

SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT No. 84

SYSTEM-WIDE ANALYSIS OF FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES IN MINNESOTA

The Minnesota Department of Health, Division of Family Health contracted with Sociometrics to complete a year-long evaluation of its statewide subsidized family planning system. Minnesota's family planning system was designed to encourage and enable women and men of childbearing age to take responsibility for their health, including sexual health, and to make informed choices regarding the spacing and number of their children. At the time of the project, the system was comprised of the state-funded Family Planning Special Projects and the federally-funded Maternal and Child Health Special Project – both of which are administered by the Department of Health. Funding sources include Title X (Public Health Service), Title XIX (Medicaid) and Title XX SSA (Social Services block grant), as well as state funds. Multiple non-profit and state agencies are responsible for administering these funds.

The Division of Family Health was interested in making Minnesota's family planning system more equitable and efficacious. To that end, Sociometrics, in consultation with a family planning evaluation workgroup from the Department of Health, conducted a variety of evaluation tasks, including key informant interviews, focus groups, document reviews, and a service provider survey.

Ultimately, Sociometrics provided the following deliverables to the Minnesota Department of Health: (1) Assessment of family planning needs of Minnesota citizens, especially those at high risk for unintended pregnancy due to age distribution, prior pregnancy history and outcome or poverty status; (2) Profile of the *intended* subsidized family planning system (with specific attention to the state-funded Family Planning Special Projects); (3) Profile of the *actual* subsidized family planning system (with specific attention to the state-funded Family Planning Special Projects); (4) Analysis of the intended and actual subsidized family planning system, including recommendations for how to allocate state funds; (5) Tools for ongoing monitoring of the subsidized family planning system; (6) Longitudinal evaluation plan; and (7) Final evaluation report.

Sponsor: Minnesota Department of Health
Maternal and Child Health Section
Division of Family Health
717 Delaware Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55440-9441
(612) 623-5713

Contract No.: H12-1549 Project Officer: Mary Jo Mehelich

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Staff: K. Hamner, S. Becker