

Greater Hartford Ryan White Part A Planning Council
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 October 6, 2010

MINUTES

Approved November 3, 2010

Members Present		
Freddie Close	Ken Flyte	Charna Teasley
George Lawson	Michael Hawkins	Clara Acosta-Glynn
Janier Caban Hernandez	Rebecca Hopko	Denise Morin
Jeanne Nodine	Ricardo Cruz	Edwin Banning
Jody Wynn Rodiger	Myrna Millet Saez	Loyd Johnson
Kate Bassett	Betsy Correa	Yvette Bello
Ann Patterson	Eugene Schempp	Mary Prince
Barbara Mase	Hugo Nunez	Valerie Ingram
Cecilia Lewis	Izolda Miranda	Vernal Talley
Charles S. Capers	Kenton Young	Yolanda Potter
Efrain DeLeon	Lolita Young	
Joseph Ornato	Angelique Croasdale	Peta-gaye Nemblard
	LaShaunda Ware	
Carlos Vazquez	Greta Gaetz	Ramiro Mejia
Danielle Warren Dias	Lee Perez	Victoria Odesina
Elia Vecchitto	Nitza Agosta	
Frederick Smith	Orlando Perez Rivera	

1. Welcome, Announcements & Introductions

Co-chair Clara Acosta-Glynn called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the Planning Council meeting. She said there would be two presentations at today's meeting. Jeanne Nodine and Angelique Croasdale will talk about the Ryan White All Part Conference that was held in Washington in August, and Freddie Close will share some highlights from the workshop on the TGA's Medical Case Management program that she gave at the conference.

Clara reminded everyone that Planning Council meetings are open to the public, but some of the information discussed in these meetings, including people's HIV status, is of a confidential nature, and everyone is expected to honor and respect that confidentiality.

To comply with the Planning Council Conflict of Interest policy, Clara asked those in attendance to introduce themselves, state what organization they work for, and what funded Ryan White Part A services their organization provides, if any.

2. Moment of Silence Co-chair Jeanne Nodine asked the group to observe a moment of silence to remember persons we have known and loved who have been lost to the AIDS epidemic and to remember all individuals living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

3. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for June 2, 2010, July 28, 2010, and August 4, 2010

Jeanne asked Council members to take a few minutes to review the minutes from June 2, 2010, July 28, 2010, and August 4, 2010, Planning Council meetings. Jeanne asked if there were any corrections to any of the meeting minutes. Jody Rodiger noted that she was in attendance at the June 2nd meeting. There were no other changes. Ricardo Cruz made a motion to accept the minutes. Loyd Johnson seconded. The minutes for the June 2, 2010, July 28, 2010, and August 4, 2010, Planning Council meetings were approved by a vote of 18 Yeas, 0 No's, with no Abstentions.

4. Report on All Part Conference

Jeanne Nodine and Angelique reported on the Ryan White All Parts of the conference. Jeanne said that she attended a number workshops on peer advocacy and the use of peers to provide outreach and engagement services for persons with HIV and AIDS. She said that many TGA's and EMA's are making use of peers to assist people with HIV in learning about the importance of care and disease management. Jeanne said that she also attended a workshop given by Harold Phillips on the Early Identification of Individuals with HIV and that Harold praised the work that the Hartford TGA is doing through its EIS program.

Angelique said that she attended a meeting on health care reform. She said that there was no information about how healthcare reform will impact the Ryan White program. She said that in addition to a workshop on medical case management, the TGA also offered poster presentations on the Minority AIDS Initiative Linguistic Services program and Ambulatory/outpatient Medical services.

Angelique said that HRSA will be rolling out new monitoring tools for both contract and fiscal monitoring. She said that these tools are probably be similar to ones that are already being used in the TGA. Fred Smith asked if the new tools would affect provider quarterly reports. Angelique said that there probably would be an impact, and that the grantee would provide assistance on how to use the new tools.

5. Medical Case Management Workshop

Freddie explained that historically Ryan White Parts A, B, C and D in the Greater Hartford area funded multiple agencies and community health centers to provide psychosocial case management services. Each agency or community health center was responsible for the administration, clinical supervision and training of psychosocial case managers . As a result, case management varied greatly throughout the area, and clients frequently changed case managers in search of "better" services. In addition, there was minimal interaction between Parts with regard to psychosocial case management services

In 2007 Ryan White programs throughout the state switched to a medical model for case management after the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act identified Medical

Case Management as a core service and other models of case management as support services. In the summer of 2007, all Ryan White funded Parts met to agree on a uniform definition of medical case management that contained all activities defined by HAB. The collaborative working group developed a set of core standards of care, with indicators and outcomes reflecting minimum expectations for delivery of medical case management for all Parts.

The TGA has relied on a clinical nurse HIV/AIDS specialist to implement the medical model case management program and to provide centralized clinical supervision. A major component of the new medical model is a medical assessment tool that was developed by a multidisciplinary team that consisted of case managers, community representatives, and medical, mental health, substance abuse, and housing providers. The assessment tool, which is completed monthly for each client, helps to identify emerging health challenges that may need clinical attention, such as the development of new opportunistic infections, problems with medication side effects, changes in mental health status, and difficulties with medication adherence, and to either alert the client's medical provider or link the client with medical care as soon as possible.

6. Committee and Caucus Reports

a. Needs Assessment Committee and Priorities Committee

Jody reported that the Priorities Committee and Needs Assessment Committee held a joint meeting in September. The committees began to develop a work plan and timeline for their respective responsibilities leading up to next year's priority setting and resource allocation process. The committees talked about the use of focus groups for gathering qualitative information after they have had an opportunity to look more closely at the results of the 2010 needs assessment.

b. Continuum of Care Committee

Ricardo reported that the Continuum of Care Committee met twice in September to assist in developing a plan for the Early Identification of Individuals with HIV/AIDS. (EIIHA) EIIHA is the new HRSA initiative that requires Ryan White programs to coordinate efforts with state prevention programs to make more persons with HIV aware of their HIV status. A 2005 HAB-sponsored study determined that testing through CARE Act funded EIS programs produces a higher seropositivity rate and a higher rate of return for testing results than CDC programs because they can be more focused in their efforts to target high risk individuals.

c. Evaluation Committee

The Evaluation Committee did not meet in September

d. Membership Committee

Janier reported that the Membership Committee interviewed two persons for membership on the Planning Council. The committee has also begun planning a retreat for Council members to be held in December.

e. Positive Empowerment Committee (PEC)

Jeanne Nodine reported that the PEC will be hosting the Everyone Bring One recruitment meeting in November and is working with the Membership Committee on the December Planning Council retreat.

f. Latino Caucus

Ricardo reported that the Latino Caucus will be holding a special program on HIV/AIDS in women and children on October 15th at the Puerto Rican Forum in recognition of National Latino

AIDS Awareness Day. Dr. Salazar from the Connecticut Children's Medical Center and representatives from Abbot well conduct workshops.

g. Care Team

Cecilia reported that the Care Team has begun planning an event for National Black AIDS Awareness Day in February. The event will center around an AIDS vigil.

7. Grantee Update

Angelique reviewed Ryan White expenditure data for the first six months of fiscal year 2010. After six months, the TGA has expended 46.2 percent of its Ryan White grant funds. At this time it does not appear as if another reallocation will be necessary. The grantee will make another report at the end of November.

8. Raffle

The co-chairs conducted the Planning Council raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.