available. The committee was briefed that the data for that analysis is currently being done by AHRQ through the VA MEPS- IC over-sample and was expected to be available in summer 2005. In the meantime, data on Va Businesses from current MEPS-IC projections were available, along with data from VEC on the SPG website. It was also noted that data on employer related coverage for household by region is expected to be forthcoming when SHADAC submits the full survey report. Maddox noted that the database of survey data would be available for additional analyses after the report is received and additional analyses would be feasible.

## List of items for clarification with SHADAC during conference call:

The committee compiled a list of items that needed clarification from SHADAC during the conference call discussion at 1:00. Requests included:

- a. chart with side by side comparisons of results by different points in time
- b. add standard error info to charts
- c. provide results collapsed for groups by federal poverty level, as well as a break down for children up to 133%
- d. collapsing hours worked into fewer subgroups. Group wanted to understand why the estimates differed between the part-time hours groups.

12n-1:00pm- LUNCH

1:05pm- Conference Call with SHADAC (Meg Brown-Goode, Lynn Blewett and Michael Davern)

Maddox summarized comments from the morning meeting and noted the areas the group requested further clarification:

1. Groups wants to improve understanding about coverage for children relative to CPS estimates (for children and for adults). For children, VA would like to receive results using a group up to 133% of FPL and 133-200% (because of public program eligibility). The following additional data/data formatting requests were noted:

- Distribution of the FPL income levels in Table 2.3
- Include standard error on reported data tables
- VA would like to have a side by side table to support comparison results for different points in time AND include demographic among those reporting.
- VA would like Regional data tables to appreciate differences in coverage by sub-state areas and for public and private employment related trends.

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SHADAC responded that they would be happy to collapse the income tables and break out children from adults, adding a 133% level for children. They would also collapse the hours worked groups into those with hours from 0-20 and 21-30 and include demographics. While adding standard error to a table is not a problem they suggested the info appear in appendices for large/busy tables (i.e. one with all points in time).

SHADAC explained they were hoping to be able to turn the data over to VA soon. Brown-Goode noted that that further analyses would need to be agreed upon by both VA and SHADAC as part of the current agreement or through a modification. Cabral-Daniels said she would resolve this matter with SHADAC. Maddox agreed to summarize the requests from this meeting and send to SHADAC.

Oswalt inquired about whether information about health status was on the survey and DWG assured her that select questions on health status were included in the survey and would be available in the future

## **Discussion Agenda Items 4 and 5: Suggestions for data presentation on February 17, 2005 and beyond**

SHADAC requested any additional suggestions for the upcoming presentation, other than what had already been discussed. Henderson, Cabral- Daniels and Oswalt suggested including more graphs and moving data on employment related coverage earlier in the presentation. It was also suggested that different formatting be used to better show lines, dots etc. The conference call ended at 1:40.

Cabral-Daniels also noted that Dr. Robert Holsworth (VCU) had volunteered to assist the group in formatting results to be presented to legislative bodies. Carretta requested that the presentation use real numbers in addition to percentages, as he felt they would be more meaningful to the public.

The meeting was adjourned by Cabral-Daniels at 1:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Henry, GMU CHPRE GRA  
Recording

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