

# Council Approved July 9, 2015

## 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, June 11, 2015

Meeting Location: Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church  
2025 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street; Houston, Texas 77008

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Steven Vargas, Chair	Arlene Johnson	Brett Camp, AIDS Healthcare Foundation
Tracy Gorden, Vice-Chair	John Lazo	Lynn Selzer, Gilead
Connie Harris, Secretary	Peta-gay Ledbetter	Eddie Zomper
Roland Amboree	Januari Leo	Project LEAP students-see attached
Ted Artiaga	Nancy Miertschin	
Ruth Atkinson	Kevin Moore	<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>
Melody Barr	Robert Noble	<i>Ryan White Grant Administration</i>
Curtis Bellard	Shital Patel	Carin Martin
David Benson	Teresa Pruitt	Tasha Traylor
Skeet Boyle	Cecilia Ross	
Tana Brown	Carol Suazo	<i>The Resource Group</i>
Bianca Burley	C. Bruce Turner	Patrick Martin
Ella Collins-Nelson	David Watson	
Amber David	Larry Woods	<i>Office of Support</i>
Evelio Salinas Escamilla		Tori Williams
Gene Ethridge	<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Amber Alvarez
Herman Finley	Chad Brandt, excused	Diane Beck
Paul Grunenwald	J. Hoxi Jones, excused	
Steven Harris	Leslie Raneri, excused	
Angela F. Hawkins		

See attached chart for individual voting information

Call to Order: Steven Vargas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.; he welcomed the Project LEAP students and thanked RMCC for use of their facility. Vargas asked for a moment of reflection.

Adoption of the Agenda: ***Motion #1:*** *it was moved and seconded (Escamilla, Amboree) to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.*

Adoption of the Minutes: ***Motion #2:*** *it was moved and seconded (Presley, C. Harris) to adopt the May 14, 2015 minutes. Motion carried.* Abstentions: Grunenwald, Ledbetter, Turner.

**Project LEAP Presentation:** Alvarez and the Project LEAP students presented the results of the mini needs assessment on Long Term HIV Survivors that was designed by the class. See the attached PowerPoint presentation for details.

**Public Comments and Announcements:** C. Harris read the Planning Council guidelines regarding public comment. Bret Camp, AIDS Healthcare Foundation stated that the Houston healthcare center will have its grand opening and open house on July 26, 2015 from 12pm – 2pm at 1200 Binz Street, Suite 1290; Houston, TX 77004. The clinic accepts all: insured, uninsured and under insured patients. He will leave flyers with this information and his business cards on the sign in table.

Vargas then directed the Council to review the written Public Comment that was at their place.

**Reports from Committees:**

**Affected Community Committee:** Gene Ethridge, Co-Chair, reported on the following: The May Committee meeting was cancelled due to significant weather events throughout Houston.

**Priority and Allocations Committee:** Bruce Turner, Co-Chair, reported on the following: FY 2015 Allocations: ***Motion #3:*** *Approve the attached FY 2015 allocations for Ryan White Part A and MAI funding.* **Motion carried.** **Abstentions:** Barr, Artiaga, Benson, David, Finley, Leo, Miertschin, Noble, Patel, Woods.

FY 2016 Service Priorities: On Thursday, May 28, 2015 the committee created the recommended FY 2016 Service Priorities for Ryan White Parts A and B and State Services. These recommendations, along with the FY 2016 allocations, will be presented at the June 29, 2015 Public Hearing and move forward to the Steering Committee and Council for final approval in July 2015.

**Quality Assurance Committee:** Cecilia Ross, Co-Chair, gave the following report: Public Comment: Please see two enclosed public comments.

Reports from Administrative Agent – Part A : See the attached report:

- FY14 RW Part A & MAI Service Utilization, dated 05/21/15

Reports from Administrative Agent – Part B/SS: See the attached reports:

- FY14/15 RW Part B Procurement, dated 05/21/15
- FY14/15 State Services Procurement, dated 05/21/15
- FY14/15 RW Part B Service Utilization, dated 04/20/15
- FY14/15 State Services Service Utilization, dated 04/16/15
- RW Health Insurance Service Utilization, dated 04/06/15
- RW Health Insurance Service Utilization, dated 05/05/15

Oral Health Care Resources for Children: See the attached report on Oral Health Resources for Children (per a request from a How To Best Meet the Need Workgroup).

