

**HOUSTON AREA HIV SERVICES
RYAN WHITE PLANNING COUNCIL**



We envision an educated community where the needs of all persons living with HIV 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 living with and/or affected by HIV by taking a leadership role in the planning and assessment of HIV resources.

MINUTES

12 noon, Thursday, June 13, 2024

Meeting Location: Bering Church 1440 Harold Street; Houston, TX and Zoom teleconference

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair	Imran Shaikh	Ronnie Galley, Greeter
Ardry “Skeet” Boyle	Robert Sliepka	Kakeshia Locks, Greeter
Ryan Rose, Secretary	Crystal Renee Starr	Tyronika Tates, Greeter
Yvonne Arizpe	Steven Vargas	Josue Rodriguez, Co Judge’s Ofc
Titan Capri		Cdr Rodrigo Chavez
Johnny Deal		Rodrigo Arias
Kathryn Fergus	MEMBERS ABSENT	Destiny Davies
Kenia Gallardo	Kevin Aloysius, excused	
Glen Hollis	Laura Alvarez	STAFF PRESENT
Kenneth Jones	Servando Arellano	<i>Ryan White Grant Administration</i>
Denis Kelly	Jay Bhowmick, excused	Glenn Urbach
Peta-gay Ledbetter	Caleb Brown, excused	Mauricia Chatman
Cecilia Ligons	Johanna Castillo	Eric James
Roxane May	Tony Crawford	Frank Ruiz
Rodney Mills	Michael Elizabeth	
Bill Patterson	Norman Mitchell	<i>The Resource Group</i>
Tana Pradia	Diane Morgan	Sha’Terra Johnson
Beatriz Rivera	Shital M. Patel, excused	
Megan Rowe	Oscar Perez	<i>Office of Support</i>
Yolanda Ross	Pete Rodriguez, excused	Tori Williams
Evelio Salinas Escamilla	Carol Suazo	Diane Beck
Jose Serpa-Alvarez	Priscilla Willridge	

Call to Order: Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

During the opening remarks, Mica thanked everyone for participating on a committee or workgroup for the EHE/Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Planning body, also known as the Joint Planning body. Members were encouraged to look at the May 2024 Summary of Activity Report that was emailed earlier in the week and to sign up for workgroups and committees, if they haven’t already.

Mica continued as follows: at the May Council meeting, Eric James, the Assistant Program Manager at Ryan White Grant Administration, gave important updates on things that have been problematic in the Houston area HIV Care System. Since then, Eric and Steven Vargas have had some additional email conversations. Members should be sure to review these email questions and answers, which are included in the Council packet under “Public Comment”. These important conversations are appreciated and Glenn and his staff - as well as Council members – are appreciated because they are having these conversations. In the meantime, the Operations Committee is looking at ways where the Council can have regular conversations like this in addition to the How To Best Meet the Need workgroup meetings and within the confines of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

On Saturday, June 1st, Mica attended the Woodlands Pride Summit along with Dr. Patel and Tori. Dr. Patel and Mica were invited to be on a panel to address LGBTQ+ healthcare questions.

Mica then called for a Moment of Reflection.

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

Approval of the Minutes: Motion #2: it was moved and seconded (Starr, Kelly) to approve the May 9, 2024 minutes. Motion carried. Abstentions: Boyle, Escamilla, Mills, Shaikh.

Training: HHSC Medicaid Benefits: Roxane May, Texas Health & Human Services Commission Community Partner Program, presented the attached PowerPoint.

Public Comment and Announcements: See attached public comment in the Quality Improvement section of the meeting packet. Josue Rodriguez, County Judge’s Office, said that they really appreciate the work that the Council does and are still trying on finding a date when the County Judge can address the Council. He invited everyone to sign up as a volunteer for the Pride parade.

Escamilla introduced Judith Montenegro from the Latino Commission on AIDS.

Mica wished everyone Happy Pride and Juneteenth. He brought cake and invited everyone to help themselves.

Vargas said HRSA recommends one thing that we have not followed up on, to create a less formal space for discussion with no Robert’s Rules of Order where people can come and talk any way they feel comfortable. It would be good for the Council and the public to have this type of interaction. The answers to his questions are in the meeting packet, it took him four tries and nearly three weeks to get a reply. We need to seriously look at setting up a regular discussion space.

Reports from Committees

Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee: Robert Sliepka, Co-Chair, reported on the following:
2024 Houston HIV Needs Assessment: Data collection has ended and the information is being entered into the software so that the Interim Health Planner can analyze and present it to the Priority and Allocations Committee in July.

2024 Houston Area HIV Epidemiological Profile: Beth Allen, the Interim Health Planner is working with City Health Department staff and Nithya Lakshmi Mohem Dass from Ryan White Grant Administration to produce the 2024 Epidemiological Supplement.

EHE/Integrated Planning Body: The summary of May Committee and Workgroup activities, as well as the July meeting schedule, has been distributed to all Council members.

