

# COUNCIL APPROVED DECEMBER 12, 2024

## 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, November 14, 2024

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

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair	Laura Alvarez	2024 Project LEAP Students
Ardry “Skeet” Boyle	Jay Bhowmick	2024 Proyecto VIDA Students
Ryan Rose, Secretary	Johanna Castillo	Ronnie Galley, Greeter
Kevin Aloysius	Tony Crawford	Kakeshia Locks, Greeter
Servando Arellano	Michael Elizabeth	Charles Henley, Consultant
Yvonne Arizpe	Kenia Gallardo	Shabaura Perryman
Caleb Brown	Kenneth Jones	
Titan Capri	Denis Kelly, excused	<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>
Johnny Deal	Cecilia Ligons, excused	<i>Ryan White Grant Administration</i>
Kathryn Fergus	Roxane May	Glenn Urbach
Glen Hollis	Norman Mitchell	James Supak
Peta-gay Ledbetter	Diane Morgan	Eric James
Rodney Mills	Oscar Perez	Mauricia Chatman
Bill Patterson	Pete Rodriguez, excused	Jason Black
Shital M. Patel	Jose Serpa-Alvarez	Kevin Lara
Tana Pradia	Imran Shaikh	
Beatriz Rivera		<i>The Resource Group</i>
Yolanda Ross		Sha’Terra Johnson
Megan Rowe		
Evelio Salinas Escamilla		<i>Office of Support</i>
Robert Sliepka		Tori Williams
Crystal Renee Starr		Diane Beck
Carol Suazo		Rod Avila
Steven Vargas		
Priscilla Willridge		

**Call to Order:** Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

During the opening remarks Mica said that the Presidential election took place and, starting in January,

we will start to see the impact of the new administration on HIV prevention and care services. On Tuesday, November 12th, Cecilia, Yvonne, Birdie and Josh received a World AIDS Day resolution at Commissioners Court on behalf of the Council. We were also happy to have Frinaldo Curl from the Harris County Health Department join us to say a few words about prevention. At today's meeting, the 2024 Project LEAP and Proyecto VIDA students are with us to introduce themselves and tell us about their class projects. They are also here to observe the Council in action.

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.*

**Approval of the Minutes: Motion #2:** *it was moved and seconded (Deal, Boyle) to approve the October 10, 2024 minutes. Motion carried.* Abstentions: Mills, Starr.

**2024 Project LEAP and Proyecto VIDA Class Project Presentations:** Williams explained that annually, the students in each Project LEAP and Proyecto VIDA class design and participate in a special project. Rowe worked with the LEAP students and Suazo worked with the VIDA students on collecting information for the creation of housing related resource pamphlets which Avila and Beck formatted for printing. Williams worked with students on the Youth Resources pamphlet, which Diane formatted for printing. The students presented their findings and described their experience working on each pamphlet. See the attached brochures.

**We Appreciate Our Affiliate Committee Members:** Mica stated that our Affiliate Committee members put in many hours serving on Ryan White committees. They enrich committee discussions by bringing important expertise to the table as professionals and those with lived experience. We appreciate their commitment to the Ryan White process and are pleased that - along with our 41 Council members - the Houston Council has a total of 57 appointed volunteers who are actively involved in creating the Houston area Ryan White funded HIV care system. As you know, the Houston Ryan White care system provides medical care, medication and support to 15,000 PLWH. Mica invited Affiliate Committee members Locks and Galley to receive their certificates of appreciation on behalf of all Affiliate members. He then read the names of the 2024 Affiliate Committee members and said that certificates will be mailed to all members.

**Public Comment and Announcements:** None.

### **Reports from Committees**

**Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee:** Robert Sliepka, Co-Chair reported on the following: 2024 Houston Area HIV Epidemiological Supplement: **Motion #3**: *Endorse the attached, 2024 Houston Area HIV Epidemiological Supplement, which will include a few suggested edits. Motion Carried.* Abstention: Starr.

