

**NVH Consortium Meeting
May 5, 2016
Summary Minutes**

Nechelle Terrell, Chair, opened the meeting at Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MaryBeth Benz, Executive Director of FAHASS invited everyone to a PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) Summit in Fredericksburg April 29. PrEP is a way for people who do not have HIV but who are at substantial risk of getting it to prevent HIV infection by taking a pill every day. The summit is co-hosted by the Black AIDS Institute. She also announced that Richmond City had opened a PrEP clinic.

PLWH/A OPEN MIKE

Mike Hughes asked for assistance in notifying other HIV+ persons about the PLWHA Committee meetings.

MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2016

The minutes of April 7, 2016 were approved as presented.

Overview of U.S. Army HIV Services

Catherine Gangsaas, RN, BSN, and Public Health Nurse Specialist at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, is the primary contact person for military personnel who test positive for HIV. She reported that the hospital serves the entire metro DC area and a population whose average age is 22. Many PLWH/A in the military face stigma. While medical care for active military and their dependents and for retired military is readily available, she described issues with dependents losing their status as dependents and having difficulty transitioning into civilian systems of care. The follow-up discussion revealed at least two ways that Ryan White services could cooperate with military HIV services to benefit their patients: civilian support groups where there would be much less likelihood of disclosure to others in their units; and VHO's Nexus program offered to counsel those transitioning out of military health care on the benefits and requirements for ACA health insurance and/or ADAP, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program offered by Virginia Dept. of Health through local health departments. For Ryan White planning, statistics on PLWH/A in the military are sent to the respective state health departments. Ms. Gangsaas was asked to try to obtain this data for our local area.

Updates on HIV Trials and Studies at NIH

Marco Zurita, Outreach Liaison at PACT for HIV clinical trials and research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), urged persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH/A) to take advantage of the most recent innovations in care available at NIH at no cost. He also cited a need for gathering base-line data on those newly diagnosed before they begin treatment in order to better understand the effects of their treatment. NIH offers free, comprehensive lab tests and assists with transportation for these newly diagnosed persons

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT

Betelhem Mekonnen, a new member of the Metropolitan Washington Regional Ryan White Planning Council from Virginia, reported that Northern Virginia's recent request for reallocations between services in their Part A grant had been approved. Funding for the current grant year is now final.

Michelle Simmons noted that there are still vacancies on the Planning Council for Suburban Virginia representatives. Interested parties should submit an application. Appointments are made by the Mayor of the District of Columbia. More information is available at www.doh.dc.gov/rwpc.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UPDATES

Logan Dickens, HIV Services Coordinator, reported for VDH:

As of May 2, 2016 there are **1,662** Northern EMA clients enrolled in Virginia ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program):

- 427 Direct (traditional) ADAP;
- 119 in MPAP (Medicare Part D);
- 201 in ICAP (Insurance Continuation); and
- 915 in HIMAP (Health Insurance Marketplace Assistance Program aka ACA--Affordable Care Act insurance paid for ADAP clients by VDH).

Upcoming meetings: The next VDH Quarterly Contractors meeting will be May 11, 2016 at the Meadowdale Library in Chesterfield, VA. The next VDH QMAC meeting will be May 10, 2016 at the Virginia Center for the Blind.

Training of Consumers on Quality: VDH is hosting this training for people living with HIV/AIDS on June 2nd and 3rd in Richmond, Va. It will provide them with skills and knowledge to impact the quality of their HIV care. Registration ends Friday, May 13th.

Supplemental grant: HIV Care Services (HCS) is currently working on an application to fund health education/risk reduction, outreach, oral health, emergency financial assistance, and housing services.

Renate Nnoko has been hired as a new Planner for HCS. Her current priority is developing the Integrated Care and Prevention plan.

ADAP-PrEP Technician: HCS is currently recruiting and interviewing candidates for this Operations Technician position. S/he will assist clients with enrolling in medication access programs related to PrEP.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Prevention and Education: Nechelle Terrell reported that their next meeting of the committee will be May 13 at NVRC.

PLWH/A Committee: Mike Hughes, Vice Chair, reminded us that this committee will meet on Wednesday, May 18, at 12 noon. They meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at NVRC. He asked for help in recruiting people to attend. The suggestion was made that the meeting time and date could be impacting attendance as the increasing numbers of PLWH/A who are employed cannot attend a noon meeting. Michelle Simmons suggested that perhaps an on-line survey could solicit feedback on interest, possible topics, and meeting times and places.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT

Michelle Simmons reported that 96% of the \$1.5 million Part B award for the past grant year had been expended. A total of \$60,000 was returned to VDH, with the largest amount of unspent funds in the Oral Health category.

She also gave a summary of the recent meeting of providers held by DC Dept. of Health to solicit input into plans to change the method of payment for some Ryan White services from grant funding to fee-for-service reimbursement. Michelle will be sending out an online Survey Monkey questionnaire to Suburban Virginia Ryan White providers to elicit their opinions on what affects their costs and how prepared their billing systems are change to fee-for-service. The progress on defining services and setting rates of reimbursement has been disappointingly slow.

The service categories currently being considered for fee for service, effective March 1, 2017, are:

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- Outpatient Ambulatory Medical Care
- Oral Health
- Mental Health
- Outpatient Substance Abuse
- Food Bank and Home Delivered Meals
- Childcare

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Consortium June 2, 2016 at NVRC from 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon.

Priority Setting & Resource Allocation second week in August (day and time to be decided)

Minutes Approved as Written With Corrections

Tylee Smith 6/2/16
Tylee Smith Date