



**OSY Technical Support Team (TST)
Conference Call
September 17, 2009**

TST Participants: Renee Nanzer, Omar Lopez, Bob Lynch, Brenda Pessin, Erin Shea, Sonja Williams, Bruce Wright, Tomás Yañez, and Patricia Meyertholen

Time of Conference Call: 9 a.m. Central Standard Time (CST), 10 a.m. Eastern Time
Telephone Number: 1-913-856-2091

Agenda items:

1. OSY Health Mini-Lessons
2. Update on podcasts/MP3 audio files
3. Webinar for November
4. Issues surrounding serving young OSY
5. Ideas for OSY 2010
6. Projects/TST assignments
7. Conference call versus meeting
8. Other business:

Pat welcomed the TST members who were participating in the September **OSY** TST conference call. She reminded the participants that all calls are planned for the third Thursday of each month at 9 a.m. CST (10 a.m. Eastern Time). She thanked those that were able to participate. She mentioned that many individuals had emailed her expressing regret that they would not be able to participate this time, but would try to make the next conference call.

OSY Health Mini-Lessons

Bob began the discussion on the Health Mini-Lessons. He explained that the concept of these lessons came up as a suggestion from one of the first meetings for **OSY**. The health lessons have been designed in 4 parts:

1. English/Spanish lesson;
2. Teacher/tutor lesson plan;
3. Pre/post assessment;
4. Skills sheet.

Although the health lessons entitled, *Para Tu Salud (For Your Health)*, are written at a 4 to a 5th grade reading level, the content and interest level are aimed at adults. Plans are to print in a booklet format with Spanish on one side and English on the back. The skills sheet will be a single insert. Bob asked the group for their feedback on the lessons that were email to them for review.

Erin commented that the reading lessons are at a great level for the population in Vermont. Omar also seconded her comments. Erin asked if the phonetic translation could be provided alongside the vocabulary words. Bob explained that the addition of the phonetic translations was very controversial and that Erin could add that information in for her state. Omar asked if the lesson should be shortened. Bob said that the goal was to develop a lesson that was no more than one hour. Sonja asked if the vocabulary page could be a separate sheet with perhaps the word and picture on one side and the definition on the other. Bob liked that idea and said he would incorporate it into the final product. Brenda Pessin asked about the timeline. Pat said that the estimated timeline was sometime in January but that **OSY** states could use the lessons as soon as each became finalized by Geneseo Migrant Center. Bob agreed that was the case. Tomas mentioned to Omar that since doctors visited the Georgia migrant labor camps, did

Omar have any suggestions for topics. Pat mentioned that NCFH developed the topics from their lists of most-requested health topics from migrant farmworkers. The group agreed that it was fine to leave the final selection of the topics to the Center and NCFH to determine based on the TST recommendations. Pat will send the group the final topics and timeline with the minutes to this conference call. When Bob asked if the group liked one color per lesson or each lesson to be color coded, the consensus was that color coding is preferred.

Update on podcasts/MP3 audio files

The next topic on the agenda was that of the OSY podcasts/MP3 audio files. Pat asked Omar to take the lead on this discussion topic. Omar explained that the MobileME site was designed to use the most up-to-date Apple products. For this reason, the site is difficult to work with if people are using non-Apple MP3 players or have older Apple iPod Shuffles. It would be best to migrate the podcasts from the MobileMe site to the OSY website and house them there as MP3 audio files. The purpose of having the audio files is that it is more user-friendly. The goal would be to take MobileMe out of the front end and only use it in the back end as a way to upload files. In the future, there may be other ways that the site could be used.

Sonja commented that converting the podcasts into MP3 files is a great idea because they are usable in other ways. She thinks that would work better because we then can avoid using proprietary products. MP3 audio files can also be incorporated into Powerpoints which is currently being done in North Carolina.

Webinar for November

Sonja Williams explained that she thought webinars for this group would be a lot more interactive than just telephone conference calls. She then volunteered to set one up for the group through the North Carolina Department of Education. She can set this up so that the group would learn how webinars work. Bob agreed that it would be nice to try it. The job of moderator could be shared among everyone and that way people can learn how to work the medium. "Go to Webinar" is the name of the system. Normally, people try to use the mikes on their computers, so that the Sonja has been recommending the use of phones.

Sonja explained that we don't have to send in PowerPoint. Everyone would have one or two screens. The agenda could be something similar to people explaining the OSY population demographics in their state or the services aimed at OSY. Sonja will send out an email with more explicit directions when the date has been set. Pat will work with Sonja to set up the webinar and keep people informed.

Issues surrounding serving young OSY

Pat said that since this agenda item was suggested by Sonja that Sonja should lead the group in discussion. Sonja commented that in her state most of the children traveling independently seem to be 14 to 5 years old. Really young children are referred to the Department of Labor by her staff if they are caught working in the fields. The kids tell the recruiters that they are around 17-18 years old. The magnitude of the problem is unknown. In Sonja's opinion we should address this problem as a consortium – what are the options? How should we work with these very young OSY? The NovaNet alternative program is one of the ways that NC is addressing the problem; trying to get these young children to school at night. Bob said that what Sonja has outlined to the group is very common in so many places now. Sonja would like to know the following: What is the extent of the problem? Who can we collaborate with? These children are at incredible risk; subject to horrific abuse. Erin said that in Vermont they also have the problem. She has tried different things, but they end up prioritizing working with these children. The group said that this should be a topic that should be continued to be explored. We can talk about it next conference call and see if a work group should be set up to explore state's options for service delivery to this population.

Ideas for OSY 2010

Pat invited people to email her suggestions for the OSY submission for the 2010 grant cycle. The next round of grant applications will be released at the beginning of the new year and she would like to be ready with ideas.

Projects/TST assignments

There was not very much time left to devote to the idea of projects and work assignments for the 2nd year of the grant. This topic will be explored in more detail during the next conference call. People should be thinking of projects that are still outstanding that they would like to work on.

Conference call versus meeting

It was decided that conference calls could suffice for now and perhaps at the beginning of the year, a meeting of the TST could be held. Bob asked Omar if he had any friends in Savannah because Bob would like to go to Savannah in the winter time. Omar said that he could check into that. Then Tomas volunteered to host the next TST Meeting in McAllen during the TMIP Secondary Credit Accrual Meeting. The meeting is scheduled for February 2010. The group thanked Tomas and said that sounded great. Tomás will get the information to the group as soon as the date and times are finalized so that the group can decide if this timeframe will work for them.

Other business

No other business was mentioned.

Adjournment

Since the call lasted one hour and twenty minutes, and the agenda items had been covered, Pat thanked everyone for their participation and ended the call. The next call for the TST is scheduled for September 17th at 10 a.m. Eastern Time. The same conferencing dial-in number will be used.