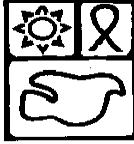


Newark EMA HIV Health Services Planning Council

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PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES June 20, 2007 NEMA Office, Newark, New Jersey

1. Meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 1:35 p.m. Maria Irizarry, Vice-Chair

Irizarry welcomed all in attendance. A moment of silence was observed for those living with HIV/AIDS and for those that have passed on.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll was called and NO quorum was established with 13 of 26 members present.

Present:	Excused absences:	Unexcused absences:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fay Biernat 2. Wali Bradley 3. Kendall Clark 4. Diana Dunker (via-phone) 5. Blair Frost 6. Michel Graham-Anderson 7. Brenda Hoggard 8. Maria Irizarry 9. Drew Johnson 10. Patricia Moore 11. Maria Morales-Santiago 12. Elena Perez 13. Bryn Whittle <p>Council Staff: Dwight Peavy, Executive Director Emily Chakua, Health Planner Ana Rojas, Office Manager</p> <p>Alex Richardson-Parliamentarian</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Borys Abulevsko 2. Madeline Corredor 3. Yolonda Holmes 4. Robert Johnson 5. Glenda Kirkland 6. Jason-Cristofe Marcello 7. Angel Reyes 8. Wesley Rodriguez (non-voting) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ray-Arnol Boyd 2. Frankel Denize 3. Carmine Grasso 4. Bruce J. Griffin 5. Mavis Kofie 6. Donald Newsome

3. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Denise Anderson, spoke on behalf of the AIDS Education & Training Center at UMDNJ. Anderson gave a brief summary of the services provided by the AETC. The Center is funded through HRSA for medical training to physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, etc. They offer four different kinds of trainings. Anderson distributed her business card for anyone interested in attending any of the ongoing trainings or if they had additional questions.

4. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES DATED MAY 16, 2007

No motions were taken due to a lack of quorum.

5. DEMOGRAPHICS AND ASSESSMENT OF THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH HIV IN THE NEWARK EMA

➤ Report from the Infected/Affected Caucus – Wali Bradley

Members finalized preparations for the 2007 Day of Learning which was successfully held on Friday, June 15, 2007 at Paul Robeson Campus Center, Rutgers University. The theme for the Day of Learning event was “Challenge for a New Day: HIV/AIDS, 26 Years and Still Counting”. Over 300 people attended this event and all the programs were completed as planned. The evaluations are currently being reviewed and will be discussed at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Infected/Affected Caucus is scheduled for Thursday, July 12, 2007 at 11:30 am.

➤ Report from the Care & Treatment-Drew Johnson

Peavy reported for the Chair. Members reviewed the CHAMP report that was presented to the Planning Council by Sharon Postel on March 21, 2007. Postel answered questions from members with regard to information entered on viral load by zip code. Members were pleased that the CHAMP system is now able to provide valuable data for this EMA.

Members discussed the model for medical care of PLWHA age 45+ and noted that most of the health screening needs for this population are not being met. More funding is needed to ensure clients receive the necessary tests such as mammograms, colonoscopy, and stress tests for cardiovascular disease among others. Members also elaborated on the gaps in services that are currently being provided.

Members began discussion on formulating a report that will be presented to the priority setting committee on July 13, 2007. Recommendations will be derived from prior meetings and compiled accordingly for this purpose.

The next meeting of the Care and Treatment Committee is scheduled for Thursday, August 9, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.

➤ Report from the Substance Abuse –Maria Morales-Santiago

Members were updated on the progress of the needle exchange task force delegation. More information will be provided when available.

Members began discussion on organizing another Substance Abuse Forum in the month of August. Broadway House is available to host the event on Friday, August 3, 2007. This will be a separate initiative from the Day of Learning. The event will be for providers only – both HIV/AIDS service providers and Substance Abuse service providers. It will be fully sponsored by Project PICH from NJCRI. Members are deliberating on the format of the event and workshop topics. Members will continue with the planning process at the next meeting. The goal is to collaborate and network with other providers in order to provide better services to the clients.

The next meeting of the Substance Abuse Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 11, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.

6. Priority Setting Report - Bryn Whittle

Members reviewed and approved the 2008 service category definitions which will continue to offer guidance to both service providers and the grantee in the disbursement of funds. These definitions were reviewed with particular emphasis so as to comply with the changes in the recently passed HIV Treatment Modernization Act. (The definitions were distributed to all Planning Council members for review; members should be prepared to vote on them at the next meeting).

Also at the Priority Setting meeting, Carmine Grasso and John Ryan, state representatives, presented a comprehensive HIV/AIDS epidemiological profile data for the Newark EMA. Statewide data was also

reviewed and compared with the Newark EMA. This information will be helpful in the priority setting and resource allocation process.

