

**NVH Consortium Meeting  
June 4, 2015  
Summary Minutes**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Nominations for Consortium leadership may still be submitted to Sue Rowland, Chair of the Nominations Committee.
- Leigh Guarinello from Inova Juniper Program announced a couple of health-promotion activities for young black men by the Gay Men's Health Collaborative.
- Cheryl Hockman announced that ARE should be moving to their new location next week.
- Ondrea McIntyre-Hall introduced Regina Cortez, the new non-medical case manager for Northern Virginia Family Service's Nexus Program. Nexus is the non-medical case management service that will be working with private physicians to facilitate enrollment of private-pay HIV patients in Ryan White wraparound services.
- Tim Agar handed out flyers for Gilead Sciences' TRUVADA Presentation for Educators on June 11 at 6:30 p.m. TRUVADA is a pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) or preventive option for people at high risk for exposure to HIV or AIDS.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR OF ERVIN ROBERT SMITH**

Following the moment of silence, Nechelle Terrell read a tribute from Dr. Norman Bernstein of Mary Washington HealthCare, where Mr. Smith had been a patient for 20 years.

**PLWH/A OPEN MIKE**

No one asked to speak.

**MINUTES OF MAY 7, 2015**

The minutes of May 7, 2015 were approved with two corrections. Gerald Padmore's title in the second announcement is Outreach Program Administrator and the number of Northern Virginia clients enrolled in Virginia's ADAP is 1,582.

**HOPWA DATA PRESENTATION**

Julie Riddle, HOPWA Contract Monitor at NVRC, reminded the Consortium that HOPWA is a housing program funded by the federal Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). She reviewed some of the significant changes in the suburban Virginia HOPWA program over the past year:

- 20% reduction in suburban Virginia's HOPWA funding during current grant year
- 2 new counties added to our service area – Culpeper and Rappahannock – with no increase in funding
- HUD published HOPWA "Getting to Work" pamphlet and announced a training curriculum for HIV/AIDS and Housing Providers
- HUD Technical assistance advised NVRC staff to:
  - Close the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) waitlist
  - Focus on self-sufficiency programs, especially employment, to improve quality of life and self-esteem among PLWHA
  - Increase client financial independence to free up benefits for those most in need

In the future, we can expect changes in the funding formula although the impact here is not yet clear. The recommendation is for a gradual transition.

Michelle Simmons, Director of the Human Services Division at NVRC, reported that in response to the funding cutback, new Short-Term Rent, Mortgage and Utility (STRMU) assistance was restricted to those whose housing crises were health-related and Permanent Housing Placement (first month's rent, utility hook-up, and security deposits) awards were limited to clients who had to move when their unit rents exceeded HUD Fair Market Rent limits.. Late in the year NVRC received approval to spend, over three years, \$868,549 in HOPWA funds carried over from prior years.

**HOPWA PRIORITIES ADOPTED**

Housing Services

1. Tenant-based Rental Assistance (TBRA, rent vouchers)
2. Short-Term Rent, Mortgage & Utility Assistance (TBRA)
3. Housing Information
4. Acquisition rehabilitation, conversion, lease, and repair of facilities (new for Northern Virginia)

Supportive Services

1. Housing Case Management
2. Employment Assistance (including education and job training)
3. Permanent Housing Placement (security deposits and first month's rent)
4. Transportation
5. Child Care (related to job training, education & employment interviews)

**HOPWA ALLOCATIONS RECOMMENDED:**

Service Area	Funding	Comments
TBRA	\$ 1,673,944	Continued support of current 127 households
STRMU	132,500	May loosen current requirement that the emergency be health-related
Housing Information	41,500	Via website & phone
Repair & Rehabilitation	25,000	For 2 units of transitional housing operated by Homestretch under a long-term arrangement
Housing Case Management	217,945	Increase from both initial and final funding for current grant year
Employment Assistance & Education *	237,000	12 months; Previously approved, but not yet in operation
Permanent Housing Placement	79,902	First month's rent, utility hook-up, and security deposits; no longer limited to TBRA clients forced to move due to rents exceeding HOPWA limits
Transportation *	5,000	For job training & education, and employment interviews

Service Area	Funding	Comments
Facility Operating Costs	0	Other funds are available to Wesley Housing Development for operation of Agape House
Total	\$2,412,791	Includes \$544,406 of carryover funds unspent in previous years

\* New funding category for HOPWA in Suburban Virginia

**PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT**

Keith Callahan reported that the Metropolitan Washington Regional Ryan White Planning Council has been working on the Ryan White PSRA (Priority Setting and Resource Allocation) process.

**VIRGINIA DEPT. OF HEALTH REPORTS**

Logan A. Dickens, HIV Services Coordinator, reported that VDH is reviewing budget modifications for the 2015 grant year. Service Coordinators will insure the \$1.7 million supplemental Part B funds are allocated into the 2015 budgets.

VDH has two new staff members: Meriam Mikre is our new HIV Care Services Planner and Kimberly Scott is the new HIV Services Assistant Director. Both staff joined HIV Care Services as of June 1, 2015.

The Northern EMA ADAP report was distributed via email following the meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no committee reports.

**NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT**

Michelle Simmons announced that NRVC will be releasing one or more Requests for Applications (RFAs) to award

- New HOPWA funds (marked with an \* in the chart above); and
- New Ryan White Part A Oral Health, Mental Health, and Outreach funds

NVRC will notify the Consortium members when funds are available.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Data Presentation for Priority Setting and Resource Allocation July 13, 2015  
10 a.m. at NVRC

Minutes \_\_\_ Approved as Written \_\_\_ With Corrections

*Tylee Smith* 8/6/15  
Tylee Smith Date