Ryan White Health Insurance Assistance Program: See the attached information from the Texas Department of State Health Services which was used during the How To Best Meet the Need process.

FY 2016 Ryan White Service Definitions – Parts A & B & State Services: Artiaga asked about the change in financial eligibility. P. Martin explained that for ACA plans, consumers below 100% and above 400% of FPL are not eligible for subsidies which means we would pay for their entire insurance premium. Williams said that the committee also approved a grandfather clause so that those who are above 400% or below 100% and currently receiving assistance can continue to receive assistance.

**Motion #4:** *Approve the attached FY 2016 Ryan White service definitions for Parts A and B and State Services funding, pending significant comments from the June 2015 Public Hearing. **Motion Carried.***  
Abstentions: Barr, Artiaga, Benson, David, Finley, Leo, Miertschin, Noble, Patel, Woods.

Checklist for the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanisms: **Motion #5:** *Approve the attached checklist for the 2015 Assessment of the Administrative Mechanisms. **Motion carried unanimously.***

Committee Name Change: **Motion #6:** *Change the committee name from the Quality Assurance Committee to the Quality Improvement Committee, see attached HRSA definitions. **Motion carried unanimously.***

Quarterly Committee Report: See the attached Quarterly Committee Report.

**Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee:** Nancy Miertschin, Co-Chair, gave the following reports:  
Speakers Bureau Update: In April, Nike Blue gave a presentation and female condom demonstration at National Women of Achievement Health and Wellness Breakfast. Approximately 120 women were in attendance, with 5 attendees under the age of 24. As many Chambers of Commerce go on hiatus over the summer months, local rotary clubs, Kiwanis clubs, and senior centers will be targeted for Speakers Bureau engagements.

Enrollment Special Study Phase II: As of May 14, staff had conducted two Phase II enrollment surveys. One respondent reported obtaining employer-based insurance since the Phase I survey, and the other did not enroll as she obtained Medicaid coverage. Surveying is slated for completion by June 11, 2015.

2015 Public Hearing Topics: The Committee supported staff recommendations for Phase I of the Health Insurance Enrollment Special Study as the topic for the May 26 public hearing, and the Project LEAP Mini-Needs Assessment Survey as the topic for the June 29 public hearing.

Timeline Update: Activities for the next Comprehensive Plan and Needs Assessment will begin this fall. While these independent processes are not typically conducted simultaneously, delay in the development of the next Comprehensive Plan was necessary pending joint plan guidance from HRSA and CDC.

Early Identification of Individuals with HIV/AIDS (EIIHA): The first EIIHA Workgroup meeting took place on May 21, 2015. The purpose of the meeting was to review the FY 2015 EIIHA Plan and discuss potential special data requests for the FY 2016 EIIHA planning process to be conducted late summer 2016.

**Motion #7:** *In order to meet anticipated HRSA grant application deadlines, request that the Planning Council allow the Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee to have final approval of the FY 2016 EIIHA Plan as long as:*

1. *The FY 2016 EIIHA Plan is developed through a collaborative process that includes stakeholders from prevention and care, community members, and consumers; and*
2. *The recommended FY 2016 EIIHA Plan is distributed to Planning Council members for input prior to final approval from the Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee.*

**Motion carried.**

Quarterly Committee Report: See the attached Quarterly Committee Report

**Operations Committee:** Curtis Bellard, Co-Chair, gave the following report:  
2017 – 2018 Blue Book: **Motion #8:** *Approve the 2017 – 2018 Blue Book Project and budget.* **Motion carried unanimously.**

FY 2016 Council Support Budget: **Motion #9:** *Approve the attached FY 2016 Council Support Budget.* **Motion carried unanimously.**

Ryan White Public Comment Form: **Motion #10:** *Approve the attached, revised Public Comment form.* **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Report from Office of Support:** Tori Williams, Manager, summarized the attached report. Williams stated that there has been a problem the last few months with meeting packets not being delivered on time. This is not because Georgette retired but most likely because the US Postal Service closed the downtown sorting center and moved it near the airport. It seems dropping the mail at the Timmons Post Office may help, but that has only been tried once. The Office of Support will also include the packets digitally in the email reminders when the size is not too large; and meeting packets will put them on the website for members to view and print.

