

## 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

12 noon, Thursday, December 11, 2014

Meeting Location: 2223 W. Loop South, Room 532

Houston, Texas 77027

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Steven Vargas, Chair	Greg Monk	Modelle Brudner, Liaison, Judge Emmett
Leslie Raneri, Secretary	Kevin Moore	Lynn Selzer
Ruth Atkinson	Teresa Pruitt	Brett Camp
Michael Bass	Cecilia Ross	
Curtis Bellard	C. Bruce Turner	<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>
David Benson	David Watson	<i>Ryan White Grant Administration</i>
Skeet Boyle	<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Carin Martin
Ella Collins-Nelson	Herman Finley, excused	Heather Keizman
Amber David	Roland Amboree, excused	
Evelio Salinas Escamilla	Melody Barr, excused	<i>The Resource Group</i>
Gene Ethridge	Bianca Burley, excused	Sha'Terra Johnson-Fairley
Gabriel Gonzalez	Rene de Buenrostro, excused	
Tracy Gorden	Jerry Garza	<i>Office of Support</i>
Connie Harris	Paul Gruenwald, excused	Tori Williams
J. Hoxi Jones	Shital Patel, excused	Amber Alvarez
Peta-gay Ledbetter	Eric Twombly, excused	Georgette L. Monaghan
Januari Leo	Nadine Wallace, excused	
Nancy Miertchin	Larry Woods, excused	

See attached chart for individual voting information

**Call to Order:** Steven Vargas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. and asked for a Moment of Reflection.

**Welcoming Remarks:** Vargas encouraged members to review the attached handouts: Outsmart article re: ACA and Ryan White, written by Morénike Giwa and the recommendation from the Operations Committee regarding 2015 meetings (to be voted on in February 2015). He also encouraged members to participate in the bake-off for the HIV and Aging Coalition. Many thanks to "Team Planning Council" with dessert bakers: Nancy Miertschin, Tracy Gorden, Januari Leo, Teresa Pruitt, Diane Beck and Tori Williams.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** **Motion #1:** *it was moved and seconded (Pruitt, Bellard) to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.* Abstention: Collins-Nelson.

**Adoption of the Minutes:** ***Motion #2:** it was moved and seconded (Turner, Atkinson) to adopt the November 13, 2014 minutes. **Motion carried.*** Abstentions: Bass, Benson, Collins-Nelson, Escamilla, Jones, Pruitt.

**Reports from Committees:**

**Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee:** Evelio Salinas Escamilla, Co-Chair, gave the following reports: Collaboration with Local Business Community: Per Activity 8.c. of the Comprehensive Plan which encourages collaboration with local businesses, the Committee created an ad-hoc workgroup tasked with developing a letter for distribution to local chambers of commerce that details speakers available to present HIV-related information of mutual interest at chamber of commerce meetings. See the attached letter and accompanying materials.

Year 2 Comprehensive Plan Evaluation Report: ***Motion #3:** Approve the Year 2 Comprehensive Plan Evaluation Report.* Discussion: Alvarez read through the attached highlights. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Health Insurance Enrollment Study: Alvarez gave a verbal report of preliminary findings from the study after which the Committee directed staff to share preliminary findings with the Administrative Agencies. In lieu of a full report in 2014, the Committee directed staff to use the findings to create an electronic message to educate consumers and promote Marketplace enrollment/renewal, and to conduct follow-up phone interviews with study participants when the second Open Enrollment period closes. See attached notes from verbal report.

Feasibility Special Study: Alvarez presented key findings from the Feasibility Study. The Committee will review and discuss the report further in December. See attached presentation. Vargas encouraged members to stay for today's committee meeting that will begin at 2:00 p.m. for more in-depth information.

Committee Activities Timeline: The Committee Activities Timeline was updated. Please see attached timeline.

