

**HIV Consortium Meeting
January 6, 2011
Summary Minutes**

Debbie Bowers, Chair, called the meeting to order at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) offices.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Berube reported that Inova has filled two vacancies at their Springfield office and expect to fill the final one next week. She also announced that David Hoover and Sue Rowland were speaking at the General Assembly's budget hearing on the ADAP crisis.

Michelle Simmons introduced Philip Melemed, NVRC's new part-time CAREWare IT Coordinator.

OPEN MIKE

No PLWH indicated a wish to address the Consortium.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of December 2, 2010 were approved as submitted.

ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPT./ANHSI TRANSITION

Debbie Bowers introduced Errol Chin-Loy, Director of Clinical Operations for Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, Inc. (ANHSI), originally called the Arlandria Center when it started in 1999. ANHSI currently serves about 12,000 general medicine patients as a federally qualified health center operating out of 3 offices and 3 cooperating locations. Effective January 1, 2011, ANHSI will assume responsibility to provide HIV/AIDS Outpatient Medical Care and general medicine for the Alexandria Health Dept. caseload at the Casey Center. Errol described his HIV/AIDS health care and Planning Council experience in New York City, where he was a Senior Vice President for Health Services with Housing Works. ANHSI is training providers and bringing on staff as rapidly as possible. They are also working closely with Inova Juniper. Eventually they will be providing care to PLWH in additional locations and will be serving those who live outside the City of Alexandria.

PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT

No report.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Primary Medical Care

Beth Robinson reported that the committee may meet in February. They will focus on the Quality Standard on syphilis testing and recording this in CAREWare.

Case Management and Support Services

Jane Beddoe stated that the committee will meet next Tuesday, January 11 meeting.

Prevention and Education

Nechelle Terrell announced that Taylor Ferguson of K.I. Services had been elected Vice Chair of the committee and that she will continue as Chair. The committee is planning a spring HIV Prevention conference.

PLWH Committee

Robert Smith reported that Michael Herbert of PSI Services will speak on ADAP at the January 19 meeting.

VDH UPDATES

- Hunter Robertson, the new HIV Services Coordinator for Northern Virginia, reported that the upper age limit for children on the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) has been changed from age 13 to age 18. The expected number of clients to be disenrolled from ADAP remains at approximately 760. This number may change based on actual savings as the new procedures are implemented, as about \$4 million must be saved in the current year. 270 ADAP clients are in the process of being transitioned to Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs) for their Antiretroviral Medications (ARVs) and automatically placed on a wait list for ADAP. Currently there are 94 PLWH on the single waiting list for ADAP. About 30 Virginia Department of Health

(VDH) staff are working with on this transition. VDH staff do not assist new ADAP applicants with PAP applications. Local Case Management and Primary Medical Care programs may do so. Hunter asked for assistance in getting out the word for PLWH to respond to calls and letters from VDH to avoid being unnecessarily terminated from all pharmaceutical assistance.

When asked about triage or priorities for moving people off the wait list, Hunter responded that no one was moving off yet. He expected that the ADAP Physician Advisory Committee would recommend guidelines once ADAP was reopened.

Karen Berube reported that Inova staff had followed up on the suggestion that Northern Virginia Family Service local offices could assist clients with PAP applications. All local offices were contacted but none could offer assistance with filing applications.

NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT UPDATES

- Michelle Simmons reported that NVRC's Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS) should be received in the next few days so HOPWA contracts can be released.

REVISITING RYAN WHITE PRIORITIES FOR MARCH 2011 – FEBRUARY 2012

Michelle Simmons, Human Services Division Director at NVRC, reviewed the funding priorities that the Consortium set this summer, before the extent of the ADAP funding shortfall was known. She distributed a spreadsheet showing the spending trends for HIV services when Ryan White Part A, Part B, and MAI; and HOPWA funds were considered together. She also distributed a summary of unduplicated clients served through Part A and Part B over two years. These will inform a discussion at the Executive Committee Jan. 24. Anyone needing additional information or data in a different format was asked to contact her well before the 24th. The possibility of supplementing professional services with volunteer services offered by other PLWHs was discussed and a sign-up sheet for those interested in reviving the Peer Services Committee was circulated.

REGIONAL APPROACH ON PATIENT DRUG CO-PAYMENTS RESULTING FROM CHANGES IN THE VIRGINIA ADAP PROGRAM

Michelle Simmons reported that different clients were having different experiences with ADAP and Local AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance programs. She had hoped to discuss whether one regional approach was warranted. Tylee Smith will survey providers by email: are they currently expecting any consumers to pay out-of-pocket co-pays for drugs? How much? How do they handle different classes of consumers: Medicare Part D; insurance; Medicaid; veterans? Consumers may also report their experience with changes in ADAP. The compiled information will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on the 24th.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bob Adkins reminded everyone that February 2 will be AIDS Awareness Day at the Virginia legislature. Consortium members are encouraged to contact their representatives or plan to go to Richmond that day to educate members on the way that state HIV policies and budgets affect PLWHs. Go to www.VORA-online.org to sign up for talking points; information on points of contact; and hints for letting legislators know about the ADAP funding crisis and its impact on the lives of PLWH.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- January 24, 2011 Executive Committee meeting (the 3rd Monday is a holiday)
- February 3, 2011 Consortium meeting topic will be Health Care Reform. There will be a public session at Inova Juniper that afternoon on the same topic.
- February 14, 2011 Executive Committee meeting (the 3rd Monday is a holiday)

Minutes ___ Approved as Written ___ With Corrections

Tylee Smith

Date