

**NVH Consortium Meeting  
May 7, 2015  
Summary Minutes**

Nechelle Terrell, Chair, called the meeting to order at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Sue Rowland requested that her report from the Nominations Committee be moved up in the agenda as she must leave early for another commitment. There was no dissent.
- Barb Lawrence introduced Gerald Padmore, Inova Juniper's new Outreach Program Administrator.
- Tylee Smith reminded everyone of the *Orientation to the NVH Consortium* to be held immediately following this Consortium meeting. Everyone was invited to stay.

**PLWH/A OPEN MIKE**

Ron Scheraga asked about the origin of the second PLWH/A data presentation and who no member of the committee seemed to be aware of it. Michelle Simmons responded that it was set up by the Planning Council staff in response to their request that there be at least one evening session. She added that the Maryland suburbs schedule several data presentations around their region.

Mike Hughes asked whether Ryan White Service providers were distributing information about the second data presentation. Michelle Simmons had copies of the flyers about both meetings and Tim Agar offered to forward them to the Ryan White providers for distribution. Inova suggested that Community Health Workers could assist in distributing the flyers.

**MINUTES OF APRIL 2, 2015**

The minutes of April 2, 2015 were approved as submitted.

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Sue Rowland, Chair of the Nominating Committee, requested that nominations for both Chair and Vice Chair be forwarded to her by May 15. The Consortium will fill both offices at their September 3 meeting since the office of Vice Chair is currently vacant. As required in our bylaws, the newly elected Vice Chair will serve a one-year term and then automatically assume the position of Chair the following September.

**PRELIMINARY FINDINGS FROM SUBURBAN VIRGINIA PLWH/A NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Michelle Simmons, Director of the Human Services Division at NVRC, gave brief summaries of findings by two recent attempts to determine the needs of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH/A) in Northern Virginia. One Needs Assessment, undertaken by the metro DC Planning Council, was distributed on paper while she discussed a client survey administered by VHO (Virginia Health Options) that focused on experiences with health insurance. After more rigorous analysis both will be presented in more detail at our July Data Presentation. The VHO survey found, for example, that 1/3 of the responders who were insured were highly satisfied with their coverage and only 5% rated their insurance as very poor. All the insured had a HIV doctor but only about 57% had a primary care doctor. Three of 4 of those with insurance were now covering part of the cost of their care, but when they could not cover the cost, 2/3 did not know where to go for Co-Payment Assistance.

The group discussed whether Infectious Disease certified physicians would be recognized by insurance plans as primary care doctors or medical homes for PLWH/A, an issue that will be explored further. Sue Rowland suggested that Multiple Sclerosis patients and doctors may offer insight into the issue of whether a specialty care doctor can be designated as the medical home for people with less common and very complicated conditions.

Ron Scheraga raised the issue of the large number of people in the metro DC Planning Council's study who cited homelessness as a major concern. Michelle responded that the HOPWA planning in June could begin to address this concern.

#### **PART A REALLOCATION UPDATE**

Michelle Simmons reviewed the actions of the May meeting which directed NVRC staff to present several recommendations to the Planning Council. These included MH & MCM increased funds for Mental Health, Medical Case Management, Linguistic and Emergency Financial Assistance; and new funds for Non-Medical Case Management and Outreach. These were approved by the Planning Council with stipulations for documentation that demonstrate results and for requirements for any other funds available for these services to be used first. NVRC suggested several possible metrics that could be documented.

NVRC will be releasing one or more micro Requests for Applications (RFAs) to award these new funds and will notify the Consortium members when funds are available.

One of the members of the Planning Council, Ron Scheraga, asked the Consortium to recognize Tim Agar for his professional representation of N. Virginia at Planning Council meetings.