Finally, the grantee updated members on the FY 2007 award and elaborated on the breakdown of the allocations for this fiscal year. Spending data and service utilization data for the previous fiscal year will be reviewed in the near future. Members were reminded of the upcoming trainings and encouraged to attend.

The next meeting of the Priority Setting Committee is scheduled for Friday, July 13, 2007 at 9:30 am.

7. Grantee Representative Report

Ketlen Baptiste-Alsbrook stated that contracts have not been fully executed by the Municipal Council because the City's law department felt it necessary to review the language in their resolutions and other legal documents. As a result the contract process has been delayed this year. At the moment they have 38 pending contracts; they hope to have most of them executed by July 20th.

The City received the supplemental award and there is an overall 14% reduction in funding for FY 2007. The award letters to service providers will soon be dispatched. Information will also be gathered to look into what other resources or alternative plans would be utilized to address the cuts and make sure that there are no service gaps and service discontinuation for the clients.

8. COORDINATION WITH OTHER HIV-RELATED SERVICES

➤ Report from Community Planning Group (CPG) – Blair Frost

Frost stated that for the second time the group revised the language on their membership application. The group also had an update from Loretta Dutton regarding syringe exchange.

➤ Report from the Governor's Council on HIV/AIDS & Other Blood-Borne Pathogens (GAC) – Robert Johnson

Irizarry stated that she had attended the last meeting and the main topic of discussion was the funding cuts that the EMA would sustain. At the time they had not received the supplemental award but they knew that funding cuts were inevitable. The GAC has been working with NJDHSS and the Governor's office in trying to get some relief to fill in on the cuts that the EMA/TGAs sustained. The GAC worked on the language of a letter that would be sent to the Governor's office delineating the problem and what the issues would be.

9. THE PLANNING COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Report from Executive Committee

Irizarry stated that the Executive committee asked the Care & Treatment committee to give a report with some significant recommendations that could be forwarded to the City of Newark.

The Executive committee also asked the Grantee to present a report at the next meeting regarding the FY 2006 final expenditure from the City as well as contract report. The Grantee was also asked to present an impact analysis report.

The group had a brief discussion on a list of research projects that were discussed several months ago. The research committee will reconvene and if the resources are available they would look at the seven items discussed and decide what items to consider. The following research topics were suggested several months ago:

- What is the scope of mental health services in this EMA
- What is the value of incentive programs that promote patient adherence
- Why do people drop out of care
- What are services available specifically for women
- The role of case management in providing patient adherence
- Analysis of data from rapid testing sites to determine the trend of new cases
- How can the EMA continue to meet the need of PLWHA with fewer resources

Irizarry asked for some members to volunteer to join the research committee and make time to attend the committee meeting whenever it will be scheduled. Those interested to participate in the research committee should contact Planning Council staff.

Other issues discussed at the Executive Committee have already been presented.

Report from Treasurer- Bryn Whittle

Whittle announced that the final report for FY 2006 will be presented at the next meeting as there were some time constraints as well as delay on the grant award. Whittle stated that they don't anticipate any monies being left over and they would have to revisit the FY 2007 budget in order to cut back on some line items due to the funding cuts.

Report from Executive Director – Dwight Peavy

Peavy facilitated an informal training session Friday, May 18, 2007 at the PC office that addressed "Planning Process of the New Modernization Act and the impact at the EMA level.

NEMA PC participated in the 4th PICH Community Health Forum yesterday at the Douglas Home on Hill Street Newark. Peavy attended Councilwomen Dana Rone Health Committee meeting May 29th at City Hall.

In accordance with HRSA requirement to train Planning Council members, a one-day Planning Council training session on "Planning Process of the New Modernization Act Compare & Contrast" has been scheduled for this Monday June 25, at 9:00 a.m. The facilitator will be Lennwood Green, HRSA trainer. Planning Council members and Priority Setting Committee members are invited to attend the training session. Peavy urged Council members to attend as there is low registration of PC members to date.

The Day of Learning was held Friday June 15 at Rutgers Paul Robinson Campus Center. Peavy stated that they had 338 participants and 22 exhibitors.

Ana Rojas was featured in the June OPRAH magazine in the comments section and also an article in the local Home News Tribune out of South Amboy, both articles were regarding issues on breast cancer.

The Newark EMA has expanded the capacity of their website. The website has become the resource for Council documents; he encouraged providers, consumers, and Council and Committee members to use this resource. Website: www.newarkema.org

10. STATE AND NATIONAL UPDATE

Issues have already been discussed throughout the agenda.

11. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

None

12. NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Planning Council will be held on **Wednesday, July 18, 2007 at 4:00 pm, Broadway House, Newark NJ.**

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m.

I, as Planning Council Vice Chair, hereby certify the accuracy of the above minutes:

Maria Irizarry – Vice Chair

Date