2024 Houston Area HIV Epidemiological Supplement: The 2024 Epidemiological Supplement would not have been created without significant collaboration and the hard work of Bingjie Li, Alamou Sanoussi and Imran Shaikh from the Houston Health Department. Also, Nithya Lakshmi Mohan Dass from Ryan White Grant Administration and Beth Allen, the Interim Health Planner in the Ryan White Office of Support. Also, thanks to Sha'Terra Johnson for providing HSDA data. Many thanks to all.

Spanish Translation: **Motion #4**: *Translate the 2024 Epidemiological Supplement into Spanish. (Note: The Committee prefers to make a decision about translation as each document is finalized.) Motion Carried.*

2024 HIV Prevention & Care Needs Assessment: The Interim Health Planner is working to complete the 2024 HIV Prevention and Care Needs Assessment, which is scheduled to be reviewed at the November 14, 2024 Committee meeting.

Updates on the Joint Planning Body: Williams said that the Leadership Team will meet in December. The committees and workgroups will start up again in January.

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

FY 2025 Standards of Care: Consumer-only members of the Committee and of two EHE/Integrated Planning workgroups met jointly to discuss and provide input into the FY 2025 Standards of Care. Staff from Ryan White Grant Administration and The Resource Group took notes and will report back to the group.

Ryan White Information Table at City/County Joint Training: Members of the Committee hosted a table at the bi-annual, case management and disease intervention specialist joint training. Materials provided included information on Planning Council and Affiliate Committee membership, Project LEAP, Projecto VIDA and more.

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

Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) Proposed FY 2025 Standards of Care: TDSHS welcomes input into the FY 2025 proposed changes to Part B funded standards of care. See the attached standards for Mental Health and Oral Health. Please submit all comments to Sha'Terra Johnson, The Resource Group, at: [sjohnson@hivtrg.org](mailto:sjohnson@hivtrg.org).

New FY 2025 Service Definitions: ***Motion #5:*** *Approve the attached FY 2025 service definitions for Home Delivered Meals, Housing – Temporary Assisted Living, and Legal Assistance – Expungement of Criminal Record.* **Motion Carried.** Abstention: Starr.

Updates on the Distribution of Bus Passes: When invited to provide updates related to the distribution of bus passes at Ryan White funded agencies, Urbach said that agencies have been notified that clients are now able to get a bus pass at any RW agency. They are in the process of making changes to the CPCDMS in order for this to work. One agency is currently having issues with their case management services staffing but they say it should not be a problem for clients seeking bus passes. Chatman is collecting information from agencies about the translation issue and should have information for the Quality Improvement Committee later this month.

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

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

- FY24 Procurement Report – Part A/MAI, dated 10/09/24
- FY24 Service Utilization – Part A/MAI, dated 10/08/24

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

- FY24-25 Procurement Report – Part B, dated 10/03/24
- FY23-24 Procurement Report – State Services, dated 10/03/24
- FY23-24 Service Utilization – State Services, dated 10/10/24
- FY23-24 Health Insurance Assistance Service Utilization, dated 09/23/24

FY 2024 Ryan White Part A Allocation Increases: ***Motion #6:*** *Approve the recommendations for Ryan White Part A funding increases outlined on the attached chart.* **Motion Carried.**

FY 2024 Ryan White Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Allocation Increases: ***Motion #7:*** *Divide \$60,000 in unspent MAI dollars by allocating \$20,000 to each of the 3 MAI funded subrecipients who do not have*

unspent primary care or case management funds. **Motion Carried.** Abstentions: Aloysius, Arizpe, Patel, Rivera.

