

**NVH Consortium Meeting
February 6, 2014
Summary Minutes**

Zach Hatcher, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) offices.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mary Washington is hosting a forum with VDH on the Affordable Care Act on February 26.
- Inova will offer two training courses: The FACTS on March 20 and The Fundamentals on April 15-16.
- ARE will host with VDH a public hearing on Virginia's services to people living with HIV or AIDS (PLWH/A). The hearing will be February 20 in Winchester. ARE also has a major fund-raiser/ Mardi Gras party planned for Saturday, February 22.
- Wesley Housing's Agape House has one two-bedroom apartment available in a 12-unit building with an on-site Resident Manager. At least one person in the renting household must be a person living with HIV or AIDS.

PLWH/A OPEN MIKE

No speakers.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2014

The minutes of January 9, 2014, were approved as submitted.

RECONSIDERING RYAN WHITE PART A ALLOCATIONS FOR THE 2014 GRANT YEAR

Michelle Simmons announced that the Planning Council had awarded \$1.1 million in Ryan White carry-over funds to the Northern Virginia Regional Commission to provide services to PLWH/A. Although these funds must be used by February 28, 2013, with careful planning they may ease some of the funding shortfall in the 2014-15 grant year. Michelle distributed a spreadsheet showing recommendations from the January 27, 2014, NVH Consortium Executive Committee for allocations and carryover of the first \$614,000. A second spreadsheet, dated 2/6/2014, includes the supplemental \$500,000 just awarded. Because the Planning Council has directed that these funds be awarded proportionally to all service categories not increased by the January 27 Executive Committee, the spreadsheet is for information purposed only. Highlights included forwarding \$307,525 to Virginia ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program) and \$223,080 to Local AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance. Both programs will buy medications to be prescribed throughout the coming year.

Ms. Simmons reminded the Consortium that there has been no official word on the final award to either the DC Eligible Metropolitan Area or Suburban Virginia. Planning is based on funding at the same level as 2013-14.

Ron Scheraga commended the work of NVRC staff in putting together a feasible spending plan. Phillip Bailey thanked David Hoover, Steve Bailey, and Michelle Simmons for their exceptional work in substantiating Virginia's need for additional funds for the Fiscal Oversight Committee.

Ron Scheraga moved to thank the Planning Council, DC HAHSTA, David Hoover, Steve Bailey, and Michelle Simmons for all their work on these options and to express the Consortium's endorsement of the spending plan dated 2/6/2014. Martha Cameron seconded. Motion approve unanimously.

REPORT OF THE HOUSING/RYAN WHITE LINKAGES WORK GROUP

Julie Riddle, HOPWA Contract Monitor & Resource Specialist with NVRC, reported that the team had its first meeting last week. The energized group adopted a focus and a recommendation to add members representing Ryan White providers. Those interested in joining the group should contact Ms. Riddle at jriddle@novaregion.org. They want to compile information on housing providers for both professional staff and clients: who the housing providers are, what they do, and how they do it. Ms. Riddle distributed a flyer announcing our relatively new Housing Case Management services. Earlier Tylee Smith had distributed the revised HIV/AIDS services brochure produced by NVRC. There will be a HOPWA Housing Case Managers meeting soon to share methodologies.

INSURANCE ASSISTORS PROJECT: LSNV & NVRC

Tim Agar, Ryan White Contract Monitor and lead for NVRC's effort to enroll PHWH/As in insurance under the Affordable Care Act, introduced the four Assistors. Mr. Jan Reitman, Ms. Monu Harnal, and Mr. Craig Friedman were hired through Legal Services and Ms. Val Carter through NVRC. All have the same training and will be

available to Ryan White agencies and clients through the end of March. They handed out flyers with contact information and a list of documents to bring to appointments. Mr. Agar acknowledged and offered to help out the many enrollment efforts already underway at provider agencies. The first step for clients not yet enrolled in ADAP is to call the VDH hotline to enroll in ADAP for medications. If a client doesn't know whether s/he is enrolled in ADAP, ask if s/he has a Ramzel card or picks up their medications at a local health department. Assistors can arrange translation services.

If providers need confirmation of client enrollment, Tim will forward those client names to VDH. VDH is still developing a mechanism for confirming client enrollment to other providers.

PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT

- The *Care Strategies, Coordination and Standards Committee* meets Tuesday, February 11, at 1:00 p.m.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UPDATES

- Leonard Recupero, HIV Services Coordinator, thanked everyone for their help in enrolling clients in the ACA. He reported 4,846 clients enrolled in Virginia ADAP. Those who have not picked up medications in 6 months are being disenrolled, although they may reenroll later if their circumstances change. Lenore Lombardi has been appointed Director for Medication Access after acting in that capacity. Tessa McKenzie has been holding ACA sessions for clients around Virginia in conjunction with local providers.
- VDH needs a faxed copy of any enrollment letters sent by insurance companies to clients on ADAP. These letters must be sent quickly so the premiums of those clients can be paid on time.
- VDH has started weekly conference calls with CAC Advisors to share strategies, successes and concerns.
- Dr. Marissa Levine, MD, MPH, is now the Interim Commissioner of VDH.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The *Public Affairs Committee's* AIDS Awareness Day in Richmond January 29 was cancelled and turned into a virtual event due to severe weather.

NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT

- Neither the Part A nor the Part B full funding awards for the 2014-2015 grant years, starting March 1 and April 1, 2014 respectively, have been announced.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March Executive Committee	Monday, March 17, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.
April Consortium	Thursday, April 3, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.
April Executive Committee	Monday, April 21, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved as Written With Corrections

Tylee Smith 6/6/14
Tylee Smith Date