**Affected Community Committee:** Gene Ethridge, Co-Chair, reported on the following:

Training: The Needs of the HIV Community in Baytown: FYI: Committee members met at the Legacy-Baytown Clinic, a family practice clinic with a large behavioral health component. The clinic offers HIV testing, eligibility screening, referral to Legacy-Montrose for HIV specialty care, but will provide general care for HIV consumers if they have a non-HIV issue like a cold or the flu.

2014 Community Events: See the attached list of 2014 World AIDS Day events. Committee members made an effort to attend as many of these events as possible.

2014 Greeters: See the attached list of greeters for the 2014 Council meetings.

Project LEAP 2015: Please help recruit applicants for Project LEAP 2015.

Quarterly Committee Report: See the attached report.

**Quality Assurance Committee:** Cecilia Ross, Co-Chair, gave the following report:

FY 2015 Data Report: Eighteen individuals participated in the Joint Committee meeting to review data reports. The administrative agencies agreed to revise all reports so that older age will be broken down as follows: 50 - 64 and 64 & older. The Resource Group agreed to date all of their reports. The Priority and Allocations Committee is going to continue to look at ways to revise the form used for increased funding requests.

FY 2015 Standards of Care, Performance & Outcome Measures: ***Motion #4:*** *Approve the attached recommendations regarding the FY 2015 Standards of Care and Performance/Outcome Measures.* Discussion: Martin stated that on page 1, under ORAL HEALTH, 1.2 will NOT change. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Quarterly Committee Report: See the attached report.

**Priority and Allocations Committee:** No report.

**Operations Committee:** David Watson, Co-Chair, reported on the following:

2014 Project LEAP Evaluation: See the attached evaluation and 2012 – 2014 budget reports.

2015 Project LEAP: Student Selection: ***Motion #5:*** *Approve the attached student selection guidelines.* ***Motion carried.*** Abstention: Turner.

2015 Project LEAP: FY 2015 Service Definition: ***Motion #6:*** *Approve the attached service definition.* ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Election of the 2015 Council Officers: Watson opened the floor for additional nominations: Ross nominated Connie Harris for the Secretary Position, Harris agreed to run.

***Motion #7:*** *Approve the attached slate of nominees for Officers for the 2015 Ryan White Planning Council with the addition of Connie Harris for Secretary.* ***Motion carried unanimously.***

Each candidate stated their qualifications for their respective positions.

Ballots were distributed. Williams reminded members that, per the new election policy, voters must write their name on each ballot. Ballots without the voter's name will not be counted in the election results.

While ballots were being tallied the following certificates were presented:

- Leadership – all members of the 2014 Steering Committee
- Appreciation – the 3 people who are retiring (Jerry Garza, Gabriel Gonzalez and Greg Monk); those who have resigned in last 6 months (Chris Escalante and Terrance Redix).
- Perfect Attendance – for Council and/or standing committees

The following individuals were elected by ballot: Chair-Steven Vargas, Vice-Chair-Tracy Gorden and Secretary-Connie Harris.

Important 2015 Council Date: Please note that the 2015 all-day Council Orientation is scheduled for Thursday, January 29, 2015 at Trevisio's Restaurant. Former members are asked to arrive at 10:00 a.m. New appointees and members of the Operations Committee are asked to arrive at 8:15 a.m.

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

**Report from Ryan White Grant Administration (RWGA):** Carin Martin, Manager, summarized the attached report. Martin stated that the Notice of Award for Carryover Funds has been received.

**Report from The Resource Group:** Sha-Terra Johnson-Fairley, Health Planner, summarized the attached report.

**New Business:**

**Ryan White Part C Urban and Part D:** See Miertschin's attached report

**Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC):** No report.

**HOPWA:** No report.

**Update from Task Forces:**

- **African American:** David stated that February 7, 2015 is National Black HIV Awareness Day. See Watson about related testing events.
- **Latino:** See Vargas's attached report.
- **MSM:** See Vargas's attached report.
- **Transgender:** No report.
- **Youth:** No report.
- **Hepatitis C:** See Vargas's attached report.
- **Urban AIDS Ministry:** David shared another personal success story that came from testing in the faith based community.

