

**HIV Consortium Meeting  
November 1, 2012  
Summary Minutes**

David Hoover, Chair, called the meeting to order at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) offices.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

David Hoover introduced Leigh Guarinello in her new position as Inova Juniper's Education Program Manager.

Sue Rowland of VORA, Virginia Organizations Responding to AIDS, reminded everyone to vote on Tuesday and to reserve Wednesday, January 30, 2013, for AIDS Awareness Day at the Virginia General Assembly.

Ron Scheraga announced the meeting of the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee immediately after the Consortium and invited any Consortium member to participate.

Jill Rafii is the new ADAP Coordinator for the Arlington County Health Dept.

Karen Berube bid a fond farewell to the Consortium. She has been promoted to Vice President for Safety Net Services at Inova, overseeing not only the HIV clinics but low income and chronic disease services as well.

ANHSI expects to receive certification as a Federally Qualified Health Center medical home by December 2013. This certification, awarded by the National Center for Quality Assurance, seeks to improve quality, control costs and increase both patient and provider satisfaction by coordinating patient care.

**MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2012**

The minutes of October 4, 2012, were approved as submitted.

**PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN SUBURBAN VIRGINIA**

a. Suburban Virginia HIV Prevention Plan

Sue Rowland reported that with the departure of Carol Jameson from NOVAM, the Washington AIDS Partnership contracted with VORA, Virginia Organizations Responding to AIDS, to complete a regional HIV Prevention Plan. Two years later, the plan is almost complete but the hardest question remains: How to implement it? VORA welcomes ideas for the plan or for turning it into action.

b. Prevention & Education Committee

Nechelle Terrell, Alexandria Health Dept., reminded the group of the work of the Consortium's Prevention and Education Committee. All organizations working on preventing the spread of HIV are invited to join. They focus on educational programs and sponsor several public events each year. Nechelle distributed information on Confidential HIV testing locations in Northern Virginia. (It can be found on <http://www.novaregion.org/index.aspx?NID=1041>.) The information is maintained by Inova Juniper.

c. Inova's Prevention Programs

David Hoover, AIDS Prevention Program Manager, announced that routine testing for HIV is now offered in three Inova hospital emergency rooms: Alexandria, Mt. Vernon and Fairfax. Partial funding comes from a Prevention for Positives grant.

Inova has used a Part B MAI grant, in collaboration with IPHi, to hire two Patient Navigators/Community Health Workers for the Arlington/Alexandria/Springfield area.

Jonjelyn Gamble is implementing the CDC's (Center for Disease Control's) Healthy Relationships curriculum. They currently have a women's group meeting in Springfield and a gay men's group meeting in Arlington. These will be expanded to additional groups in additional areas.

The Gay Men's Health Collaborative, staffed by James Leslie, will offer outreach and testing social events based on the CDC's Empowerment model. The kick-off event will be at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub in Alexandria and will promote the Rainbow Tuesday clinic.

Work is underway at Inova to bring Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Resources and Linkages for Inmates (CHARLI) to the adult detention centers in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria.

d. IPHi

Courtney Coffey, MPH, Program Associate, described the evidence-based interventions offered by five Community Health Workers (CHW). Three are part of Early Intervention Services funded by NVRC and two are funded by a VDH Prevention for Positives contract. Both programs feature extensive and ongoing CHW training. A total of 41 clients are currently being served under the two contracts. Their experience suggests that 10-15 interactions, including follow-up calls, are needed to establish a solid connection to care.

e. Nova Salud

Donna Marschall, Ph.D. and President of the Board of Directors, spoke when Ellin Kao, Program Director and Co-Founder, was unavoidably detained. Nova Salud is fairly new and serves the Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax area. They work with all segments of the population but have extensive background in working with Latino MSMs, substance abusers, and high-risk heterosexuals. They offer written materials in both English and Spanish and a video presentation called VOICES for young high-risk heterosexuals. Much of their outreach begins at the Shirlington Day Labor Center. For more information, contact Ellin Kao at [ekao@novasaludinc.org](mailto:ekao@novasaludinc.org).

f. K. I. Services

Angelica Imaca, Community Health Educator, described how K.I. Services seeks to battle stigma among underserved populations and link those with HIV, diabetes, mental health conditions and other chronic conditions to care. They work with homeless and incarcerated persons among others. They are working on getting certified by Medicaid for their mental health and substance abuse services and psychological counseling, which are not restricted to persons having any particular co-morbidity. K.I. Services charges a sliding fee based on ability to pay. They also distribute safe sex kits through their Inside Out program.

g. Other Prevention Providers:

NOVAM, ARE and WFAMI were mentioned and may be asked to present in the future.

