



Meeting of the
NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
Carrie Davis, MSW and Daniel Castellanos, DrPH, Co-Chairs

January 8, 2015
The Ryan Center
110 West 97th Street

Members Present: Angela Aidala, PhD, Fay Barrett, Randall Bruce, Daniel Castellanos, DrPH, Carrie Davis, Jennifer Irwin, Rosemary Lopez, Anne Lyster, Frank Machlica, Antonio Munoz, Jan Carl Park, Jon Reade (for Marcy Thompson)

Members Absent: Maria Caban, PhD, Jeanine Costley, Timothy Frasca, Guillermo Garcia-Goldwyn, Graham Harriman, Sabina Hirshfield, PhD, Glen Phillip, Mary Poupon

NYC DOHMH Staff Present: Stephanie Chamberlin, M. Bari Khan, Kate Penrose, Nina Rothschild, DrPH, Wilbur Yen

Public Health Solutions Staff Present: Derek Coursen

Others Present: Billy Fields

Material Distributed:

- Agenda
- Minutes from the December 11, 2014 NA Committee Meeting
- NA Committee Worktable of Action Steps
- NY EMA 2012-2015 Comprehensive Strategic Plan: 2014 Annual Update: Highlights
- Comprehensive Strategic Plan Annual Update: Short Version
- Comprehensive Strategic Plan Annual Update: Long Version
- Draft Letter to the Grantee Concerning the Resumption of Data Collection for the Tri-County CHAIN Study
- CHAIN Data and/or Report Request Form
- Planning Council Calendar for January 2015

Welcome/Introductions/Moment of Silence: Daniel Castellanos welcomed meeting participants. Committee members introduced themselves. Antonio Munoz led the moment of silence.

Introduction of New Co-Chair: Jan Carl Park introduced Carrie Davis as the new Needs Assessment Committee Co-Chair, saluting her excellent contributions to date and thanking Dr. Castellanos for his leadership, while noting that the demands of the chairmanship will be well served by this team.

Planning Ahead: Dr. Castellanos noted that the NA Committee has begun following up on the action steps of the formal needs assessment with two presentations, learning more about service categories and about how CHAIN and eShare collect data. Subsequent NA Committee meetings will be less focused on the delivery of presentations and more hands-on. At the next meeting we will look at action steps related to data collection, developing three or four requests for data analysis from e-Share or CHAIN and providing continuity with work completed to date.

Gauging Committee Members' Responses to Presentations: NA Committee members discussed the surveys distributed by Dr. Castellanos assessing their reactions to presentations. To date, Dr. Castellanos has sent the raw data, an analysis of the data, and a summary of key themes. Using these summaries to inform the committee and to provide feedback to the presenters should be helpful. Dr. Castellanos noted that he has received many responses going beyond the questions posed in the survey and encouraged committee members to continue sending feedback.

Review of the Meeting Packet/Review of the Minutes: Nina Rothschild reviewed the contents of the meeting packet. The minutes from the December 11th NA Committee meeting were accepted for posting on the Planning Council website at nyhiv.org.

Comprehensive Strategic Plan: Annual Update and Q&A: Kate Penrose of the Research and Evaluation Unit of the Care and Treatment Program presented the annual update on the implementation of the *Comprehensive Plan for HIV/AIDS Services in the New York EMA: 2012-2015*. Her presentation is available on the Planning Council website at nyhiv.org. Some of the points during the presentation and discussion were as follows:

- Tri-County has more female clients, more whites, and more individuals over age 50 than New York City.
- We are trending in the right direction with Ryan White but not quite arriving at our goals. Do we have unrealistic targets?

- Acute care visits are actually very low – and we don't actually know what the acute care visit was for – it might be for care unrelated to HIV – e.g., a broken leg.
- Testing numbers went down because of a reduction in RW funding for tests, in conjunction with an increase in testing funded by other payers.
- People who delay entry into care eventually become sick and enter care. Once they are engaged in care, they generally remain in care – and we are doing fairly well with retention.
- The NYC population as a whole has higher rates of viral load suppression than the RW population, although the difference is small. Ryan White clients face more barriers than the general population, including poverty and housing issues, and these obstacles may interfere with viral load suppression. Given that the NYC population as a whole includes RW clients, the numbers for NYC might look even better without RW clients – and RW clients might look even worse. This presentation, however, is not an examination of the effectiveness of RW-funded services.
- Regarding the Comp Plan's goal #5, we need a meaningful estimate of cost per client.

Tri-County CHAIN Proposal: The Planning Council voted in favor of resuming data collection for the Tri-County component of the CHAIN study in March 2014 but has not received a response from the grantee. Planning Council staff has drafted a letter to the grantee. Committee members agreed to take the letter to the Executive Committee for discussion.

Public Comment: No members of the public commented.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.