**HIV and Aging Group:** Atkinson stated that it is estimated that by 2015 50% of the HIV/AIDS population will be over 50 years of age. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual HIV/AIDS Aging Christmas Party will be this Saturday, see attached flyer. Atkinson gave kudos to Turner for all his hard work the past two years.

**Legislative Updates:** Leo stated the upcoming 84<sup>th</sup> Texas legislative session will begin on January 13, 2015.

**Texas HIV/AIDS Coalition:** Leo stated that Advocacy Day in Austin is on Wednesday, February 18, 2015. Buses will be leaving from Houston for the one day trip at 6:00 a.m. and returning at 8:00 p.m. Leo encouraged everyone to attend as public citizens and leaders in the community. Breakfast/lunch/training will be provided, all one needs to do is show up.

**SPNS Grant: HIV and the Homeless Program:** See Miertschin's attached report.

**Announcements:**

- Miertschin stated that Harris County Health Systems now has the equipment to perform 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Testing. In the first 45 days they have confirmed 5 acute cases out of 14000 tested. It is exciting how effective this new type of testing is in finding acutely affected people.
- Moore stated that as a Greeter today, he appreciated everyone being here and being on time.
- Ledbetter announced that she is the current "Mrs. Pearland, Texas". In March she will be competing for Mrs. Texas International. Part of her platform will be talking about women's issues and she will include Women and HIV in her speeches.
- Ross announced her engagement.



MEMBERS	Motion #3			Motion #4				Motion #3			Motion #4				
	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES		NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		
Steven Vargas, Chair				C			C	Kevin Moore	X				X		
Leslie Raneri, Secretary, 12:09		X			X			Teresa Pruitt	X				X		
Ruth Atkinson		X			X			Cecilia Ross, 12:09	X				X		
Michael Bass		X			X			C. Bruce Turner	X				X		
Curtis Bellard		X			X			David Watson	X				X		
David Benson		X			X										
Skeet Boyle		X			X			<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>							
Ella Collins-Nelson		X			X			Herman Finley							
Amber David, 12:11		X			X			Roland Amboree							
Evelio Salinas Escamilla		X			X			Melody Barr							
Gene Ethridge		X			X			Bianca Burley							
Gabriel Gonzalez		X			X			Rene de Buenrosto							
Tracy Gorden		X			X			Jerry Garza							
Connie Harris, 12:09		X			X			Paul Gruenwald							
J. Hoxi Jones		X			X			Shital Patel							
Peta-gay Ledbetter, 12:12	X				X			Eric Twombly							
Januari Leo		X			X			Nadine Wallace							
Nancy Miertchin		X			X			Larry Woods							
Greg Monk		X			X										



C = Chair of the meeting lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room VP = Via phone																	
	Motion #7	Operations-Elections	Carried		Motion #	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		Motion #7	Operations-Elections	Carried		Motion #	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MEMBERS	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Steven Vargas, Chair				C				C	Kevin Moore	X							
Leslie Raneri, Secretary, 12:09	X								Teresa Pruitt	X							
Ruth Atkinson	X								Cecilia Ross, 12:09	X							
Michael Bass	X								C. Bruce Turner	X							
Curtis Bellard	X								David Watson	X							
David Benson	X																
Skeet Boyle	X								<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>								
Ella Collins-Nelson	X								Herman Finley								
Amber David, 12:11	X								Roland Amboree								
Evelio Salinas Escamilla	X								Melody Barr								
Gene Ethridge	X								Bianca Burley								
Gabriel Gonzalez	X								Rene de Buenrostro								
Tracy Gorden	X								Jerry Garza								
Connie Harris, 12:09	X								Paul Gruenwald								
J. Hoxi Jones	X								Shital Patel								
Peta-gay Ledbetter, 12:12	X								Eric Twombly								
Januari Leo	X								Nadine Wallace								
Nancy Miertchin	X								Larry Woods								
Greg Monk	X																