EHE/Integrated Planning Body: Please be sure to attend the hybrid meeting of the Leadership Team on June 27th at 4:00 p.m. Eliot Davis will be giving an update on all activities in the Houston Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan.

Affected Community Committee: Johnny Deal, Co-Chair, reported on the following:

EHE/Integrated Planning Body: Members of the Affected Community Committee in conjunction with the Consumer and Community Engagement Workgroup have started to create an inventory of HIV resources on Houston area colleges and universities.

2024 Project LEAP and Proyecto VIDA: Members of the Affected Community Committee have begun to recruit students for the 2024 Project LEAP and Proyecto VIDA classes, which will start at the end of July or early August. Please see Tori if you can help with recruitment.

Quality Improvement Committee: Tana Pradia, Co-Chair, reported on the following:

See the attached reports from the Part A/Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Administrative Agent:

- FY23 Procurement Report – Part A/MAI, dated 04/16/24
- FY23 Service Utilization – Part A/MAI, dated 04/15/24

See the attached reports from the Part B/State Services Administrative Agent:

- FY 23/24 Procurement Report – Part B, dated 05/01/24
- FY 23/24 Service Utilization Report – Part B, dated 04/26/24
- FY 23/24 Procurement Report – State Services, dated 05/01/24
- FY 23/24 Health Insurance Assistance Program, dated 04/22/24

Public Comment Regarding FY25 Ryan White Service Categories: Please see the four attached comments.

FY 2025 Service Definitions and Financial Eligibility: **Motion #3:** *Approve the attached FY 2025 Service Definitions and Financial Eligibility recommendations for Ryan White Part A/MAI, Part B and State Services funded services. See the attached Summary of How To Best Meet the Need recommendations (neon green paper) and financial eligibility (on the Table of Contents).* **Motion Carried.** Abstention: Kelly.

Targeting Information for the FY 2025 Service Categories: **Motion #4:** Approve the attached Targeting Chart for Ryan White Part A/MAI, Part B and State Services funded service categories (neon pink paper). **Motion Carried.** Abstention: Kelly.

Priority and Allocations Committee: Rodney Mills, Co-Chair, reported on the following:

The Committee did not meet since they will be creating the list of FY 2025 service priorities in July instead of May.

Operations Committee: Cecilia Ligons, Co-Chair, reported on the following:

FY 2025 Council Support Budget: **Motion #5:** *Approve the attached FY 2025 Council Support Budget.* **Motion Carried.**

Read AI Policy: **Motion #6:** *Artificial Intelligence (AI) will not be allowed at any Ryan White sponsored meetings and a written statement regarding this policy will be included on all meeting agendas, programs and other appropriate materials.* **Motion Carried.**

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

Report from Ryan White Grant Administration: Glenn Urbach, Manager, summarized the attached report.

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

Task Force Reports: The Council agreed several years ago that they preferred not to have verbal Task Force Reports while meeting on Zoom. The Office of Support is happy to receive and distribute written reports in advance of all Council meetings.

Announcements: Josue Rodriguez said on Juneteenth the Judge is hosting a tour of the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection at the Houston Holocaust Museum from 10:30 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. and invited those who are interested to attend.

Vargas said that the ADAP Advocacy Network will be meeting in Houston tomorrow.

Arizpe said they are having a picnic sign making party for the Pride Parade at Menil Park on Sunday. She will forward information to be shared with the Council.

Vargas said that Rivera’s birthday is Sunday.

Adjournment: Motion: it was moved and seconded (Starr, Deal) to adjourn the meeting at 2:01 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Williams, Director

Date _____

Draft Certified by
Council Chair: _____

Date _____

Final Approval by
Council Chair: _____

Date _____

Council Voting Records for June 13, 2024

C = Chair of the meeting ja = Just arrived lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room	Motion #1 Agenda Carried				Motion #2 Minutes Carried				Motion #3 FY25 Svc Cat Definitions & Fin Eligibility Carried				Motion #1 Agenda Carried				Motion #2 Minutes Carried				Motion #3 FY25 Svc Cat Definitions & Fin Eligibility Carried															
	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN												
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Ardry “Skeet” Boyle, Vice Chair		X				X				X			Robert Sliepka		X				X				X				X									
Ryan Rose, Secretary		X				X				X			Crystal Renee Starr		X				X				X				X									
Yvonne Arizpe		X				X				X			Steven Vargas		X				X				X				X									
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Jose Serpa-Alvarez		X				X				X			Priscilla Willridge																							

C = Chair of the meeting ja = Just arrived lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room	Motion #4 FY25 Targeting Chart Carried				Motion #5 FY25 Council Support Budget Carried				Motion #6 Read AI Policy Carried								Motion #4 FY25 Targeting Chart Carried				Motion #5 FY25 Council Support Budget Carried				Motion #6 Read AI Policy 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	ABSTAIN			
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Ardry “Skeet” Boyle, Vice Chair		X				X				X			Robert Sliepka		X				X				X					
Ryan Rose, Secretary		X				X				X			Crystal Renee Starr		X				X				X					
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