**Report from Ryan White Grant Administration (RWGA):** Carin Martin, Manager, summarized the attached report.

**Report from The Resource Group:** Patrick Martin summarized the attached report. He encouraged everyone to attend the Serving the Incarcerated and Recently Released (SIRR) meeting on June 24, 2015 at the Montrose Center because there will be many speakers since the May meeting was cancelled due to area flooding. He added that the meeting is a great place to get resources for those who serve the incarcerated and recently released population.

**New Business:**

**Medical Updates:** Shital Patel, MD reported on the attached articles.

**Ryan White Part C Urban and Part D:** No report.

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

**HOPWA:** No report.

**Community Prevention Group (CPG):** No report.

**Update from Task Forces:**

- **African American:** Finley stated the next meeting will be tomorrow, June 12<sup>th</sup> at the Fifth Ward Multi-Service Center. This summer they will have 2 teen events - Houston Jam and a State of Emergency outreach event.
- **Latino:** See Vargas's attached report.
- **MSM:** Artiaga reported that he was not at the MPact meeting but he got an update from the chair: They discussed Pride testing, both HACS and Planned Parenthood will be testing in a tent. They welcomed Maggie from Dr Crofoot's office while discussing PrEP and possible ways to approach empowering direct client workers and community members.
- **Youth:** Lazo reported that the Care Transition event was a huge success. This was an informational event for those transitioning from pediatric care to adult primary care. He promoted the Blue Book app and 2016 Project LEAP. The next meeting will be 10:00 a.m.–

2:00 p.m. on July 14<sup>th</sup> at the Leonel Castillo Neighborhood Center 2101 South St, Houston, TX, 77009.

- **Hepatitis C:** See Vargas's attached report.
- **Texas HIV/AIDS Coalition/Legislative Updates:** See Januari Leo's attached report.
- **SPNS Grant: HIV and the Homeless Program:** Miertschin reported that they attended a grantee meeting last week. There are currently over 110 clients enrolled in the program. They have a site visit coming up soon.

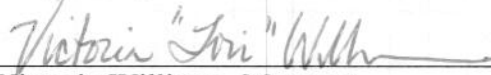
**Announcements:**

Miertschin said that she attended an HIV/HCV summit with Dr. Giordano. The national treatment cascade shows a 40% retention rate, ours is much better. She presented on five years of routine testing in emergency rooms and fourth generation testing for acute infection. Funding for service linkage workers goes a long way to link newly diagnosed to care.

Connie Harris is getting married; she introduced her fiancé and said that everyone was invited to the wedding.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

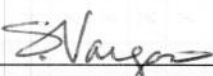
Respectfully submitted,

  
Victoria Williams, Manager

06/30/15  
Date

Draft Certified by  
Council Chair: 

Date 07/02/15

Final Approval by  
Council Chair: 

Date 07/09/15

Council Voting Records for June 11, 2015

C = Chair of the meeting lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room VP = Via phone	Motion #1 Agenda Carried				Motion #2 Minutes Carried				Motion #3 FY15 Allocations Carried				MEMBERS	Motion #1 Agenda Carried				Motion #2 Minutes Carried				Motion #3 FY15 Allocations Carried			
	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		MEMBERS	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO
				C				C				C	Angela F. Hawkins		X				X				X		
	X				X				X				Arlene Johnson	X				X				X			
	X				X				X				John Lazo		X			X				X			
	X				X				X				Peta-gay Ledbetter		X				X			X			
	X				X						X		Januari Leo		X			X							X
	X				X				X				Nancy Miertschin		X			X							X
X				X							X		Kevin Moore		X			X				X			
	X				X				X				Robert Noble		X			X							X
	X				X						X		Shital Patel		X			X							X
	X				X				X				Teresa Pruitt		X			X				X			
	X				X				X				Cecilia Ross		X			X				X			
	X				X				X				Carol Suazo		X			X				X			
	X				X				X				C. Bruce Turner		X				X			X			
	X				X						X		David Watson		X			X							X
	X				X				X				Larry Woods		X			X							X
	X				X				X				<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>												
	X				X						X		Chad Brandt												
	X						X		X				J. Hoxi Jones												
	X				X				X				Leslie Raneri												

