

HOUSTON AREA HIV SERVICES RYAN WHITE PLANNING COUNCIL



We envision an educated community where the needs of all HIV/AIDS infected and/or affected individuals are met by accessible, effective, and culturally sensitive health and psychosocial services that are part of a fully coordinated system. The community will continue to intervene responsibly until the end of the epidemic.

The Houston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) Ryan White Planning Council will improve the quality of life and advocate for those infected and/or affected with HIV/AIDS by taking a leadership role in the planning and assessment of HIV resources.

MINUTES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marlene McNeese-Ward, Chair
Skeet Boyle
Michael DeGuzman
Paula Downes
Johnetta Evans-Thomas
Joe Fuentes, Jr.
David Garner
Veronica Garza
Hector Guajardo
Gretchen Hollingsworth
Kevin Jackson
Priscilla Jenkins-Roberts
Lesley Lopez-Williams
Albert McKinney
Lupe Martinez
Ricardo Mendiola
Yvette Proctor
Marvin Pruitt
John Sahn
Kimbrae Sanders
Thomas Urban
Steve Walker
Fred Walters, Jr.
Torelen Winbush

MEMBERS ABSENT

Felicia Farrar, excused
Daniel Garza, excused
Kimberly Griffin, excused
Johnny Harris, Jr., excused
Ken Malone, excused
Sylvia Mazique, excused
Nancy Miertschin, excused
Joseph Osci-Primpong, excused
Tracy Wilson, excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Virginia Wall, UTHSC
Charles Henley, HIV Services
Sharon Smith, PLUSA
Steve Hartranft, Ofc. Of Support
Alexis Stewart
Rev. Leslie Smith
Quiana Brown
Deborah Hill
Kirby Boniér
Jim Stanley, Public Health
Ricky S. Martin
Cindy Pena
Shirley Reed
Tori Williams, Ofc. Of Support
Georgette L. Monaghan, Ofc. Of Support

Call to Order: Marlene McNeese-Ward, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:43 a.m. by asking for a moment of reflection.

Training: The Council participated in a training entitled: HIV and the Incarcerated presented by Elizabeth Moore, Peer Educations Coordinator, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Training for the August Council Meeting: The Chair stated that the Steering Committee has recommended a Cultural Sensitivity and Awareness training for the Council at their regularly scheduled meeting in August.

Adoption of the Agenda: Motion: it was moved and seconded (Guajardo, Lopez-Williams) to adopt the agenda with the following changes: move the Priority and Allocations Committee Report to "C." under III. Reports from the Committees. Motion carried.

Adoption of the Minutes: *Motion: it was moved and seconded (Jackson, Walters, Jr.) to adopt the June 12, 2003 minutes with the following three changes: Page 5, 1) Strike under New Business: Spokesperson...Title I: all text; 2) Add under Announcements, 2nd paragraph: DeGuzman...14% increase of "recorded HIV infection" ...; 3) change under Announcements, 4th paragraph: Walters, Jr.,...going around "looks like" a spider bite... Motion carried.*

Public Comment:

Rev. Lesley Smith, founder of FUUSA, stated that the Minority Capacity Building Program is important. FUUSA became a strong agency as a result and other fledging businesses can do the same. Information is provided at the level of the people. The training is proper, very educational, empowering, passionate, and very successful.

Ricky Martin announced a fundraiser for ACT Now.

Reports from the Committees

ADAP Ad Hoc Committee: The next committee meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday August 21, 2003.

Housing Ad Hoc Committee: No report.

Priority & Allocations Committee: John Sahn and Michael DeGuzman, Co-Chairs, made the following reports:

FY04 Service Groupings: *Motion: To accept the attached FY04 Service Groupings.* Discussion: DeGuzman stated that this list was a tool to help with allocations. *Motion carried.*

FY04 Allocations – Level Funding: *Motion: To accept the attached FY04 Level Funding Scenario.* Discussion: Fuentes, Jr. stated that the current providers for case management have given significant public comment (see attached). Not everyone uses case management and it should sustain a cut. After declaring a conflict of interest, Fuentes, Jr. stated that Early Intervention Services is getting cut and that is a medical category. McKinney stated that the cuts seemed to be targeted toward the minority community. He does not see where the results of the Needs Assessment were used. Lopez-Williams stated that according to the Needs Assessment and the Public Hearing comments, social and support services are top needs and these services support the minority clients. In her opinion, the Priority and Allocations Committee lacked sufficient representation from youth, HIV+ women with children, and Hispanic women. Health Insurance and Hospice were increased and they serve only 92 people. This does not seem cost effective and should be cut. Hollingsworth stated that other categories besides the medical ones are needed as they serve the minority populations. DeGuzman responded that there are three things to consider: 1) It is not fair to judge a service category by the numbers being served. One must look at the money that will be saved by investing a small amount of money to keep clients out of more expensive Title I services. 2) He agrees with McKinney that it looks like the minority community is being targeted, however, according to the service utilization data, the distribution of funds are being allocated toward services that minority individuals are using - medical services. And, 3) the current service definition for the Minority Capacity Building Program is only meeting one of the four evaluation requirements. That is why it is being sent back to the Quality Assurance Committee. Guajardo responded that it is not the fault of the agency running the Minority Capacity Building Program that they are not meeting the requirements. They need clarification on what is expected of them. Why suspend the program? According to Moore's presentation Substance Abuse is taking huge cuts across the board, we should be dedicating more money to this service. DeGuzman responded that the current HRSA definition is what the Council needs to use to define the Minority Capacity Building Program. McNeese-Ward responded that the Substance Abuse Work Group is being formed to discuss what Ryan White can fund and how. Walker stated that the Council is getting too close to contractual issues. The Council has only invested three years in the Minority Capacity Building Program. Services that bring clients into services are important, one of these is Case Management. Outreach services bring those that are out of care into care. DeGuzman stated that HRSA defines capacity building as

identifying disparities, and then taking action to change those disparities. Henley stated that decision(s) made today will not have an impact on the current provider for the Minority Capacity Building Program. The program needs to go back through the How to Best Meet the Needs process as one cannot buy the program for less than \$150,000 with the present language.

