

**HIV Consortium Meeting  
November 7, 2013  
Summary Minutes**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements

**PLWH/A OPEN MIKE**

Ron Scheraga presented the motion of the PLWH Committee that the Consortium address the need for quick action by the metro area Ryan White Planning Council on Northern Virginia's request for additional funds for Outpatient Ambulatory Medical Care. The request had been made as a part of this summer's planning cycle so newly diagnosed PLWH/As in Virginia could receive care given the significantly lower Medicaid funding here. This will be addressed in New Business.

**AFFORDABLE CARE ACT NAVIGATOR PRESENTATION**

Eduardo Mantilla-Torres, Project Connect Coordinator for ANHSI and one of their seven Affordable Care Act (ACA) Certified Application Counselors. They work in four sites from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and on limited days/sites until 7:00 p.m. and in both English and Spanish. One of the common questions they face is whether immigrants with "green cards" are eligible. They are. ACAs are finding that it takes over an hour to enroll clients in Affordable Care health insurance and often the process cannot be completed in one session because additional documentation is needed.

**MINUTES OF OCTOBER 3, 2013**

The minutes of October 3, 2013, were approved as submitted.

**DISCUSSION: FOCUS OF HOPWA/RYAN WHITE LINKAGES WORK GROUP**

Julie Riddle, HOPWA Contract Monitor for NVRC, led a discussion of possible issues to be addressed by the proposed linkages work group. She reminded those present that better understanding of each program by the staff of the other was a need identified in the *Suburban Virginia HIV/AIDS Service Delivery Plan* adopted earlier this year. Possibilities mentioned included:

- What is the Consortium's role in HOPWA?
- Performance Measures for both programs since HRSA and HUD are both interested in measuring the impact of sustainable housing on retention in care and thus lower viral loads for PLWHs;
- education on the many different housing programs, including many specialized programs for distinct populations
- impact of geography so everyone better understands "Who do I call?" for housing assistance in different jurisdictions (a housing map?)
- What are best practices for effective linkages between housing and services
- Housing options available to the general population and thus PLWH (local Continuum of Care programs)
- How to insure that clients continue to receive services after they receive housing
- Differences between housing case management and medical case management
- Could the "No Wrong Door" concept in senior services be made to work between housing and services?
- Housing Conference for case managers and consumers
- How to make the [www.novaregion.org/hiv](http://www.novaregion.org/hiv) information on Ryan White and HOPWA more accessible
- Is there a point where HOPWA clients need to be encouraged to move off the program in order to open housing opportunities for other PLWH?
- Messaging for the public, including hospitals and doctors, on Ryan White and HOPWA services (VDH Greater than AIDS education campaign)

**PLANNING COUNCIL UPDATE**

- The Planning Council received an excellent update from national and local speakers on the Affordable Care Act and the different impacts in different states and the District of Columbia.
- Applications for new Planning Council members are now available.
- Steve Bailey with VDH has indicated that he will not be renewing his membership. He has asked Tessa McKenzie, VDH HIV Care Health Planner, to submit an application to fill this slot.

### **VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (VDH) UPDATE**

Mary Browder, HIV Services Coordinator, reported in the absence of Leonard Recupero:

- The recent VDH ADAP report to the General Assembly is available online. ADAP is receiving about 121 applications each month.
- ADAP and the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
  - Projections are now for over 7,000 ADAP enrollees by the end of March 2014.
  - Current enrollment: 1,162 individuals in the Northern region are enrolled Virginia ADAP. 1,047 are in traditional ADAP, 7 in PCIP (Pre-existing Condition Insurance Program), 89 in MPAP (Medicare Part D premiums), and 19 in ICAP (Insurance Continuation Assistance Program, which used to be LPAP - medication co-pays).
  - Agencies are asked to refer any clients receiving medication co-pays to ADAP by December 31, 2013 so ICAP can continue their assistance.
  - VDH is making a list of places clients can find assistance in enrolling in an ACA health insurance plan. That list will be shared with all contractors and will be up on their website when it's complete.
  - VDH continues to evaluate the benefits of, and payment options for, the different ACA plans available in Virginia.
  - ADAP has a goal of enrolling 3,000 ADAP clients in ACA insurance plans, but their advice to clients continues to be to wait to enroll until their analysis is complete.
- The VDH is working on applications for both 2014 Part B funding and emergency ADAP relief for 2014.
- VDH has begun discussing next year's funding forecast with providers. Service funding will probably decrease in order to maintain ADAP and its associated insurance payments in place in 2014.
- Tessa McKenzie will be working primarily with needs assessments and hopes to better coordinate the needs in services, prevention and surveillance.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- *PLWH Consumer Committee* – Wade Menear stated that it created a real hardship on consumers to change a meeting date with less than one week's notice. This concern will be expressed by NVRC staff at the next Administrative Agents conference call.

### **NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT**

- Julie Riddle reported that last year's HOPWA contract ended September 30 and she is finalizing reports with HAHSTA. New reporting forms for the new grant year have been distributed to contractors. She has requested training on the forms.
- There was a slight decrease in HOPWA funding for 2014 and new contracts will be going out next week.
- Tim Agar reported that Michelle Simmons is attending the FOAC Work Group to defend Virginia's request for additional funding to address the varying fiscal impacts of Medicaid coverage in Virginia, DC and Maryland.
- NVRC is waiting for written confirmation from VDH on Part B funding for 2014.
- Both Julie and Tim thanked providers and clients for their patience during this time of much transition.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Zack Hatcher, Co-Chair of the Consortium, presided over the discussion of the supplemental funding request response timeline issue raised during the PLWH Open Mike. The group agreed to forward the request to the Consortium subgroup that had been appointed in July to formulate the original request. The Consortium will send an urgent message to the subgroup asking them to look at deadlines and timelines and recommend a process for quickly finalizing a Planning Council decision on the supplemental funding of services in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The decision must be made in time to allow orderly awards of funds to the different jurisdictions and preparation of service contracts by Administrative Agents.

Abby Charles asked that the agenda for the December meeting include the new CMS rule allowing states to determine whether to allow the work of Community Health Workers to be reimbursed by Medicaid.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Mon. November 18 Executive Committee at 1PM to 2:30 PM

Thurs. Dec. 5 Consortium at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes     Approved as Written     With Corrections

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Tylee Smith

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Date