#### **NEWLY AVAILABLE PART B FUNDING**

Tim Agar, Ryan White Grants Monitor at NVRC, reported that the Virginia Dept. of Health (VDH) approached Ryan White Part B providers two weeks ago to request ideas and reactions for expanding services. VDH's success in obtaining medication rebates and supplemental funds and enrolling ADAP client in Affordable Care Act (ACA) health insurance has resulted in substantial increases in funds for services for at least the next two years. Some of the ideas VDH is considering include expanded dental and non-med case management services and eye exams with ophthalmologists and eye glasses. Possible new services include Medical Nutrition Therapy (nutrition supplements). Currently NVRC's Part B funds Oral Health Care and Emergency Financial Assistance. After the VDH contractor's meeting next week more definitive information will be available.

Both VDH and NVRC requested that Consortium members share need for new and different services or ways of delivering traditional services.

Katrina & Logan from VDH introduced.

#### **PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT**

Ron Scheraga reported that newly elected Mayor of the District of Columbia has yet to appoint a chair for the Metropolitan Washington Regional Ryan White Planning Council.

#### **VIRGINIA DEPT. OF HEALTH REPORTS**

Logan A. Dickens, HIV Services Coordinator, gave the report for herself and Katrina Fontenla. She reported 2 ADAP clients from the Northern EMA were automatically enrolled by their insurance companies for 2015 into plans similar to their 2014 coverage. 570 Northern EMA ADAP clients have submitted new financial verification and been reenrolled into covered plans.

- 1,583 Northern EMA clients are now enrolled in Virginia ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program):
  - 400 Direct (traditional) ADAP;
  - 114 in MPAP (Medicare Part D);
  - 192 in ICAP (Insurance Continuation); and
  - 877 in HIMAP (Health Insurance Marketplace Assistance Program aka ACA--Affordable Care Act insurance paid for ADAP clients by VDH).

- Enrollment in HIMAP by insurance carrier in the Northern EMA is currently:
    - 4 in Aetna,
    - 261 in CareFirst,
    - 0 in Coventry
    - 347 in Innovation,
    - 57 in Kaiser-Permanente;
    - 91 in Optima; and
    - 117 in HealthKeepers
    - 0 in Piedmont
- Over 75% of ADAP clients in Virginia are enrolled in insurance. This leads to tremendous cost savings, contributing to additional service funds

VDH is making plans for usage of \$1.7 million in supplemental Part B funds which must be expended by September 2015. VDH is considering piloting several new services and changes to existing services. Those with ideas for client services should contact NVRC so these ideas can be reviewed for inclusion in Part B eligible services. VDH will have this expanded funding available for the next two years so is encouraging contractors to hire additional staff to cover increased services.

VDH's next HIV Care Services Quarterly Contractor Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2015. It will be held from 9:30 am – 4:00 pm at the Library and Resource Center, Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired in Richmond.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- *Clinical Care Committee* – The committee is being reconstituted. Two new members have been recruited and another has been approached. A chair is still needed. Two initial concerns will be defining “HIV-Related” and exploring the feasibility of a regionally uniform set of billing codes for Ryan White services.
- *Prevention and Education Committee*      Testing event planning June 27
- *Public Affairs Committee* – Sue Rowland reminded the Consortium that this committee will report to the Consortium on November 5. Contact Sue (see back side of agenda) if you have legislative issues or concerns.

#### NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT

- Michelle Simmons announced that NRVC has almost completed close-out of the Part B contract year that ended March 31. About 91% of funds for that year were expended.
- Tim Agar asked the Consortium to acknowledge the services of last year's new provider, Virginia Health Options (VHO). They worked with many providers to enroll and reenroll clients in health insurance plans. Providers have been very complimentary of VHO. The relationships VHO established led to a successful Needs Assessment with 260 client surveys in almost every provider site.

#### ORIENTATION TO THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA HIV CONSORTIUM

- Nechelle Terrell invited everyone to stay for the orientation that would convene after a brief break.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Consortium      June 4, 2015      10a.m. to 12 noon at NVRC

Minutes      \_\_\_ Approved as Written      X With Corrections      Tylee Smith      6/4/15  
Tylee Smith      Date