



Meeting of the
HIV Health and Human Services Planning Council of New York

April 17, 2008

3:00-5:00 PM

LGBT Center, 208 W. 13th Street, NY, NY

MINUTES

Members Present: J.C. Park, MA, MPA (Governmental Co-chair), S. Elcock (Community Co-Chair), S. Adams (for M. Brune), B. Backofen, F. Carroll, J. Edwards, A. Etienne, T. Faulkner, I. Gamble-Cobb, A. Gutkovich (for D. Marder, MD), T. Hamilton (for A. Aviles), A. Hardman, J. Irwin, G. Joseph (for T. Mack, MD, MPH), F. Laraque, MD, MPH, P. Laqueur (for I. Feldman), J. Leandry-Torres, M. Lesieur, F. Machlica (for L. Fraser), W. Okoroanyanwu, MD, MPH, K. Padron (for V. Jarvis, MD), T. Petro, G. Philip, R. Spellman, E. Telzak, MD, E. Viera, Jr.

Members Absent: M. Bacon, L. Bishop, R. Bramble Weed, E. Camhi, R. Canosa, R. Jackson, G. Mercado, L. Freddy Molano, MD, D. Ng, A. Perry, A. Quinones, A. Richardson, L. Scaccabarozzi, S. Self, PhD,

Staff Present: *DOHMH:* D. Klotz, T. Noleto, R. Molina, N. Rothschild, DrPH, A. Santella, DrPH, E. Wiewel, D. Wong.
PHS: R. Miller

Agenda Item #1: Meeting Opening/Minutes

Ms. Elcock opened the meeting and members introduced themselves.

Mr. Park introduced the moment of silence by noting the passing of former Planning Council member, HIV/AIDS peer advocate and outreach worker Helen Hernandez.

Ms. Gamble-Cobb reviewed the Rules of Respectful Engagement.

Mr. Park led the review of the minutes of the March 20, 2008 meeting. He noted that in reference to concerns regarding HASA Advisory Board appointment (Item #2 - Public Comment), S. Adams from HASA would be available to answer specific questions. T. Petro noted that Item 3B Line 41 should reflect an addition to the base funds. The minutes were approved with modifications as noted.

Agenda Item #2: Public Comment, Part I

Myron: I am a 67 yr old male living with AIDS and have been homebound for the last two months. I would like to thank Dr. Fabienne Laraque for meeting with the Consumers Committee yesterday. In addition to Helen Hernandez' passing, Vilma Santiago has recently passed and there will be funeral services on April 18 & 19. It is important to remember that not everyone who is living with AIDS is enjoying good health; there are 225 individuals presently at Rivington House. We must remember that we are serving people and not just directing funding.

Martin: On behalf of the newly-established Manhattan HIV CARE Network, the Latino Commission on AIDS will be convening a Program Directors meeting on May 15. For more information, please call 212-828-6143.

Agenda Item #3: PLWHA Advisory Group Report

Ms. Etienne noted the passing of three clients of Iris House. Mr. Park reported that at the meeting of April 12, there was a discussion of transgender health issues and a viewing of the film, "Transgender Basics". Speakers have been invited to address transgender health issues at future meetings. A conference call with NAPWA updated members on AIDS Watch, the annual Advocacy event to be held in Washington, DC at the end of this month.

Agenda Item #4a:

Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) 2007-8 Spending & Reprogramming Plan

Mr. Park: For the purposes of today's discussion of the 2008 Spending Plan, we will be referring to the large spreadsheet included in today's packet, entitled "Year 2008 (Year 18) MAI Spending Plan". The current award, \$9,453,446, reflects an increase of \$105,669 to our MAI award from last year, \$9,347,777. After deducting the proportional allocations for the Tri-County Award, NYC Administration, and Quality Management, the amount remaining for program costs is \$7,601,516, which is allocated for the portfolio of services. There are six service categories in the MAI portfolio, which are directed to minority-only communities. Uncommitted funds of \$367,874 consists of \$158,126 from ADAP Plus, \$124,779 in Maintenance in Care contracts and \$84,968 which represents this year's increase in program dollars. The PSRA and the Executive Committee have reviewed this budget and have voted to allow the grantee the flexibility of redirecting these funds to high-performing contracts in the Maintenance in Care, Treatment Adherence and Early Intervention Services service categories.

T. Hamilton inquired as to whether the strategy of distributing the funds across the high performing contracts would be to enhance all contracts in that category or be targeted to particular contracts. Dr. Laraque suggested that the expanded HIV testing campaign in the Bronx, an unfunded mandate, and Maintenance in Care contracts are the two identified priorities. In response to A. Gutkovich's inquiry as to whether these funds would be used for PS or OTPS expenses, R. Miller noted that the contractors who receive these enhancements would have flexibility in the spending of these funds. T. Hamilton reiterated the need to fund the Bronx testing and linkage to care activities. A. Etienne inquired as to the plans of NYCDOHMH to expand the Citywide testing campaign to other communities. M. Lesieur inquired as to when the Executive Committee and the Planning Council would be informed of funding decisions; R. Miller responded that would occur within the next few months.

