

Greater Hartford Ryan White Part A Planning Council
 367 Russell Road, Newington, Connecticut 06111
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 November 3, 2010

MINUTES

Members Present		
Betsy Correa	Janier Caban Hernandez	Michael Hawkins
Cecilia Lewis	Jeanne Nodine	Myrna Millet Saez
Charles S. Capers	Jody Wynn Rodiger	Ricardo Cruz
Freddie Close	Kate Bassett	Valerie Ingram
George Lawson	Loyd Johnson	Yvette Bello
Hugo Nunez	Mary Prince	
Members Abstent		
Ann Patterson	Edwin Banning	Kenton Young
Barbara Mase	Efrain DeLeon	Lolita Young
Charna Teasley	Eugene Schempp	Rebecca Hopko
Clara Acosta-Glynn	Izolda Miranda	Vernal Talley
Denise Morin	Ken Flyte	Yolanda Potter
Staff		
Joseph Ornato	Angelique Croasdale	Peta-gaye Nemblard
	LaShaunda Ware	
Guests		
Carlos Vazquez	Greta Gaetz	Raydean Tiller
Danielle Warren Dias	Gloria Robinsons	Miguel Gonzales
Giselle Jacobs	Ramiro Mejia	Mildred Acosta

1. Welcome, Announcements & Introductions

Co-chair Janier Caban Hernandez called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the special Planning Council open house and pot luck lunch. He explained that the lunch time was extended in order to give everyone a chance to enjoy the great food and to talk and get to know each other. He thanked everyone who brought a guest and said there would be door prizes to show our appreciation. At the end of the meeting there will be two drawings: one for guests and one for everyone who brought someone to the meeting. The first prize in each drawing is a \$25.00 gift card. The prizes were made possible through the support of Abbott Laboratories and Glaxo, Smith, Kline.

Co-char Jeanne Nodine 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, Jeanne 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 Jeanne 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 October 6, 2010.

Janier asked Council members to take a few minutes to review the minutes from the October 6, 2010, Planning Council meetings. He asked if there were any corrections to the meeting minutes. There were no other changes. Freddie Close made a motion to accept the minutes. Loyd Johnson seconded. The minutes for the October 6, 2010, Planning Council meeting were approved by a vote of 17 Yeas, 0 No's, with no Abstentions.

4. The Ryan White Program

For the benefit of those attending a Council meeting for the first time, Planning Council members and staff talked briefly about the Ryan White program and the work that the Planning Council does to provide health care and support services for persons with HIV. Jeanne Nodine began with a tribute to Ryan White's short life. Ricardo Cruz talked about the services that his agency is able to provide with Ryan White funds. These include HIV medical care at a primary care clinic, HIV counseling and testing and health screening on the mobile health van, reengagement of persons who drop out of care, and mental health and substance abuse services at various locations in the community. Janier Caban Hernandez talked about the Planning Council committees and caucuses and briefly described their duties. He said that most of the work of Council is done by the various committees. LaShaunda Ware explained that the City of Hartford and the Planning Council serve as partners in implementing the Ryan White program. It is the City of Hartford that applies for the Ryan White grant and the City of Hartford that actually spends the money to provide the services that the Planning Council determines are needed by persons with HIV/AIDS.

5. The National HIV/AIDS Strategy

Janier explained that "Reducing New HIV Infections", "Increasing Access to Care and Improving Health Outcomes for People Living with HIV", and "Reducing HIV-Related Disparities and Health Inequities" are the central goals of President Obama's National HIV/AIDS Strategy. He said that he wanted everyone to think about how to accomplish these goals in the TGA. He divided everyone into three groups and asked that each group brainstorm about one of the goals. He asked that each group develop very specific ideas and strategies, such as who is going to do it, what are they going to do, how are they going to do it, how are they going to pay for it, and will they be collaborating with other agencies, caucuses, etc?

When the groups reconvened, each presented the results. Following are the ideas generated during the HIV/AIDS strategy brainstorming session. Janier said that he would ask the Planning Council committees to take these lists of ideas and develop plans of actions that included efforts to implement the ideas and strategies.

Reducing New HIV Infections

- 1) Education and Awareness – schools, contacting youth groups – CHPC – Connecticut health and planning consortium

- 2) Increase public awareness through public marketing – texting, social networking, Facebook (Ryan White page), Youtube – create videos (George, Yvette), twitter, advertising – public broadcasting - television, local radio stations – community topics, expertise on HIV/AIDS awareness
- 3) Encourage tv personalities to do testing on the news – promote testing ex. News anchors
- 4) HART – encourage community members – committee
- 5) Outreach and education by committees at local events – use caucuses
- 6) Risk reduction through HIV positive people – education, MCM on how to reduce risk of transmission
- 7) Routine testing and how to encourage physicians to enforce testing – educating and training physicians on how to approach people – reach out to DPH – how to support physicians, encourage to follow guidelines – collaboration

Improving Health Outcomes for People Living with HIV

- 1) Marketing – to educate people where to get services
- 2) Co-location of services – “one-stop shop”
- 3) Maintain current structure of services
- 4) Innovative ways to expand services – media marketing – youtube
- 5) Use of volunteers – extension of programs
- 6) Partnering across state – routine testing, collaborative marketing, use what we have and expand
- 7) Measure through careware, surveys of providers, examine if needs are met
- 8) Focus on early diagnosis
- 9) Testing days
- 10) Be where the people are – caravans, health vans, promote route
- 11) Larger events – ex. Month long - collaborate through process thinking – coordinate registration so providers get information up front, provide staff, clients are organized and processed – ushered through event

Reducing HIV-Related Disparities and Health Inequities

- 1) Collaborate with agencies – LCS, HHC, share services through EIS, Central AHEC, TLC
- 2) Peer to peer services – at diagnosis – work with peers
- 3) Increase access to TLC programs – so people do not drop through cracks – ex. Pick up program, taken to case management services, providers; sharing of information up front to all inmates when incarcerated – not by request only – work with Brian Goodrich, connect with HIV counselors – get message out
- 4) Promotion of people living with HIV to come out as advocate – dispel stigmas – being known in community – this feedback can connect with individuals through outreach – people can live healthy, encourage others to stay in care – traveling HIV testing and counseling – provide phone number
- 5) Age appropriate outreach – youth and children AND 50+ - awareness that impacts all ages and populations
- 6) Advocacy in Department of Education – involvement!

6. Grantee Update

Angelique announced that the RFP for Ryan White services for fiscal year 2011 has been issued by the City of Hartford. Proposals are due by December 16, 2010.

7. Raffle

The co-chairs conducted the Planning Council raffle.

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