*Motion: a friendly amendment was moved (Fuentes, Jr.) to take 10% from the Case Management category, and split the funds between the Substance Abuse category, and the Minority Capacity Building Program under the Program Support category. **The friendly amendment was not accepted.***

Garza called for the question. Motion carried to call for the question.

*The Council voted on the original motion: to approve the FY04 Level Funding Allocations. Nays: six. Yeas: four. Abstentions: seven. **Motion failed.***

*Motion: it was moved (DeGuzman) to vote on the allocations by service groups. **Motion failed due to lack of a second.***

*Motion: it was moved (Fuentes, Jr.) to move \$150,000 out of Case Management and move this money into Minority Capacity Building. **Motion failed due to lack of a second.***

*Motion: it was moved (Lopez-Williams) to fund Medical A with 10% increase: Medical B at level funding, and cut Case Management by 9%. **Motion failed due to lack of a second.***

*Motion: it was moved and seconded (Walker, Sanders) to invoke the "emergency clause" and allow the Steering Committee to approve the FY04 Level Funding Allocations. Yeas: 20. Nays: two. Abstention: one. **Motion carried.***

FY04 Allocations – Increase and Decrease Funding Scenarios: Due to the above FY04 Level Funding failure, these motions will be voted on at the August Council meeting.

Quality Assurance Committee: Veronica Garza, Chair, reported on the following:

CPCDMS Subcommittee Report: FYI: See attached report from the 06/05/03 Subcommittee Meeting. The next meeting will be at 11:00 a.m. on Thurs. Aug. 7, 2003.

CPCDMS Subcommittee: FYI: Annually there will be one CPCDMS meeting dedicated to informing Council and community members about the CPCDMS. This year the meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 2, 2003.

FY02 Clinical Chart Reviews: FYI: The Council reviewed the attached reports for: Primary Care and Case Management.

FY02 Client Satisfaction Reports: FYI: The Council reviewed the attached FY02 Client Satisfaction Reports.

Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee: Paula Downes, Chair, reported on the following:

SCSN Client Survey Instrument: Hartranft met with the SCSN committee and presented suggested changes to the SCSN client survey instrument. Based on changes made as a result of this meeting, the instrument looks better.

The committee will review the final document at their July 16, 2003 meeting and make a recommendation to the Council regarding the use of this client survey instrument in the 2005 Needs Assessment.

Unmet Need: FYI: The Houston EMA coordinated the attached letter to Medicaid from all EMA's. (See attached letter and HRSA directive.)

Unmet Need Technical Assistance Conference: FYI: Ken Malone will be the Council representative at the HRSA Technical Assistance Conference in Washington D.C. on August 3-5, 2003.

Prevention with Positives: FYI: See attached HRSA newsletter regarding prevention with positives.

Advances in Meds/Treatments: Joe Fuentes, Jr., Chair, made the following report:

2003 Educational Presentations: FYI: See attached flyer for the June 25, 2003 presentation entitled "Untangling Strategies for the Management of HIV Treatment". Fuentes, Jr., will be meeting with Hartranft to develop a process for adding new medications to the formulary.

Administrative Assessment Committee: Michael DeGuzman, Chair, stated that the next meeting will be at 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, July 24, 2003.

Affected Community Committee: Lesley Lopez-Williams, Chair, made the following reports:

June 30, 2003 Public Hearing: FYI: See the Priority & Allocations Committee report for public comments made at this Ryan White Planning Council Public Hearing.

PR Subcommittee: Lopez-Williams thanked Jackson for chairing this subcommittee, Sahn for the use of his truck, Peterson for finding a donator for the T-shirts, and all who participated in the Council entry in the Pride Parade.

FY04-05 Blue Book: FYI: Contact Diane Clark if you wish to be on the Blue Book Subcommittee. In the meantime, all agencies have been asked to update their information for the FY04-05 Blue Book.

Operations Committee: Steven Walker, Chair, stated that Council applications from consumers are always welcome.

Report from Office of Support: Tori Williams, Manager, summarized the attached report.

Report from HIV Services: Charles Henley, Director, HIV Services, HCHD, summarized the attached report.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Spokesperson for Title I to STAGE: Boyle stated that he is Co-Chair of the Quality Assurance Committee with Pete Rodriguez. At the last meeting, the service categories were not approved due to lack of a quorum.

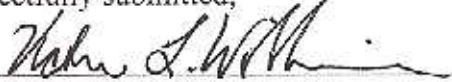
Announcements: McNeese-Ward announced that McKinney has been awarded a "Citizen Award". Please see the attached regarding blood donations for Vanceh. And, see the attached Bradley Scott Award information.

Proctor stated that a farewell party will be given for Michael Springer at The Resource Group from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 26, 2003. Springer's last day will be August 2, 2003.

Guajardo stated those that are interested please attend the Substance Abuse Work Group. See the attached for details.

Adjournment: Motion: it was moved and seconded (Walters, Jr., McKinney) to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Victoria Williams, Manager

8/7/03
Date

Draft Certified by
Council Chair: 

8/7/03
Date

Final Approval by
Council Chair: _____

Date