FY 2024 Unspent Ryan White Part A Funds: **Motion #8:** *In the final quarter of the FY 2024 Ryan White Part A, Part B and State Services grant years, after implementing the year end Council-approved reallocation of unspent funds and utilizing the existing 10% reallocation rule to the extent feasible, Ryan White Grant Administration (RWGA) may reallocate any remaining unspent funds as necessary to ensure the Houston EMA has less than 5% unspent Formula funds and no unspent Supplemental funds. The Resource Group (TRG) may reallocate any remaining unspent funds as necessary to ensure no funds are returned to the Texas Department of State Health Services. RWGA and TRG must inform the Council of these shifts no later than the next scheduled Ryan White Planning Council meeting.* **Motion Carried.** Abstention: Rivera.

FY 2024 Ryan White Part A Carryover Funds: **Motion #9:** *If there are FY 2024 Ryan White Part A carryover funds, it is the intent of the committee to recommend allocating the full amount to Outpatient/Ambulatory Primary Medical Care.* **Motion Carried.** Abstentions: Aloysius, Arizpe, Patel, Rivera.

Quarterly Committee Report: See the attached Quarterly Committee Report

**Operations Committee:** Ryan Rose, Council Secretary, reported on the following:

Personnel Subcommittee: Patterson said that the committee has been meeting often and have interviewed a number of applicants with the goal of having three candidates to recommend to the County Judge.

Inflation: **Motion #10:** *In view of inflation, ask the Chair of the Planning Council to send a letter to the appropriate person in Harris County requesting them to increase the amount allowed for volunteers to be reimbursed for meals.* **Motion Carried.**

Alternative Policy for Members Speaking at Meetings: **Motion #11:** *Approve the revised, proposed procedure for members speaking at meetings, see attached.* **Motion Failed.** **Motion #12:** *it was moved and seconded (Rivera, Aloysius) to send the policy back to Operations for revision.* **Motion Carried.**

Council and Committee Input: **Motion #13:** *it was moved and seconded (Escamilla, Vargas) to give ex officio status, with the exception of voting, to Planning Council Members to allow them to speak outside of public comment at all Ryan White committee meetings.* **Motion Carried.** Abstention: Slieпка.

Election of 2025 Council Officers: **Motion #14:** *Accept the attached list of nominations for the election of the 2025 Council Officers. See the attached list of eligible nominees.* **Motion Carried.** Abstention: Starr.

**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:** Tiffany Shepherd, Executive Director, summarized the attached report.

**Medical Updates:** Patel presented information about the seventh patient cured of HIV that was presented at the International AIDS Conference in Munich. His treatment involved a stem cell transplant.

**Task Force Reports:** The Council agreed several years ago that they preferred not to have verbal Task Force Reports while using the hybrid meeting format. The Office of Support is happy to receive and distribute written reports in advance of all Council meetings. No reports were received this month.

**Announcements:** Vargas encouraged everyone to attend the Sharing Science Symposium on December 4th. Mica said that his organization will be holding a community health fair in Acres Homes on World AIDS Day. Beck has shared information about this via email and Facebook. Escamilla said that the Texas HIV Conference will be December 2-3, 2024 in Austin, and encouraged everyone to attend if possible.

**Adjournment: Motion:** *it was moved and seconded (Escamilla, Sliepka) to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 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 November 14, 2024