**PLANNING COUNCIL UPDATES**

- The Washington DC Eligible Metropolitan Area Application was submitted to HAB, the HIV/AIDS Bureau at HRSA.
- Dr. Gregory Pappas, Director, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration (HAHSTA) at the DC Department of Health, recently gave a presentation in which he laid out the goal of having HIV primary care providers in DC and Maryland certified as medical homes. Inova already has this designation, the only medical home currently in the metro area. ANHSI has filed a letter of intent to be certified by the end of 2013.

**VIRGINIA DEPT. OF HEALTH UPDATE**

- Sue Rowland asked VDH representatives to report on whether the requirement to have more than one bidder when trying to procure prevention services was still in effect. It had prevented funding of some prevention programs in the past.
- Leonard Recupero, HIV Services Coordinator; Lenore Lombardi, Lead HIV Services Coordinator; and Beth Marschak, HIV Prevention Among Communities of Color Contract Monitor participated in the VDH report. Difficulties in maintaining the required 75% core services / 25% support service split on Ryan White Part B -- when all contracts going through consortia are all classified as support services -- led VDH to change their funding method in two parts of Virginia. Two consortia (of four) will be disbanded and lead agents will not be used. VHD will contract directly with providers with no disruption in client services. This action does not affect Northern Virginia. The approach will be reevaluated in October 2013.
- With expected savings from PCIP (Preexisting Conditions Insurance Plan) and drug rebates from ADAP, VDH has asked HRSA to allow an increase the income level for Part B Ryan White to 400% of the federal poverty level. This will match the current income requirements for ADAP. (Update: Since this report, the income level for Part B in Virginia was raised to 400% of the federal poverty level.)

- There is an opening for an ADAP Coordinator at VDH in Richmond.
- The VDH budgets for consortia and direct contractors for fiscal year 2013-14 are in process. Part B contractors and Administrative Agents have been asked to submit budgets and work plans. Non-medical case management will be eligible for funding to support eligibility screening and referrals, especially for oral health services.
- Mailing of PCIP application packets was suspended for two weeks to clarify the deadline for switching from 2012 to 2013 forms. Two webinars to train local Health Dept. staff on PCIP have been scheduled for November. PCIP flyers and a survey to gauge support for including dental coverage in PCIP are being included in medication bags when clients pick up ADAP prescriptions at health departments.
- Dr. Maureen Dempsey, the new Commissioner of VDH, is well aware of their AIDS programs through her work on the ADAP crisis last year.
- For the 2013-2014 grant year, Part B contractors and lead agents should plan on initial six month awards and should budget as if PCIP were not in effect.
- VDH was asked to report to the Consortium on the status of a Health Insurance Exchange for Virginia under the federal Affordable Care Act. The January meeting was suggested as a possible date.

#### **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- Public Affairs Committee: Sue Rowland, Chair, asked for additional members to learn about and help educate others on current public issues. The committee usually meets by conference call.
- Contacts for, and the time and location of, all standing committee meetings appear on the back of each agenda.

#### **NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT**

- Michelle Simmons announced that with the resignation of Amelia Khalil, the AIDS Section will be short-staffed. Committees should expect less support than usual for the next 3-4 months.
- Additional Part B funds are being awarded to contractors to cover a dental visit and a dental plan for every Part B client who doesn't currently have one. Needed services identified in the plan will be paid for with these funds as well, even if the service cannot be completed before March 31, 2013.
- Additional Part B funds are also being awarded for two more Community Health Workers, transportation, and food vouchers. Legal services and home delivered meals are being transitioned out of HOPWA and into Part B.
- Keith Callahan asked for a round of applause for Amelia Khalil who is leaving NVRC to be a Project Officer for HAB. Martha Cameron expressed her gratitude to Amelia for championing the involvement of PLWH in quality improvement efforts for Ryan White services.
- NVRC is exploring with contractors several options to deliver transportation services and has determined that this will make progress on Consortium goals until a Transportation Work Group can be convened.

#### **HOPWA UPDATE**

Michelle Simmons announced that six organizations had applied for HOPWA funds in eleven service categories under the recent HOPWA Request for Applications procurement. Some were new to NVRC's HOPWA program.

#### **TOPICS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Health Care Reform – December – AIDS United will help us understand the potential impact of Medicaid expansion in Virginia under the Affordable Care Act
- Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans for availability of AIDS medications during a disaster.

#### **UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

- December 17, 2012 Executive Committee meeting (1:00 PM – 2:30 PM)
- January 3, 2013 Consortium meeting (10:00 AM to 12 noon)

Minutes     Approved as Written     With Corrections

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Tylee Smith

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Date