

**HIV Consortium Meeting
April 1, 2010
Summary Minutes**

Carol Jameson, Chair, called the meeting to order at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission offices.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michelle Simmons announced that travel reimbursements would be handled differently and that at the end of the meeting an NVRC staff member would instruct consumers claiming reimbursement from NVRC on the new reimbursement policy.

OPEN MIKE

As there was no sheet for Open Mike, Open Mike was postponed to the end of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of March 2010 minutes, were approved with the following amendment: VDH transferred 63 SPAP clients to ADAP.

BY-LAWS

Motion #1:

Ron Scheraga moved to amend the Bylaws to replace "PWA (People Living with AIDS) with PLWH (People Living with HIV)". Phillip Bailey seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Draft Planning Calendar

Michelle Simmons presented the draft Planning Calendar for the new Ryan White fiscal year:

Date	Time	Agenda
May 6	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Data Presentation
May 17	1-2:30 p.m.	more Virginia Data
June 3	10 a.m.-12 Noon	Priorities
June 21	1-2:30 p.m.	Priorities continued/ Allocations
July 1	10 a.m.-12 Noon	Allocations
July 19	1-2:30 p.m.	Allocations wrap-up

Michelle stated that in the Allocation process the amount of money to be given to each allowable service needs to be determined and then sent to the Planning Council as the Suburban Virginia Plan. The Consortium acts as a sub-committee of the Metropolitan Washington Planning Council for Part A funds and acts under their rules. Anyone who attends a Data Presentation is able to vote for Priorities and Allocations. The Data Presentation usually consists of: a presentation from VDH regarding epidemiology; needs assessment information (from a client survey); what was done with the money last year (statistics of how many served); Quality Management (are we reaching standards of care); as well as reports from the Consortium committees. Michelle asked for suggestions to make the planning process more informative and beneficial to the Consortium. Suggestions received: create Focus Groups (reaching out to support groups run by the various agencies/programs) that would look at cultural minorities and those who might be new to care; and create a handout of "definitions" so that there is a universal understanding of the language and terms used in the Data Presentation. These definitions should be available by the May 6 Data Presentation. NVRC plans to hire a professional group to run the next series of focus groups.

Planning Council has expressed interest in the idea of "Portability of Services". Portability would mean if a PLWH lived in DC but worked in Virginia, he/she could receive services in either jurisdiction.

A question was raised about the effect of Health Care Reform on AIDS services through Ryan White. Phillip Bailey reported that he believed that ADAP medications would now count towards the Medicare "donut hole". Rhonda Thissen with VDH reported that they are still investigating whether or not that is the case. A suggestion was made to bring in someone who could speak to the "donut hole" question and other implications of Health Care Reform.

VENDOR PROFILE:

Carol Jameson and Jane Beddoe presented on NOVAM (Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry). Carol provided a brief history of NOVAM, which began in 1987 as a faith-based organization to provide medical transportation to those in need. NOVAM was founded by the Episcopal Diocese with input from Hospice of Northern Virginia, local Health Departments, and Whitman Walker Clinic. NOVAM no longer provides faith-based services/programming. Their mission statement reflects that change as decided by the Board of Directors over 18 months ago.

NOVAM now provides assisted medical transportation, but the agency's primary focus is on providing Prevention/Education to youths between 13-24 years of age. The Prevention/Education program (which accounts for 75% of budget) is primarily curriculum based and targeted specifically to high-risk youth. Programs include: Youth Speak, Face to Face, Rap It Up, the ORION program, and the new HEARTS program (which targets services towards African American males aged 13-24 that identify as gay, bisexual, or questioning). In addition, NOVAM has started Partnerships for Hope, reaching out to, and working with, the African American faith community to provide information and to start discussions regarding HIV/AIDS in the community. NOVAM partners with KI Services, Planned Parenthood and local Health Departments.

NOVAM has 17 employees and is located in the City of Falls Church. It had approximately 400 new cases in Northern Virginia last year. They provide services only to the Northern Virginia area.

PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT

Wade Menear reported that the Planning Council approved use of the Northern Virginia MAI grant, \$110.6 million (one time money due to overlap between contract years) for early intervention and/or dental services. These MAI funds must be used by the end of February 2011. Early Intervention Services could possibly be used to start a peer program in Northern Virginia.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Incarceration Committee

David Coman reported that the Prisoner Re-Entry program has become a priority for the Governor and that the lead individual from VA DSS (Jane Brown) has been loaned to the Governor. Ms. Banci Tewold has been appointed as the first statewide Prisoner Re-entry Coordinator for the Governor's Office. She has invited the Directors of Social Services in the first five affected localities to a meeting on 4/25/10. Information, questions and concerns from the Incarceration Committee will be shared at this meeting.

VDH UPDATES

Effective 2/10/10, FDA approved the ADAP drug Ritanavir (100mg tablets) in the non-refrigerated form for those with gel cap prescriptions. Clients will be required to obtain a new prescription for the non-refrigerated form. Current prescriptions with refills will still be able to get gel caps as long as they are available. Central Pharmacy cannot accept phone calls to change prescription; paper prescription forms are required. ADAP will be conducting 4 Quarterly phone conference calls for stakeholders to provide updates on medications, program requirements, policies, and centralized eligibility, as well as Q&A's. The first conference call will be on 4/21/10, 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Information on the VDH Webinar 4/14/10: [Complexities of the Triple Diagnosis \(AIDS, MH, SA\)](#), will be posted on the HIV Resources Project website.

NVRC Administrative Agent Report

Michelle reported spending trend changes since Allocations were made for the year just started. Previous years had seen a downturn in spending on HIV drugs. As a result, we had taken the position in Allocations that this trend would continue. In the year just ended, there was a spike in medication expenses which will put NVRC in a deficit position as it continues. The Executive Committee considered 3 scenarios to change allocations to reflect this new reality, meet the most important client needs, and keep spending within overall limits. NVRC has since calculated that Scenario 2 was not sufficiently realistic and removed it from consideration. Michelle presented the remaining 2 scenarios to address the spike in medication costs and present to the Planning Council as changes in the current year's Allocations:

Scenario #1: holds primary medical and health insurance harmless at last year's spending level due to increase in case loads; restores medication funds and proportionally reduces rest of services.

Scenario #2: removed from consideration.

Scenario #3: reduces more proportionally across the board with 2/3 of each service category's allocation based on its proportion to the adopted allocations and 1/3 based on spending history.

Motion #2:

Ron Scheraga moved the adoption of planning scenario #3 as the allocations plan for 2010-2011. Bob Atkins seconded. The motion passed with 28 in favor, 2 abstentions, none against.

OPEN MIKE

No one asked to speak at Open Mike.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- April 19 Executive Committee meeting
- May 6 Consortium

Minutes ___ Approved as Written ___ With Corrections

Tylee Smith

Date