C = Chaired the meeting ja = Just arrived lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room	Motion #1 Agenda Carried				Motion #2 Minutes Carried				Motion #3 2024 Epi Supplement Carried				Motion #1 Agenda Carried				Motion #2 Minutes Carried				Motion #3 2024 Epi Supplement 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	
MEMBERS													MEMBERS												
Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair				C				C				C	Carol Suazo		X				X				X		
Ardry “Skeet” Boyle		X				X				X			Steven Vargas		X				X				X		
Ryan Rose, Secretary		X				X				X			Priscilla Willridge		X				X				X		
Kevin Aloysius		X				X				X															
Servando Arellano		X				X				X															
Yvonne Arizpe		X				X				X			<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>												
Caleb Brown		X				X				X			Laura Alvarez												
Titan Capri		X				X				X			Jay Bhowmick												
Johnny Deal		X				X				X			Johanna Castillo												
Kathryn Fergus		X				X				X			Tony Crawford												
Glen Hollis		X				X				X			Michael Elizabeth												
Peta-gay Ledbetter		X				X				X			Kenia Gallardo												
Rodney Mills		X						X		X			Kenneth Jones												
Bill Patterson		X				X				X			Denis Kelly												
Shital M. Patel		X				X				X			Cecilia Ligons												
Tana Pradia		X				X				X			Roxane May												
Beatriz Rivera		X				X				X			Norman Mitchell												
Yolanda Ross		X				X				X			Diane Morgan												
Megan Rowe		X				X				X			Oscar Perez												
Evelio Salinas Escamilla		X				X				X			Pete Rodriguez												
Robert Sliepka		X				X				X			Jose Serpa-Alvarez												
Crystal Renee Starr		X						X		X			Imran Shaikh												

C = Chaired the meeting ja = Just arrived lm = Left the meeting lr = Left the room	Motion #4 Translate the 2024 Epi Supplement Carried				Motion #5 New Service Definitions Carried				Motion #6 Pt A Allocation Increases Carried				Motion #4 Translate the 2024 Epi Supplement Carried				Motion #5 New Service Definitions Carried				Motion #6 Pt A Allocation Increases 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	
MEMBERS													MEMBERS												
Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair				C				C				C	Carol Suazo		X				X				X		
Ardry “Skeet” Boyle		X				X				X			Steven Vargas		X				X				X		
Ryan Rose, Secretary		X				X				X			Priscilla Willridge ja 12:25	X				X					X		
Kevin Aloysius		X				X				X															
Servando Arellano ja 12:25	X				X					X															
Yvonne Arizpe		X				X				X			<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>												
Caleb Brown		X				X				X			Laura Alvarez												
Titan Capri		X				X				X			Jay Bhowmick												
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Evelio Salinas Escamilla		X				X				X			Pete Rodriguez												
Robert Sliepka		X				X				X			Jose Serpa-Alvarez												
Crystal Renee Starr		X						X		X			Imran Shaikh												

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	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		MEMBERS	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO
MEMBERS													MEMBERS												
Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair				C				C				C	Carol Suazo		X				X				X		
Ardry “Skeet” Boyle		X				X				X			Steven Vargas		X				X				X		
Ryan Rose, Secretary		X				X				X			Priscilla Willridge		X				X				X		
Kevin Aloysius				X		X						X													
Servando Arellano		X				X				X															
Yvonne Arizpe				X		X						X	<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>												
Caleb Brown		X				X				X			Laura Alvarez												
Titan Capri		X				X				X			Jay Bhowmick												
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Robert Sliepka		X				X				X			Jose Serpa-Alvarez												
Crystal Renee Starr		X				X				X			Imran Shaikh												



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	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
MEMBERS													MEMBERS												
Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair				C				C				C	Carol Suazo		X					X			X		
Ardry “Skeet” Boyle		X					X			X			Steven Vargas		X					X			X		
Ryan Rose, Secretary		X					X			X			Priscilla Willridge		X					X			X		
Kevin Aloysius		X					X			X															
Servando Arellano		X					X			X															
Yvonne Arizpe		X					X			X			<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>												
Caleb Brown		X					X			X			Laura Alvarez												
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Crystal Renee Starr		X					X			X			Imran Shaikh												

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	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		MEMBERS	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	YES	NO
MEMBERS									MEMBERS								
Josh Mica, he/him/él, Chair				C				C	Carol Suazo		X				X		
Ardry “Skeet” Boyle		X				X			Steven Vargas		X				X		
Ryan Rose, Secretary			X			X			Priscilla Willridge		X				X		
Kevin Aloysius		X				X											
Servando Arellano		X				X											
Yvonne Arizpe		X				X			<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>								
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