

**Andrew J. Spano**  
County Executive

Department of Health

Joshua Lipsman, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner

**TRI-COUNTY RYAN WHITE TITLE I  
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, January 11, 2006  
Planned Parenthood – White Plains Center  
175 Tarrytown Road

**APPROVED MINUTES**

- Members Present:** V. Alvarez, C. Archbald, MD, M. Bannister, L. Beal, H. Blecher, C. Brazil, C. Burwell, C. Carroll, G. Diaz, H. Fitzgerald, K. Everett, L. Hilton, B. Ilardi, M. Littles, R. Maher, Jr., J. McGovern, S. Pemberton, K. Scott, P. Taddeo (for S. Levine, MD), S. Wayne, G. Yarn and O. Young
- Members Absent:** D. Anderson, L. Bennett, D. Capasso, B. Cauthen, J. Hilger, D. Kittell, R. Leandre, M. Lopez-Squillini, D. Marlowe, A. Paige-Bowman, J. Park, T. Payne, M. Piazza, R. Schiffrin, D. Scholar, A. Straus-Shurin, K. Slade, M. Sosne, D. Stern and L. Tackley
- Guests Present:** D. Abramson (CHAIN) and D. Bell (CCSNYS)
- Staff Present:** J. Lehane, T. Petro, B. Reyes
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**I. Approval of Minutes**

The December 14, 2005 meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented (G. Diaz/R. Maher).

**II. Announcements**

- A revised list of Medicare Part D providers who cover all HIV-related medications was distributed, courtesy of Westchester Medical Center.
- The Council of Community Services of NYS, Inc. (CCSNYS) is conducting a series of workshops to help agencies market HIV/AIDS services in their communities. A flyer was distributed with the January dates and locations. Contact Donna Bell at [dbell@ccsnys.org](mailto:dbell@ccsnys.org) or 914-667-6752 for information.
- Reminder that the AIDS Institute publishes a booklet containing 100 questions and answers about HIV/AIDS which is available free of charge. Orders can be made through the AI website.

- An introduction to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control)-sponsored DEBI (Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions) for HIV prevention targeting PLWHA will be held on January 26, 2006. The training will be a full day event and breakfast and lunch will be provided. Contact Basil Reyes at 914-813-5119 or [bar3@westchestergov.com](mailto:bar3@westchestergov.com) as soon as possible to register.
- Contact any WCDH staff member to submit nominations for the Westchester Board of Health's public health award.

### **III. Update Reports**

#### **Living Together** (V. Alvarez)

- At the December 15, 2005 LT meeting the main agenda topic was Medicare Part D. Pharmacies appear to have more information than the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. Confusion still exists about premiums, deductibles, co-payments, and appropriate coding by pharmacies. Anyone encountering problems should contact CMM directly.
- Victor has been invited to speak to the PWA Advisory Group's Executive Committee in NYC regarding the organization of Living Together and how it works to integrate consumers and community members into the planning process for HIV/AIDS services in the Tri-County region. Steve Bailous from NYCDOHMH's Office of AIDS Policy will attend the next LT meeting.
- The main agenda item of the next LT meeting on January 19 will be how patients relate to doctors regarding sex and drug use issues. Rick Birchard from Westchester Medical Center will attend to gather input from consumers for the new prevention curriculum that is planned under the Clinical Education Initiative for clinicians in NYS.
- Next month's LT meeting will be held on February 16, 2006 at ARCS.

#### **Title II** (K. Everett)

- On January 24<sup>th</sup> the Lower Hudson Valley Network is sponsoring a workshop on ways to create a successful Consumer Advisory Board (CAB). The TA Department of Bailey House, Inc. in NYC will present. The workshop will take place at St. John's Riverside Hospital. Contact Kelli Everett at 914-428-6300 x230 or [lhrcarenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:lhrcarenetwork@gmail.com).
- The Case Management Committee is hosting a breakfast forum on February 13<sup>th</sup> on Medicare Part D and ADAP. The forum will be interactive and Ryan Nathan and Tracy Ashe of the Outreach and Enrollment Program at the Urban League of Westchester County will review the processes of enrolling a client into a prescription drug plan. Case managers and consumers are urged to attend. Contact Kelli for more information.
- February 7<sup>th</sup> is AIDS Awareness Day and consumers and providers are invited to make a visit to Albany to increase HIV/AIDS awareness among the NYS legislators. Participants will be trained in how to speak to the representatives and what budget issues should be stressed. Anyone interested in participating and taking a leadership role should contact Kelli. The next Community Awareness meeting is scheduled for January 20.
- The Ryan White CARE Act reauthorization appears on hold for now. However, it is still anticipated that the CARE Act will be reauthorized by Congress in the spring of 2006.

**IV. Service Gap Presentation (D. Abramson)**

The results of the last three years of data collection by the CHAIN project in Tri-County indicate that the expressed needs and gaps for services are ranked as follows:

**Table 1. Rank Order of Needs and Gaps from the CHAIN data.**

<b>RANKING</b>	<b>NEEDS</b>	<b>GAPS</b>
1	Financial Support	Comprehensive Case Management
2	Housing Needs (financial help and quality of housing)	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Treatment
3	Food	Patient-Provider Communication
4	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Treatment	Professional Mental Health Care
5	Household Items	Comprehensive Medical Care
6	Transportation	Case Management Counseling
7	Emotional/Psychological Care	Transportation
8	Legal Services	Treatment Adherence
9	Education/Job Training	Supportive Mental Health
10	Home Health Care	Permanente Housing
11	Child Care	Financial Support for Housing

AOD treatment often is mentioned as a need among consumers. This may indicate that providers need to improve their linkages with AOD treatment programs in the area so that they can better inform their clients and make referrals. In addition, Steering Committee members discussed the match between the needs as expressed by consumers and gaps in receiving services, and how that can inform the planning for awarding funds in the region.

The gap of comprehensive case management is important to consider when ranking services. Comprehensive case management is a key service that seems to act as a driving force in getting other needed services addressed. Clients often are able to obtain services such as housing, transportation and emotional/psychological mental health and support through the efforts of the case manager.

**V. Tool for Ranking Spending Priorities**

Three more service categories were valued and weighted. The scores appear in Table 2. Case Management was given a total weighted score of 94 out of a possible 100 points. Food Bank/Home-Delivered Meals was scored 75 points. HIV Uninsured Care Programs (ADAP, ADAP+, and APIC) received a total weighted score of 92. The ranking of the remainder of the services categories will take place at the next Steering Committee Meeting.

**Table 2. Results of service category assessment grid.**

<b>Service Category (weighting factor)</b>	<b>Payer of Last Resort (6)</b>	<b>Access to Care (4)</b>	<b>Specific Gaps/Needs (3)</b>	<b>Core Service (3)</b>	<b>Consumer Priority (4)</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Maximum Score</b>	<b>5pts x 6=30</b>	<b>5pts x 4=20</b>	<b>5pts x 3=15</b>	<b>5pts x 3=15</b>	<b>5pts x 4=20</b>	<b>100 pts</b>
Ambulatory/Outpatient Care	24	16	9	15	20	84
Case Management	24	20	15	15	20	94
Food Bank/Home Meals	24	16	15	0	20	75
HIV Uninsured Care Programs (ADAP, ADAP+, APIC)	30	20	15	15	12	92

**Next Steering Committee Meeting: February 8, 2006**  
**10:00 am-12:00 noon,**  
**Planned Parenthood – White Plains Center**  
**175 Tarrytown Road**