Council Voting Records for June 11, 2015

C = Chair of the meeting lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room VP = Via phone	Motion #4 FY16 Service Definitions Carried				Motion #5 Assessment of AA Checklist Carried				Motion #6 QA name change Carried				MEMBERS	Motion #4 FY16 Service Definitions Carried				Motion #5 Assessment of AA Checklist Carried				Motion #6 QA name change Carried			
	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		MEMBERS	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO
				C				C				C	Angela F. Hawkins		X				X				X		
		X				X				X			Arlene Johnson	X					X				X		
		X				X				X			John Lazo		X				X				X		
		X				X				X			Peta-gay Ledbetter		X				X				X		
				X		X				X			Januari Leo				X		X				X		
		X				X				X			Nancy Miertschin				X		X				X		
				X		X				X			Kevin Moore lm 12:55pm	X				X				X			
		X				X				X			Robert Noble				X		X				X		
				X		X				X			Shital Patel				X		X				X		
		X				X				X			Teresa Pruitt		X				X				X		
		X				X				X			Cecilia Ross		X				X				X		
		X				X				X			Carol Suazo		X				X				X		
		X				X				X			C. Bruce Turner		X				X				X		
				X		X				X			David Watson				X		X				X		
		X				X				X			Larry Woods				X		X				X		
		X				X				X			<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>												
				X		X				X			Chad Brandt												
		X				X				X			J. Hoxi Jones												
		X				X				X			Leslie Raneri												

Council Voting Records for June 11, 2015

C = Chair of the meeting lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room VP = Via phone	Motion #7 EIIHA Carried				Motion #8 2017-18 Blue Book Carried					Motion #7 EIIHA Carried				Motion #8 2017-18 Blue Book Carried			
	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		MEMBERS	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO
MEMBERS									MEMBERS								
Steven Vargas, Chair				C				C	Angela F. Hawkins		X				X		
Tracy Gorden, Vice-Chair		X				X			Arlene Johnson		X				X		
Connie Harris, Secretary		X				X			John Lazo		X				X		
Roland Amboree, lm 1:32pm		X				X			Peta-gay Ledbetter, lm 1:27pm		X				X		
Ted Artiaga		X				X			Januari Leo		X				X		
Ruth Atkinson		X				X			Nancy Miertschin		X				X		
Melody Barr, lm 1:36pm			X			X			Kevin Moore lm 12:55pm	X				X			
Curtis Bellard		X				X			Robert Noble, lm 1:45pm		X				X		
David Benson		X				X			Shital Patel		X				X		
Skeet Boyle, lm 1:32pm		X				X			Teresa Pruitt		X				X		
Tana Brown		X				X			Cecilia Ross, lm 1:06pm	X				X			
Bianca Burley		X				X			Carol Suazo		X				X		
Ella Collins-Nelson, lm 1:29pm		X				X			C. Bruce Turner			X			X		
Amber David, lm 1:32pm		X				X			David Watson		X				X		
Evelio Salinas Escamilla			X			X			Larry Woods	X				X			
Gene Ethridge		X				X			<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>								
Herman Finley		X				X			Chad Brandt								
Paul Grunenwald		X				X			J. Hoxi Jones								
Steven Harris		X				X			Leslie Raneri								



Council Voting Records for June 11, 2015

C = Chair of the meeting lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room VP = Via phone	Motion #9 Council Support Budget Carried				Motion #10 Public Comment Form Carried					Motion #9 Council Support Budget Carried				Motion #10 Public Comment Form Carried			
	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MEMBERS									MEMBERS								
Steven Vargas, Chair				C				C	Angela F. Hawkins		X				X		
Tracy Gorden, Vice-Chair		X				X			Arlene Johnson		X				X		
Connie Harris, Secretary		X				X			John Lazo		X				X		
Roland Amboree		X				X			Peta-gay Ledbetter		X				X		
Ted Artiaga		X				X			Januari Leo		X				X		
Ruth Atkinson		X				X			Nancy Miertschin		X				X		
Melody Barr		X				X			Kevin Moore lm 12:55pm	X				X			
Curtis Bellard		X				X			Robert Noble		X				X		
David Benson		X				X			Shital Patel		X				X		
Skeet Boyle		X				X			Teresa Pruitt		X				X		
Tana Brown		X					X		Cecilia Ross, lm 1:06pm	X				X			
Bianca Burley		X				X			Carol Suazo		X				X		
Ella Collins-Nelson		X					X		C. Bruce Turner		X				X		
Amber David		X					X		David Watson		X				X		
Evelio Salinas Escamilla		X				X			Larry Woods	X				X			
Gene Ethridge		X					X		<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>								
Herman Finley		X				X			Chad Brandt								
Paul Grunenwald		X				X			J. Hoxi Jones								
Steven Harris		X				X			Leslie Raneri								