

**HIV Consortium Meeting
February 3, 2011
Summary Minutes**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Cebula handed out paper flyers that described, for each the Northern Virginia Family Service offices, the assistance available for applying for pharmaceutical companies' Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs). Their services vary slightly based on staffing.

OPEN MIKE

No PLWH indicated a wish to address the Consortium.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of January 6, 2011 were approved as submitted.

HEALTH CARE REFORM AND HIV/AIDS

Kelly Fitzgerald, Associate Director of Government Relations, for Patient Services, Inc. (PSI) discussed the goals of the Affordable Care Act: opening new private insurance options; private and public access for those currently uninsured; increasing quality of care; and increasing availability of prevention services. Insurance exchanges for those whose health previously rendered them unable to get health insurance are in effect now, allowing individuals to buy a policy. Massachusetts managed to cover 96% of their population under a similar state program. The lack of medical providers has been an issue there. The next big federal issue, assuming that the law is not declared unconstitutional, will be defining the "essential benefits" that must be included in all insurance policies. Effective January 1, the expenses incurred by ADAP for PLWH with Medicare Part D who have exceeded the "cap" on their prescriptions will count as the True Out-of-Pocket expenses (TrOOP). Thus when the reduced TrOOP limit has been reached, Medicare Part D will again cover their prescriptions. Virginia has established a state task force on Medicaid expansion and another on the state insurance exchange that must be made available to those whose health rendered them unable to get health insurance.

REVISITING RYAN WHITE PRIORITIES FOR MARCH 1, 2011 – FEBRUARY 29, 2012

Michelle Simmons, Director of Human Services at NVRC, explained that the Ryan White funding situation had changed since the January Executive Committee meeting. NVRC has received approval to move the last of 4 support services over to HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS). The expected funding for Part A will now cover the reduction in Part B funding for 2011-2012 and leave about \$14,700 unallocated. She presented three scenarios:

Scenario #3 uses the entire Part A allocation to fund services in Suburban Virginia using the level funding formulas adopted in July 2010 for 2011-2012

Scenario #4: carves out \$53,436 (about 1 %) for ADAP with the remaining funds allocated according to the level funding formulas

Scenario #5: carves out \$53,436 (about 1 %) for ADAP with an increase in Medical Case Management and reductions in most other areas.

Motion:

David Hoover moved and Carol Jameson seconded a motion to adopt scenario 4. Bob Atkins offered an amendment to authorize staff to correct the spreadsheet to remove the \$152 reduction in the "Revised Part A to Balance" column. The amendment was accepted and the motion carried with 1 vote in opposition.

PLANNING COUNCIL REPORT

The Planning Council did not meet in January since there was heavy snow that evening.

ANHSI TRANSITION AT THE ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Errol Chin-Loy reported that ANHSI enrolled 49 of the 178 clients transferring from the Casey Clinic in the first month of operation at the Casey Clinic.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Case Management and Support Services

Jane Beddoe stated that the committee has changed its meetings to the third Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

Public Affairs

David Hoover reported on AIDS Awareness Day yesterday at the Virginia General Assembly. The message concerned the ADAP crisis and many legislators were visited. AIDS Watch with Congress will be February 16 and 17, 2011. About 20 people from Suburban Virginia are registered.

Primary Medical Care

Amelia Khalil reported for Beth Robinson that the committee will meet March 3 following the Consortium meeting.

Prevention and Education

Nechelle Terrell announced that the committee is will meet February 11 at the Fairfax Health Department.

VDH UPDATES

- Hunter Robertson, the HIV Services Coordinator for Northern Virginia, reported that 395 are now on the single ADAP waitlist. Some disenrollment letters have been sent to ADAP clients who have not supplied the documentation needed to continue their enrollment or have not responded at all to attempts to contact them. Anyone who receives such a letter should call the Virginia Department of Health STD/AIDS/Hepatitis hotline to receive assistance in getting onto PAPs for their antiretroviral medications. Karen Berube asked for clarification on letters that were sent to former ADAP clients transferring to PAPs. Hunter will ask about this.
- The quarterly VDH meeting for all Part B contractors statewide will be next Wednesday, February 9, in Richmond at the Tuckahoe Library.

NVRC ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT UPDATES

- Michelle Simmons reported that federal funding is in a continuing resolution cycle and the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will initially award about half of last year's Part A funding. NVRC's Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Part A awards level funding for 2011-2012 unless federal funds are not received.
- HRSA, the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, now requires subcontracts to be issued within 60 days of issuance of the IGA.
- HAHSTA, the DC HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, and TB Administration, has requested approval to carry over unspent MAI funds. If approved, this would mean about \$40,000 for suburban Virginia.
- The suburban Virginia HOPWA budget has been approved and the fourth and final support services contract has been issued. NVRC expects to issue a Micro-RFA, probably for individualized housing plans and/or a vendor for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance closer to Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

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

Minutes ___ Approved as Written ___ With Corrections

Tylee Smith

Date