

**HIV Consortium Meeting
October 3, 2013
Summary Minutes**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

The minutes of September 5, 2013, were corrected by removing the report of the Public Affairs Committee and then approved as corrected.

PLWH/A OPEN MIKE

No one asked to speak.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT NAVIGATOR PRESENTATION

Jessica Killeen, Affordable Care Act (ACA) Navigator with Enroll Virginia! at Legal Services of Northern Virginia (LSNV), summarized the Navigator services available through Enroll Virginia! (<http://enroll-virginia.com>). The Enroll Virginia! toll-free number is 1-888-392-5132. She recommended following Enroll Virginia! on Facebook. You can use the website map to find Navigators and Certified Application Counselors (CACs) who are available for individual assistance and to speak to groups. Organizations sponsoring meetings which the public may attend are encouraged to list their events with Enroll Virginia!

Enroll Virginia! is a program of the Virginia Poverty Law Center and serves to educate people about health insurance and using the Health Insurance Marketplace on www.healthcare.gov. The three ACA Navigators at LSNV also coordinate with the Northern Virginia Marketplace Consortium convened by Northern Virginia Family Service.

Michelle Simmons reminded those present that insurance plans often restrict the medications that they cover and clients should examine drug formularies closely when selecting a plan. Consortium members briefed Ms. Killeen on the possibility of Virginia ADAP covering the cost of insurance plans for many low-income PLWHA. VDH is endeavoring to obtain information on the formularies for HIV/AIDS medications and infectious disease physicians participating in the different Virginia plans. Staff from the Inova Juniper program confirmed that they are becoming an approved provider in many different plans.

ANNUAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES FOR SUBURBAN VA

Michelle Simmons, Human Services Director for NVRC, lead a discussion of possible ways to assess needs of PLWH/A for the coming planning cycle. Possibilities mentioned included a Town Hall session on the Affordable Care Act or on Standards of Care or on the mores of health insurance. Questions from the discussion:

- Did NVRC need to query medical providers used by clients (1) for information on the plans they accept; (2) on new plans with the advent of the ACA; and (3) whether they were part of a medical home organization?
- How best could Community Health Workers best be used in assessing needs? They would be especially useful if an online survey was used to gather information.

PLANNING COUNCIL UPDATE

- The HAHSTA (DC Dept. of Health HIV/AIDS Hepatitis, STI, and TB Administration) application to the US Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for next year's Ryan White Part A funding is due October 7.
- Lora Morrow will chair the FOAC Task Force on the varying fiscal impacts of expanding Medicaid (or not) and health insurance coverage in Virginia, DC and Maryland. The group will meet following submission of the Part A application. This group is still waiting for information on anticipated Medicaid expansion/ADAP impacts from the state health departments of Maryland and DC. Once that information is received, the Task Force will consider whether or not to award supplemental Ryan White funds to Suburban Virginia.
- The Planning Council is accepting applications for new members. The Community Co-Chair will be nominated soon and should be elected at the Nov. Meeting.
- The Planning Council will meet on Wednesday, October 30, rather than Halloween, Oct. 31.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (VDH) UPDATE

Leonard Recupero, HIV Services Coordinator, reported:

- The VDH application for next year's funding is due to HRSA on Nov. 21, 2013.
- ADAP and the Affordable Care Act
 - As of October 1: 5,057 individuals are enrolled Virginia ADAP with 1,182 of them in the Northern region. 1,074 are in traditional ADAP, 78 in MPAP (Medicare Part D premiums), 9 in PCIP (Pre-existing Condition Insurance Program), and 8 in LPAP (Local Pharmacy Assistance Program).
 - ADAP has a goal of enrolling 3,000 ADAP clients in ACA insurance plans by January 1, 2014, but their current advice to clients is to wait to enroll until VDH has evaluated the benefits of the different plans available in Virginia. If an ADAP client declines to enroll in a health insurance plan for which ADAP will pay the premiums, ADAP will not cover them under its traditional program.
 - VDH will soon write to each ADAP client explaining his or her options.
- The VDH modification to their current Part B funding plan has been approved by HRSA.
- VDH expects their federal contracts to be unaffected by the shutdown of the federal government unless that shutdown extends to three weeks or more. Their contracts have all been signed and payments are current.
- Tessa McKenzie has been hired as a Planner in the position formerly filled by Hunter Robertson.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- *Case Management and Support Services* – Adena Hershkovitz, Co-Chair, reported that the committee will meet November 19 with Jessica Killeen and Ellen Kao from NOVA Salud.
- *Clinical Care* – Michelle Simmons announced that the Committee will meet October 9 at noon with a dentist recognized for care of PHWHAs to discuss quality care and oral health treatment plan options.
- *Primary Care Alliance* – Barb Lawrence reported that the functioning of this group was under review.
- *Prevention* – Suzanne Dorick reported that the Chosen Families event at the main Alexandria City Library, with representation from the City Council and several organizations, was well-received.
- *Public Affairs* – Committee members reminded everyone to vote in the Nov. 5 state election. AIDS Awareness Day will be Jan. 29 at the General Assembly in Richmond.

NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT

Michelle Simmons reported:

- NVRC's Part B contract now includes funding for the last half of the current year.
- NVRC staff are assisting HAHSTA in writing their Part A application to HRSA, paying special attention to areas that demonstrated the disparities in funding Medicaid between Virginia and the rest of the metropolitan area.
- NVRC's Executive Director recently briefed the Northern Virginia jurisdictions' mayors and chairs, and NVRC's Executive Committee on the need to enroll more PLWH/As in health insurance since Virginia has not expanded Medicaid as anticipated by the Affordable Care Act. At their next meeting, Commissioners, who are all local elected officials, will be asked adopt a resolution asking each local jurisdiction to send a letter to DC asking for additional Ryan White funds to address this need.
- Recruitment has begun for a coordinator at NVRC to oversee ACA application counselors and to help staff at provider agencies work with clients to assess possible health insurance policies.
- Latest news from DC HAHSTA is that HOPWA will receive level funding for the year that started October 1, rather than the expected slight decrease.
- Letters went out to those on the HOPWA wait list with applications to be returned/postmarked by 10/19/13.

THANKS TO PREVIOUS CHAIR DAVID HOOVER

Karen Cebula, Chair of the Consortium, presented a token of appreciation to David Hoover, the previous Chair, in thanks for his many and on-going contributions to the Consortium.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mon. Oct. 21 Executive Committee at 1PM to 2:30 PM

Thurs. Nov. 7 Consortium at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes Approved as Written With Corrections

Tylee Smith

Date