

**HIV Consortium Meeting  
September 3, 2009  
Summary Minutes**

Brent Minor, Chair, called the meeting to order.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Inova Juniper training sessions at their Springfield office include:
  - Facts on AIDS Sept. 9
  - Case Management and Support Services Conference Sept. 15, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
  - What's Up with STDs, Family Planning and Addictions Sept. 22, 2:00 – 6:30 p.m.
  - Working with Interpreters Oct. 15, 3 – 4:30 p.m.
- Inova Alexandria Hospital Emergency Dept. begins rapid testing all patients for HIV/AIDS the end of Sept. Testing will be opt-out from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., 4 days a week.
- There will be a town hall meeting coming to DC in the next few months to begin developing a national AIDS strategy. It will be important to participate.
- Phillip Bailey of NAPWA announced that CDC, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is recruiting PWAs to appear in an educational film.
- Sue Rowland of VORA announced their annual meeting Tuesday, Sept. 29 in Richmond. They will be announcing their award to a Virginia legislator.

**OPEN MIKE**

No one signed up to talk during open mike.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes were approved as written.

**CONSORTIUM ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

Brent Minor, Chair, reminded those present that Carol Jameson, the Vice Chair, would become Chair of the Consortium at the end of this meeting. Deborah Bowers of the Alexandria Health Department and Chair of the Primary Care Committee was the only nomination submitted for Vice Chair. There were no nominations from the floor and qualified members voted by secret paper ballot.

Duties of the Vice Chair include:

- presiding in the absence of the Chair;
- advising and assisting the Chair; and
- attending Executive Committee meetings.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO INTERACT WITH STATE LEGISLATORS FOR THE 2010 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION**

Sue Rowland of VORA (Virginia Organizations Responding to AIDS) and Chair of the Public Affairs Committee presented information on how to locate and contact Delegates and Senators for specific areas and handed out talking points for educating them on HIV/AIDS issues in Virginia. Members of the Public Affairs Committee briefly enacted a candidate forum and encouraged members of the Consortium to ask questions that would help candidates clarify their positions on HIV/AIDS issues. Bob Atkins described how to register to vote and voting absentee. Sue also clarified that nonprofit organizations may educate candidates for public office, like those running for Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General and the House of Delegates this fall, but may NOT endorse a candidate or party.

**VENDOR PROFILES:**

***Food and Friends***

Raul Burgos introduced Anthony Harbour, the new representative from Food and Friends to the Consortium. Raul then gave an overview of the services of Food and Friends, the Ryan White contractor delivering free prepared meals to the homes of people with HIV/AIDS. Raul distributed their quick eligibility reference and Client intake forms. Everyone was invited to their Open House the end of September.

In Virginia inside the beltway their clients receive 6 meals a week delivered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; outside the beltway they deliver Groceries to Go, a one-week supply that includes 6 frozen entrées prepared by Food and Friends. They prepare and/or provide food for thirteen different diets (a soft, mild diabetic diet is one).

- Dieticians on staff will help each client determine the diet best meeting their needs.
- They offer cooking classes for clients, caregivers, and even children.
- Currently serving about 200 HIV/AIDS+ people in Virginia. There is a about two-month wait in Virginia, but times vary.
- Confidential service is announced as Meal Delivery Service.
- Can drop off food at a medical center or other distribution point.
- Visiting nurses and hospice are sources of referrals for patients with other life-threatening conditions.
- Overall, Food & Friends income is about 40% public funds like Ryan White (and Community Health funds from DC and Maryland); 45% fundraising; and also private donations from corporations and individuals.
- Easier to get service the beginning of the month.
- HIV/AIDS services in Virginia cost about \$1.2 million and reimbursement is \$100,000 or 10%. In DC, reimbursement covers 45% and in Maryland 40%.
- Not many partnerships in Virginia: they make deliveries to 2 churches inside the beltway.
- Clients are checked every three months; nutrition plans are reviewed annually; clients are recertified every two years.

Questions were raised about triaging those on the HIV/AIDS waiting list, but it is first come, first served system. Those present reminded Raul that a growing proportion of Northern Virginia lives outside the Beltway and suggested that there is a great potential for more drop-off sites in Virginia.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### ***Mental Health and Substance Abuse Committee***

Luciana Lawrence reported that they plan to organize focus groups to collect data for Substance Abuse and are considering which populations and issues to cover. While they know the trends Ryan White mental health and substance abuse providers are seeing, feedback on trends from others is welcome.

##### ***Incarceration Issues/ Discharge Planning Committee***

Dave Coman reported there he met with a federally sponsored penal reform group and will be meeting with state people tomorrow. The committee is maintaining an online spreadsheet for its members showing adult detention facilities in the area with points of contact.

##### ***Case Management & Support Services***

Jane Beddoe reminded those present of the September 15<sup>th</sup> Conference. Tanya Kearney, Director of the Eastern VA Medical School AIDS Resource Center will be one of the speakers and will describe their peer support program.

#### **PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT**

- David Hoover reported that the Planning Council was receptive to discussions of the formula used to allocate funds among the Administrative Agents in the DC EMA. The Consortium discussed inviting Gunther Freehill, of DC HAA, to the Executive Committee to present research on formulas. Poverty, Medicaid, access to care, a carve-out for rural areas could be considered as alternatives to the current formula of HIV/AIDS cases. Michelle Simmons suggested that we review Gunther's research and determine the measures that best capture Virginia's critical situation. Carol Jameson asked that David organize a small planning group to pull together experts and plan for the conversation with Gunther.

#### **VDH UPDATES**

- Susan Carr introduced Rachel Reece who coordinates ADAPT and the Seamless Transition Program of discharge planning and linkage to ADAP for inmates being released from state-run correctional facilities.
- The CDC is not recommending that PWAs get a shingles vaccine.

- PWAs are a priority to receive H1N1 vaccine when it is available. In the meantime they should get their seasonal flu shots. H1N1 vaccine will be available to physicians who register online with VDH. PWAs should consult their personal physicians.
- The pilot for ADAPT's centralized eligibility processing has transitioned 48% of Prince William clients. Newport News and Lynchburg will be the next sites to roll out.
- Rachel Reece offered to work directly with local health departments where ADAPT clients are receiving medications too close to the expiration of their current supply.
- Anti-virals will not be available through ADAPT but will be offered through the Consortium's AIDS pharmaceutical assistance program (non-ADAPT formulary).
- VDH is developing more guidance for providers on efficient procedures within their 90-day maximum per drug.

**NOMINATIONS PROCESS FOR PLANNING COUNCIL SEATS**

Robert Smith, a current Planning Council member from Northern Virginia, reported that application forms for nominations for new members were due to the Membership Committee of the Metropolitan Washington Regional Health Services Planning Council by September 18, 2009. Current members from Northern Virginia: Wade Menear, David Hoover, Tony Ruiz, and Robert Smith have indicated that they are willing to serve again.

**LEADERSHIP TRANSITION**

Brent Minor stepped down as Chair and the Consortium presented him with a beer stein and their sincere thanks. Jay Fisette, member of the Arlington County Board, sent a letter of appreciation as did the PWA Committee. Carol Jameson assumed the Chairmanship and Deborah Bowers' election as Vice Chair and Chair Elect was announced.

**AD HOC PEER SUPPORT COMMITTEE**

A sign-up sheet for a committee to explore possibilities for a peer support program was circulated. Michelle Simmons mentioned that the local Community Services Boards had just issued an RFP for a peer support program.

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

- September 21 Executive Committee –

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tylee Smith

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date