KP Oakland Residency Advocacy Curriculum

Preliminary Policy Summary

Instructions: Choose a health policy issue that is of interest to your team and that you all think has policy implications (i.e. contraceptive equity, maternal mortality review).

Using the attached description/template, write up the results of your investigation/review and prepare a brief presentation to the group (can be powerpoint or handout). This is not a doctoral dissertation! Keep it brief, acknowledge what you don't know at this point and comment on how you would continue working on this policy/issue (who/what/where/when).

Policy Summary:

What is a “Policy Summary”?

A policy summary is a succinct and neutral description of what is known about a particular issue or problem and is written for busy policymakers. A policy summary includes: the issue's history, stakeholders, analysis of the problem, proposed or possible solutions, the writer's recommendations for policy action.

For this “preliminary” exercise, please complete the following components:

1. Introduction:
   a. Describe the issue. What is the problem? Who is it a problem for? Why is it a problem for this affected group?

2. History of this issue.
   a. Have there been previous efforts to solve this problem? What are they?

3. Who are the stakeholders for this issue?
   a. List the people/organizations/institutions who have an interest in outcomes related to this issue.
   b. Have they taken any steps to solve the problem? Are there competing stakeholders?

4. Describe/consider at least two solutions to the problem.
   a. One “solution” should be the Bill you have chosen. Describe another potential solution/approach.
   b. At your current state of understanding the issue, what facts/information are available? What additional data/facts would you like to have & how would you go about finding this information?

5. Which if these solutions/approaches do you recommend?
   a. What succinct arguments would you use to educate/persuade a policymaker?
   b. What data do you have/would you need to support your position?

6. The policymaker(s) interaction
   a. To whom would you address this recommendation? (Consider all possible options from within an institution, local organizations, local government, state level, federal level, etc.)
   b. Who would be your “allies” in this effort?
   c. Who would you consider as potential “opposition”?
   d. What is the best timeline for making this recommendation?

Adapted from the Department of Family and Community Medicine, 2011, Dr. Sally Bachofer