Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Report  
*This report is informational only and requires no Board action.*  
Submitted by Rhona Kelley, RAC Representative  
July 26, 2011

The RAC met on December 7, 2010 at the UIC Student Center West, Chicago, IL.

**GMR Update** – Ruth Holst  
Ruth reviewed the goals of the current year (which is the last year of the current NLM contract) which included:
  - Promote emergency disaster planning  
  - Facilitate group licensing  
  - Plan for print retention and preservation  
  - Assist physicians with electronic health record implementation

In the new contract by NLM, the new goals would include:
  - Translational research and librarian involvement  
  - Support for researchers in managing data sets that result in scientific research  
  - “Target outreach” – funding provided for specific scenarios  
  - “Community preparedness” – awards to promote librarian involvement  
  - Print preservation program for the region  
  - Professional development for hospital librarians

An open discussion was held about possible new directions for the GMR as well as enhancements to existing GMR programs. Potential ideas for the 2011-2016 contract included:
  - Focusing on the goals of Healthy People 2020  
  - Library Schools as collaborators  
  - Incorporate library school students into GMR projects such as through internships  
  - Library School discussion groups  
  - Work with AHECs to address the needs of rural hospitals  
  - Conduct a ROI study on the value of library services for patient care  
  - Develop tools for librarians to assess the value of library and information services such as:  
    - Calculators  
    - Train librarians on project management  
    - How librarians contribute to the bottom line  
  - Symposium on e-science  
  - Offer a class to help librarians raise awareness of what the librarian brings to the health care team; how to partner with health professionals
RAC Working Groups include:

**Library Advocacy Group:** launched a very successful “Time=Money” campaign during last National Librarians Month. Materials are available at [http://www.nnlm.gov/gmr/member/advocacy](http://www.nnlm.gov/gmr/member/advocacy)

**Communications** – advises the GMR on current and new communication tools, and suggests enhancements.

**Consumer Health** – some Go-Local projects still going – Michigan State Library is supporting and Indiana University may begin supporting theirs.

**E-Licensing**

**Emergency Preparedness** - many accomplishments during the last two years. Check the web page of tips, checklists, posters and brochures.

**Print Preservation** – During year 5, data was gathered from Resource Library Directors and others, and SERHOLD records were analyzed to help develop strategies for developing a print retention program for the region.

**Public Health** – A survey is being developed to identify the training needs of public health workers.

**Electronic Health Record** – An open discussion was led by Maxine Rockoff, one of the speakers from the EHR & Librarians Symposium held on December 6, 2010, about activities Network members and/or the GMR could engage in to promote the implementation and meaningful use of electronic health records (EHR) and personal health records (PHR). Some suggestions included:

- Educate the public about PHRs and patient portals.
- Librarians’ roles as trainers.
- Create tutorials for health professionals and the public including privacy and security issues. Tailor to specific groups.
- Teach immigrants about these issues through teens and church groups.
- GMR could help Network members with selection of patient information resources to connect to EHRs.
- GMR should partner with public health departments and public libraries to raise awareness.