



**HIV Health and Human Services Planning Council of New York**  
November 20, 2008, 3:00-5:00 PM  
LGBT Community Services Center, 208 W. 13<sup>th</sup> St, Rm. 101, New York, NY

## MINUTES

**Members Present:** J.C. Park (Governmental Co-Chair), S. Adams, B. Backofen, V. Benadava, D. Bird, G. DeYounge, J. Eddie, J. Edwards, A. Etienne, T. Faulkner, Y. Gebhardt (for E. Viera, Jr.), M. Gilborn, A. Hardman, S. Hemraj, M. Irizarry, J. Irwin, F. Laraque, M.D., M.P.H., M. Lesieur, F. Machlica (for L. Fraser), D. Marder, MD, H. Mateo, G. Mercado, L. Freddy Molano, MD, MPH, D. Ng, T. Petro, G. Philip, D. Rakower, A. Tirado (for C. Shorter), P. Ude, M.D., D. Walters, L. Windsor (for J. Leandry-Torres)

**Members Absent:** A. Aviles, M. Bacon, A. Cohall, M.D., S. Elcock, I. Feldman, K. Gaither, M.D., T. Mack, MD, MPH, A. Perry

**Staff Present:** D. Klotz, N. Rothschild, DrPH, D. Wong, R. Molina *PHS/HIVCS*: R. Miller

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### **Agenda Item #1: Meeting Opening/Introduction/Minutes**

*Mr. Park* opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda, followed by member introductions. *Mr. Park* noted the passing of the father of Soraya Elcock, and conveyed the condolences of the Council. He also noted the passing of Philip Reed, who had served on the Council in the mid 90s, and who represented East Harlem in the City Council for eight years. *Mr. Reed* was a fierce advocate for PLWHA and will be sorely missed.

*Mr. Hardman* introduced the moment of silence in memory of *Mr. Reed* and all those who have died from HIV/AIDS.

*Ms. Irwin* reviewed the rules of respectful engagement.

The minutes of the July 24, 2008 meeting were approved with no changes.

*Mr. Park* reviewed the requirements for attendance and appointment of alternates for Council members.

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### **Agenda Item #2: Public Comment, Part I**

*M. Gold*: I am gratified that the issue of HIV over 50 is being addressed, as can be seen by a recent *NY Times* article. By 2010, over 50% of HIV cases nationally will be over 50 and programs and services must address this population.

*J. Lopez*: I urge the Council to approve the modification to the 2009 spending plan to preserve HOPWA-funded outreach programs to homeless youth. Without this funding, this population will lose an essential service that connects them to housing and medical care.

*M. Soares:* The Council's 2009-2012 Comprehensive Strategic Plan should emphasize consumer input more strongly. Also, I urge people to attend an upcoming meeting in Queens on implementation of the NYC high school HIV curriculum.

*Mr. Park:* The Council's committees are still reviewing the Comprehensive Plan and there is still time for more input before the Council gives its final approval next month.

### **Agenda Item #3: Ryan White HATMA/Part A Overview**

*Mr. Park* gave an overview of the Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act (formerly CARE Act). Topics included: HATMA titles, the roles and responsibilities of the Council and its members and the support staff, and conflicts of interest guidelines for members.

### **Agenda Item #4: Call for Nominations: Finance Officer**

*Mr. Wong* called for nominations for the position of Council Finance Officer, which will be elected by the membership at the December 18, 2008 meeting. Any full voting member (no alternates) who is not a representative of a governmental agency is eligible to run for election to this position. The Finance Officer acts as a liaison between the Council and the grantee on financial issues. In the absence of the Governmental and Community Co-Chairs, the Governmental Co-Chair's duties are performed by the Finance Officer. Nominations should be submitted to David Klotz by December 15<sup>th</sup>. The Finance Officer's term begins effective immediately upon election and will run until August 31, 2010 or until a vacancy occurs.

### **Agenda Item #5: PLWHA Advisory Group (AG) Report**

*Ms. Etienne:* The AG met this past Saturday at Iris House, where we had a large turnout, particularly from women. We called for nominations for Council co-chair of the AG, discussed holding another PLWHA summit, encouraged PLWHA attendance at Council and committee meetings, and had a wonderful presentation from Mr. Lesieur on Medicare Part D and Medicaid managed care. Also, AG members are busy advocating on the federal, state and local levels against budget cuts that would hurt HIV services.

### **Agenda Item #6: Modification of the 2009 Spending Plan**

*Mr. Park:* Normally, this proposal would be presented by the chairs of the Priority Setting & Resource Allocation Committee, but those chairs were not yet in place at the time this was considered. New Council members Ms. Gilborn and Mr. Shorter have graciously agreed to chair the committee going forward.

*Mr. Rojas:* HOPWA can no longer fund outreach programs targeted to homeless LGBT youth and residents of single room occupancy hotels (SROs) as of June 30, 2009. These are non-core HOPWA services, and HOPWA funds are needed for direct housing programs. Ryan White can pick up these programs for 8 months in the FY 2009 (annualized in future years) using unobligated funds from mental health programs and funds allocated to medical case management. For FY 2009 the EMA will still be in compliance with the minimum 75% core services requirement.

*Dr. Laraque:* The Council should understand that this would mean slightly fewer medical case management contracts in FY 2009. Also, the outreach programs will be re-bid for FY 2010 and can be restructured into core services, such as early intervention.

A brief discussion of the proposal followed.

**ACTION: The motion was made and seconded to accept the spending plan modification as presented. Upon a roll-call vote the motion carried (28 in favor, 2 abstentions).**

## Agenda Item #7 Tri-county Report

*Mr. Petro:* The AIDS Institute facilitated the first-ever Quality Management Learning Network meeting in the Tri-County region. Staff from all of the 13 new medical case management programs funded in Year 18 attended and will meet quarterly in an effort to set and meet QM care standards to be established in order to improve service delivery.

The Tri-County Steering Committee and Living Together (the region's PLWHA advisory group) are reviewing the draft Comprehensive Strategic Plan.

Everyone is invited to attend the Westchester County Health Department-sponsored World AIDS Day event scheduled for December 8, 9 AM - 12 PM, at the White Plains YWCA. The theme is "Mobilizing Community Leadership to Keep HIV/AIDS a Priority in this Time of Change" and Humberto Cruz, director of the AIDS Institute, is the featured speaker.

## Agenda Item #8 Policy Briefing

*Mr. Lesieur:* The Policy Committee is recommending that the Council endorse a letter to US Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt to urge him to lift the ban on entry to the US of HIV-positive persons.

**ACTION: The motion was made and seconded to send the letter as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

*Mr. Lesieur* presented materials endorsed by various national coalitions, community organizations and advocacy groups encouraging the Obama-Biden administration to adopt an effective national AIDS strategy to combat the epidemic domestically.

*Mr. Ng* presented on proposed cuts to the state and city budget, particularly in the areas of health and human services.

## Agenda Item #9 Public Comment, Part II

*R. Steptoe:* I am here to represent Queens and will take the information from this meeting back to my community.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes approved by the HIV Planning Council on December 18, 2008

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Jan Carl Park, MA, MPA  
Governmental Co-chair