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RESEARCH & EVALUATION COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

MONDAY, MAY 16, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M.

I. Welcome and Moment of Silence

Pat Moore, Vice-Chair ex tempore, welcomed those in attendance. A Moment of Silence was observed for those living with HIV/AIDS, and for those who have passed on.

II. Roll Call

The Roll was called, and Quorum was established.

III. Public Testimony/Announcements

Nakata announced the annual State HIV Update will be on June 15, 2011; Moore announced the Planning Council Training, to be held on May 18, 2011 after the PC meeting, and a women's HIV Health Forum, to be hosted by Dr. Vaughan on the evening of May 16, 2011.

IV. Approval of Meeting Summary of April 18, 2011

A motion was made to approve the April 18, 2011 summary as circulated, by Nakata and seconded by Simpkins. The summary was then unanimously approved without further discussion.

V. Updates from other Committees

Continuum of Care Committee

COC met on May 12, 2011. The Committee updated its Calendar and began discussing its Self Assessment Tool. COC discussed the changes being made to Medicaid and how they will affect clients; they will follow up on this with discussions with an HMO representative and, if possible, a State representative, for clarification. Regarding the Medicaid changes, COC discussed possible client confusion and the importance of case managers understanding the new system in order to guide clients through it. Mohammed is to speak with Ka'leef regarding a contact from UMDNJ who can do a presentation on the subject. COC will next meet on June 9, 2011.

Comprehensive Planning Committee

CPC met on May 13, 2011, and discussed and began working on its Self Assessment Tool. CPC also discussed progress on the Needs Assessment and the Provider surveys that were distributed. The Committee then reviewed part 4 of the Comprehensive Health Plan in preparation for the 2012 Health Plan. CPC will next meet on June 10, 2011

Community Service Advisory Committee

CSAC met on May 12, 2011. The Committee discussed its Self Assessment Tool and the 2012 Day of Learning. CSAC discussed the lack of detoxification programs in the EMA for mid-level alcohol, coke and crack use. This discussion is to be followed up at the June meeting. The Committee revised its 2011 Calendar and discussed the Needs Assessment topics. CSAC continued discussing proposed collaboration with Pastor Tracey and doing a presentation at her August, 2011 Prayer Conference. CSAC will next meet on June 9, 2011.

VI. Old/New Business

Discuss 2011 Needs Assessment Youth Survey

The Committee had a very lively discussion about the Youth population, what information was to be sought from them, and how to address them to best gain the information desired.

The Committee discussed various facets of creating a youth Survey, including the portion of the Youth population to be addressed. It was stated that in previous discussions, it was decided that Latino youth, Minority MSM and Transgender Youth were to be the focus of the survey. The Committee explored addressing the survey to those not currently in care, and it was stated that it would be more productive to address those in care, with a view to learning how better to reach those not already in care and get them enrolled. It was stated that it is important to frame questions in a manner that would be relevant to youth and gain the information that is being sought.

The issue of what to ask respondents was examined, and questions ranging from how long an interval elapsed between receiving a positive HIV diagnosis and actual entry into care, to whether an individual actually knew their HIV status were discussed. It was stated that it was important to avoid phrasing questions in a way that might seem confrontative to youth, and it was suggested that making them multiple choice might be the best way.

It was stated that much of the information the Committee may want is already available from CDC, as they have been surveying Youth for some time. The importance of deciding exactly what questions to ask and what time period to cover before addressing the State was discussed. It was decided that the time period to be addressed was from January, 2009 to June, 2010, and that the number of individuals tested, the number of positive diagnoses made, demographics and delineations would be sought. The Committee decided to

compare data received from the State to that gathered from CHAMP. It was also stated that there is a need to know which individuals were covered by Ryan White.

The Committee decided to postpone an actual written survey until 2012, and to host focus groups, and address key informants to gather data centering on what complaints youth had about the current HIV health care system in the EMA, and what they would view as the ideal youth friendly system. Peavy reminded the group that the information must be gathered before the June 11, 2011 deadline, and that focus groups would either have to be immediate, or their data used for the 2012 Ryan White fiscal year. It was also stated that it would be most advantageous to hold such a group at an agency that already serves the youth population, since this would offer a greater chance of reaching members of this community.

Continue Discussing the 2011 Needs Assessment

The Committee discussed the recent Needs Assessment surveys that were circulated on Survey Monkey, and the various difficulties that providers encountered when responding to them. These included the need of an additional space labeled "other," since several found that they could not proceed further in the survey if they failed to enter a date of service in the box for a client who hadn't been seen by them.

Regarding the surveys, it was stated that they were supposed to be answered using only data obtained from the client's chart, rather than that gotten from CHAMP.

VII. Date of Next Meeting: Monday June 20, 2011, at 10:00AM

VIII. Adjournment