

Program Information Management System 6.0

As HFA has grown nationally, sites and state systems have required better tools to manage their programs and serve their participants locally. In 1998, Prevent Child Abuse America developed the Program Information Management System (PIMS) to enable HFA sites to manage and report on the community programs and participant services they provide. Since then, the system has periodically been improved to adapt to the evolving needs of HFA sites.

PIMS consists of two interrelated modules: the Program Management Component and the Participant Tracking Component.

Program Management Component

Tracks info about site infrastructure, including:

- site resources
- staff characteristics
- staff training
- target community characteristics
- funding resources
- collaborating agencies, hospitals, and medical clinics

Sites use this information to track staff development, manage collaborative relationships, and identify future resource needs.

Participant-Level Tracking Component

Records a family's participation and progress in the HFA program, including:

- Participant demographics
- Screening, assessment, and intake of new participants
- Participant activities including home visits, medical visits, instrument administrations, and referrals
- Child activities, including well baby visits, immunizations, and child development screens

Sites use this information to manage their services, identify key participant characteristics, and evaluate the level and quality of services participants receive.

Reporting features

PIMS generates over 70 pre-packaged reports to support data-driven advocacy and fundraising efforts. PIMS also features a utility for generating custom reports based on hundreds of data elements collected in PIMS.

Common language

PIMS helps monitor and measure the impact of HFA using a standard set of core data elements. This common language makes it easier for HFA sites to share information about effective program features and partnerships at the state as well as the national levels. In 2004, PIMS sites were able to collaborate in completing the Healthy Families Implementation Study.

Accreditation

During HFA Quality Assurance and Accreditation, sites using PIMS can automatically generate virtually all of the quantitative reports they need. What would otherwise be a tedious data-gathering and calculation process is largely transformed into a report printing and verification process.

Better service to children & families

PIMS was designed as an integrated program and participant management system so that the links between HFA program characteristics and effective participant outcomes would become clearer. As these characteristics are identified, the services that HFA sites provide to children and families will better meet their needs.

For more information about PIMS, contact:

Rob Reid
Prevent Child Abuse America
500 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60611
312-334-6865
www.preventchildabuse.org
rreid@preventchildabuse.org