

**NVH Consortium Meeting
June 2, 2016
Summary Minutes**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hugo Delgado invited everyone to the NovaSalud Open House on June 17.

Christine Stewart was introduced as the new Program Manager for IPHI (the Institute for Public Health Innovation).

The Honorable Penny Gross, Chair of the No. Virginia Regional Commission and member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, presented Tim Agar, NVRC's Federal Grants Monitor for Ryan White, with an official recognition of his work at NVRC.

PLWH/A OPEN MIKE

No one asked to speak.

MINUTES OF MAY 5, 2016

The minutes of May 5, 2016 were approved as presented.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA)

Julie Riddle, HOPWA Contract Monitor & Housing Resource Specialist at NVRC, summarized background for possible program changes for the HOPWA grant year starting October 1. These included:

- Describing all services eligible for HOPWA funding, which consist of eight housing-related services and at least 15 supportive services.
 - NVRC currently supports three housing-related services -- Housing Information (www.novaregion.org/hiv); Short-term Rent, Mortgage & Utility Assistance (STRMU); and Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) voucher program.
 - NVRC currently supports four supportive services -- Housing Case Management; Employment Assistance (pilot program at FAHASS); Permanent Housing Placement/security deposits; and Transportation.
- NVRC has been increasing support for Housing Case Management for two reasons: (1) to increase housing stability, which leads to better health outcomes for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH/A) and (2) to help PLWH/A increase self-sufficiency.
- NVRC's HOPWA funding flows through the DC Dept. of Health HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration (HAHSTA). This planning exercise is based on the "guestimate" that the HOPWA award to Metro Washington, and Suburban Virginia's portion of it for 2016-17 will be the same amount as this year.
- Increasing housing costs in the region led to HUD publishing an increase in the Fair Market Rents which determine the upper limit of tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA).
- HOPWA was never intended to become a permanent subsidy and is now encouraging clients to get, keep and improve employment whenever possible; emphasis is on targeting the most intensive HOPWA services to serve the most vulnerable.
- There are 242 persons on the regional wait list for TBRA, which has been closed since January 2015.

Michelle Simmons then distributed a proposal to give preference for TBRA to the most vulnerable PLWH/A: those who are disabled, victims of domestic violence; elderly or homeless. The group considered whether (1) single parents with 3 or more minor children or (2) young adults ages 18-29 should be added to the proposed preference category. Consensus reached was the proposed preferences would stay as presented, and these groups may be considered later for pilot programs.

Priority Recommendations: Following the data presentation the Consortium made the following recommendations on priorities for HOPWA services during the upcoming 2016-17 grant year, which begins October 1, 2016. The Consortium judged the following HOPWA allowable services to be priorities, with “1” representing the highest priority service.

Housing Related Services			
1.	Housing information	5.	Resource Identification to establish, coordinate and develop housing resources
2.	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	6.	Acquisition, rehabilitation, conversion, lease, and repair of facilities
3.	Short Term Rent, Mortgage and Utilities (STRMU)	7.	Technical assistance to establish and operate a community residence
4.	Facility operating costs		
Supportive Services			
8.	Housing Case Management (HCM)	15.	Drug and alcohol abuse treatment and counseling
9.	Employment assistance (including education/job training)	16.	Health/medical/intensive care services
10.	Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) (Security Deposits and First Month’s Rent)	17.	Legal services
11.	Transportation	18.	Mental Health
12.	Child care	19.	Nutritional services (including meals)
13.	Education (credit counseling/repair, etc.)	20.	Outreach
14.	Adult day care and personal assistance	21.	Life skills management
		22.	Assessment

Allocations Recommendations to Target Limited HOPWA Resources: The Consortium discussed potential available funding and how it should be distributed among priority services. The group agreed to add a preference to the Waitlist to utilize funding to serve the most vulnerable on the Waitlist ahead of all others. “Most vulnerable” was defined to include:

- disabled
- victim of domestic violence
- elderly/older adult, or
- homeless.

Definitions of each of the characteristics related to vulnerability were distributed in a detailed handout and included in the Request for Public Comments found on www.novaregion.org/hiv.

PLWHAs currently on the Waitlist or who may be added to the Waitlist in the future who have at least one of these characteristics will be considered Preference Category #1, and will be served -- based on date/time of their application to the Waitlist when vouchers become available -- ahead of all other PLWHA on the Waitlist who do not have a least on of these traits. A minor commitment to rehab and repair of two housing units being made into permanent supportive housing for PLWHA and funding for a small pilot program to address housing and employment needs for the recently incarcerated were also recommended. The following allocation plan captures all of the recommendations of the Consortium:

Proposed 2016-17 Suburban Virginia HOPWA Allocations Plan

Service Area	Amount	Estimated No. of Households to be Served
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (including utility assistance)	\$1,893,085	136
Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility assistance	\$117,476	45
Housing Information	\$38,500	1,000
Repair and Rehabilitation	\$50,000	2
Facility Operations	\$5,000	2
Housing Case Management	\$219,329	200
Employment Assistance	\$92,444	25
Permanent Housing Placement	\$67,805	50
Transportation	\$20,440	30

MEETING TIME EXTENDED

The Consortium agreed to extend the meeting until 12:15 p.m. to complete the business on the agenda.

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT

Tom Decker, a new member of the Metropolitan Washington Regional Ryan White Planning Council from Virginia, reported that regional spending was on track and that all the new employees had received training and were performing their functions.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UPDATES

Logan Dickens, HIV Services Coordinator, reported for VDH:

As of May 2, 2016 there are **1,628** Northern EMA clients enrolled in Virginia ADAP (AIDS Drug Assistance Program):

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

Medication Access Assistant Director: Lenore Lombardi, the former Medication Access Assistant Director, accepted a position at another agency. Please direct all medication access issues to Carrie Rhodes or the medication access hotline

New Staff: VDH hired a new HIV Care Services (HCS) Grants Manager and an ADAP PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) Technician. The later will assist clients enrolling in medication access programs related to PrEP. Both begin in June.

Patient Navigation Request for Proposals (RFP): HCS will be releasing this RFP this summer.

ADAP Recertification: VDH is aggressively working to get all clients recertified. Lists were sent to contractors with names of ADAP clients with missing information so agencies can assist in client outreach. Additional requests may be sent. This information is due to VDH by July 8th.

Online Recertification in ADAP: RDE, the e2Virginia contractor, is working on an ADAP recertification module in e2Virginia and expects to release it in July 2016.

NVH Consortium
Minutes of June 2, 2016

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT REPORT

Michelle Simmons stated that there were no additional items to report.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Consortium July 18, 2016 at NVRC from 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon.

Tentative August 11 at NVRC Priority Setting & Resource Allocation (time to be decided)

Minutes Approved as Written With Corrections

Tylee Smith 7/26/16
Tylee Smith Date