Motion made and seconded to allow the grantee the flexibility of redirecting these funds to high-performing contracts in the Maintenance in Care, Treatment Adherence and Early Intervention Services service categories. Vote taken: 23 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. Motion approved.

Mr. Park: We have now approved our 2008 Spending Plan which provides a wide array of services for PLWHAs in NYC. As we move forward, there will be many opportunities for discussion regarding utilization, quality management, and program effectiveness. Council members are urged to participate in these discussions.

Agenda Item #4b: Grantee Report

Dr. Laraque informed the Council that Public Health Solutions continues to work on the fiscal year closeout and that NYCDOHMH continues to work on the enhancement to contracts in the Base plan, as approved last month.

Agenda Item #5:

"Risk Factors for Delaying Initiation of Medical Care after Diagnosis of HIV"

Ellen Weiss Wiewel, Epidemiologic Liaison of the NYCDOHMH HIV/AIDS Epidemiology & Field Services Program presented research on risk factors associated with delayed initiation of medical care. The advantages of timely initiation of medical care after initial HIV diagnosis were reviewed. This multivariate analysis seeks to determine what proportion of NYC residents who had received an HIV diagnosis in 2003 initiated medical care within a three month period of diagnosis. Findings in the study, which will be published this Spring, included: The majority of patients who initiate care do so within 3 months of diagnosis (65%), suggesting that there is a window of opportunity during which the transition can be most effectively facilitated. IDU, blacks, and persons of non-US origin are at increased risk for delayed presentation; persons diagnosed at public and community-based testing sites are at increased risk for complete failure to present. Site of original diagnosis was the most important predictor of failure to present, followed by IDU, black race/ ethnicity and non-US country of birth. All sites should redouble efforts to facilitate referral in vulnerable patients. Non-medical settings should develop more effective referral procedures so that patients transition successfully from diagnosis to care. Council members offered comments regarding race, ethnicity and personal characteristics, availability of and barriers to HIV testing and linkage to care in NYC jails, the psychological readiness of individuals to seek medical care within a prescribed "optimal" time frame of 3 months of diagnosis, stigma, the availability of rapid testing and its potential to facilitate entry into care, the proportion of HIV+ clients with delayed entry into care/not following up with a primary care provider and comparisons with other jurisdictions. A recommendation was made that the Division of Health Care Access, which oversees HIV testing on Rikers Island, should present data on their programs.

Agenda Item #6 Committee Updates

Policy (delivered by Mr. Lesieur): Two letters were presented in members' packets for Planning Council approval. The first, to Congressman Dingell, in support of HR 5613 requests a one year moratorium on the implementation of (7) Medicaid regulations, many of which affect PWAs.

Motion made and seconded to approve the letter. Vote taken: Motion approved.

The second letter, to Assemblyman Gottfried, supports Assembly Bill A09195. The provisions of this bill allow for HIV testing to be offered in all medical visits, with permission for HIV testing folded into written informed consent for general medical care with an opt-out provision and durable signature.

**A motion was made for the Planning Council to send this letter endorsing A09195; motion seconded.
Vote taken: (15) in favor, (0) opposed, (5) abstentions.**

Priority Setting & Resource Allocation (delivered by Mr. Park): The PSRA is involved in the development of a revised tool to be used for ranking and prioritizing service categories.

Integration of Care Committee (delivered by Ms. Gamble-Cobb): The Committee discussed and approved the proposed Integrated Model of Care, in which Treatment Adherence, Outpatient Medical Care and Case Management would be combined. The model will be presented to the PSRA committee for discussion and consideration.

Needs Assessment (delivered by Ms. Irwin): The Needs Assessment Committee hosted a CHAIN 101 presentation, reviewed the existing tool and current initiatives to gather consumer input.

Consumers Committee: At the last Consumers Committee meeting, feedback was elicited on the focus groups which took place on April 10/11.

Rules & Membership Committee: The Rules & Membership Committee has not yet met, but at its first meeting in May, will be considering By-Law changes and reviewing the nomination & appointment process for next year's Planning Council.

Agenda Item #7 Public Comment, Part II

Mr. Park reminded the Council that NYCDOHMH is convening a Focus Group with Adolescents on April 24. Ms. Etienne affirmed the role of PWAs and consumers in the planning process.

Agenda Item #8 New Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes approved by the HIV Planning Council on May 15, 2008.



Jan Carl Park, MA, MPA
Governmental Co-chair