

**HIV Consortium Meeting
July 11, 2013
Summary Minutes**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tylee Smith of NVRC reminded everyone of the CMS Level 2 webinar: Understanding the Health Insurance Marketplace that will be offered here at 1:00 PM this afternoon. It includes a detailed review of the Marketplace (Exchanges), including eligibility, enrollment, plan structure, Medicaid expansion, and the streamlined application.

Donna Marshall announced a fund raiser for NOVA Salud on July 20.

Ron Scheraga passed along a message from Bob Atkins, a long-time member, who is in the hospital. Bob does not want visitors but he will need help rearranging his house when he returns home.

David Hoover announced that Jonjelyn Gamble, Health Educator, has resigned from Inova Healthy Relationships to pursue research at George Washington University. Serena Stephenson will be moving over to fill that position.

MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2013

The minutes of June 6, 2013, were approved as submitted.

PLWH/A OPEN MIKE

No one asked to speak.

INOVA PREVENTION PROGRAMS UPDATE

David Hoover, Prevention Program Manager, reviewed Inova's prevention programs. These programs all started when Whitman Walker's Arlington Clinic closed just as they received a CDC (US Centers for Disease Control) grant to operate HIV testing programs in hospital emergency departments. Prevention Services was organized as a separate division in the summer of 2012. None of their programs are all limited to Inova clients. The programs include:

- Healthy Relationships - a series of DEBI (CDC Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions) 5-session small-groups (6-8 people) to help people learn how to disclose their HIV status to sexual partners, family members, and friends. They are offered in different locations to people with like demographics. Membership is closed once a group starts.
- Gay Men's Health Collaborative - provides fun activities that do not involve sex, alcohol, or bars to young gay men, particularly those of color. Their activities carry a health message that encourages STD screening, HIV testing, and substance abuse referrals.
- RISE - a weekend of intervention for HIV positive people formerly operated by NOVAM, as well as their online interventions through chat rooms oriented to gay men seeking sex, have been picked up by Inova.
- Rapid testing - offered to those admitted to emergency departments at Inova Alexandria, Mt. Vernon, and Inova Fairfax. About 50% accept the offer of testing.
- The Minority AIDS Initiative, Part B, through the Virginia Dept. of Health - funds two patient navigators to link people to care, both the newly diagnosed and those who have dropped out of care or who are at risk of falling out of care.
- CHARLI (Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Resources and Linkages for Inmates) - will focus on rapid testing and Case Management for those about to be released from Arlington, Fairfax, and Prince William jails; and sexual health education for those jail populations.
- CAPUS (Care and Prevention in the United States through the Virginia Dept. of Health) - will hire another Community Health Worker to work in the Reston/Herndon area. They hope to offer services in Spanish.

HOPWA DATA PRESENTATION AND PRIORITY SETTING

Michelle Simmons, NVRC, presented information on HOPWA utilization and spending per client from the different HOPWA services funded in the 2011-2012 year. She also shared data on client characteristics and the results of this year's efforts to serve more people with Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA). With the diminishing of the ADAP crisis in paying for medications, she proposed that the support services moved over from Ryan White to free funds for ADAP remain back with Ryan White. After discussion, Scenario 3 was adopted as the Consortium's recommendation. This increased TBRA and the funds for security deposits and first month's rent (Permanency Planning); eliminated the Job Training program; and reduced Facility Operating Cost; Short-Term Rental, Mortgage,

and Utility Assistance; Case Management for Housing; Housing Information; and NVRC Administration costs proportionally to reflect the expected reduction in overall HOPWA funding.

PLANNING COUNCIL UPDATE

David Hoover reported that the council accepted regional Ryan White funding priorities for 2014-2015 at its last meeting. They discussed possible impacts on Ryan White programs of the increase in insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act and thus in co-pays. They also discussed the disparate results across the region where Virginia has not decided whether to increase Medicaid coverage while DC and Maryland have robust programs. The Health Insurance Premium and Co-Pay Assistance service was moved into the top 10 regional priorities. There were no other changes in the proposed priorities.

Keith Callahan shared a recommendation from the Needs Assessment and Comprehensive Planning Committee that Virginia consider using any available carry-over funds for Health Insurance Premium and Co-Pay Assistance.

The regional Ryan White allocation for the current year has been received. It is 5% less than the previous year. The application for these funds scored 96%, the highest score our region has ever attained. This score helped our region obtain as much of sequestered funds as we did.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (VDH) UPDATE

Leonard Recupero, HIV Services Coordinator, reported:

- VHD has received its final notice of award for Part B from HRSA, down 5.5% from the current year. This cut will be offset by increases in prescription rebates. Part B contractors will be receiving their final agreements in the next few days, awarding their balance of the funds available. Initial agreements contained only 50% of the expected annual funding.
- As of July 10, 1,160 individuals are enrolled in ADAP in the Northern region. 1,064 are in traditional ADAP, 84 in MPAP (Medicare Part D premiums), and 12 in PCIP (Pre-existing Condition Insurance Program).
- VDH will soon release a new policy incorporating the HRSA clarification that accepts a signed one-page declaration for Ryan White six month eligibility recertification when no changes in household circumstances (income, size, residency, insurance coverage, etc.) have occurred.
- Bengie Hair, Assistant Director for Medication Access and former HRSA Project Officer has resigned. Lenore Lombardi is now Acting Assistant Director.
- VDH is completing the HRSA application for the Ryan White Part B Supplemental and ADAP Emergency Relief funding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- *Clinical Care* – NVRC is working on their request for technical assistance around dental services and plans for people with HIV.
- *Public Affairs* – David Hoover reported that Sue Rowland of VORA hopes to complete the regional HIV prevention plan in August and present it to us in September.

NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT

Michelle Simmons reported:

- The Consortium election for Vice Chair will be in September and a Nominating Committee will be established at the August meeting.
- The 2013 Annual Report of the Positive All Parts Collaborative for Quality (Q-PAC, now A4Q, Advocates for Quality) has been completed. Martha Cameron was complemented on the innovative work of several HIV-positive consumers who formed the committee. A4Q members are available to train consumers on what high-quality care looks like and how consumers can be involved in improving care.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Monday July 15 Resource Allocations at 12 noon – 3:00 p.m. with a consumer caucus from 11:00 a.m. to noon.
- Thursday August 1 Consortium at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes Approved as Written With Corrections

Tylee Smith
Tylee Smith

9/5/13
Date