



Meeting Minutes
NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
Lee Hildebrand, DSW, Chair

December 2, 2011
Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies
281 Park Avenue South, Conference Room A
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Members Present: Randall Bruce, Terri Faulkner, Guillermo Garcia-Goldwyn, Lee Hildebrand, DSW, Elizabeth Howell (alt. for Freddy Molano, MD), Natalie Humphrey, PhD, Jennifer Irwin, Rebecca Kim, Rosemary Lopez, Frank Machlica, Tamella McCowen, Ariel Negron, Jan Carl Park, Jon Reade (alt. for Marcy Thompson)

Members Absent: Angela Aidala, PhD, Martin Bruner, Carlos Manuel Gonzalez, Graham Harriman, Sabina Hirshfield, PhD, Barbara Kobrin, Julie Lehane, PhD, Don McVinney, Glen Phillip, Ricardo Vanegas-Plata, DDS

NYC DOHMH Staff Present: Stephanie Chamberlin, Marybec Griffin-Tomas, JoAnn Hilger, Rafael Molina, Nina Rothschild, DrPH, Ellenie Tuazon, Darryl Wong

Others Present: Billy Fields, Pastor Jerome Payne

Material Distributed:

- Agenda
- Minutes from the November NA Meeting
- Presentation on the Goals, Objectives, and Indicators for the Comprehensive Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS Services 2012-2015
- December 2011 Planning Council Calendar

Welcome/Introductions/Moment of Silence/Approval of the Minutes: Dr. Lee Hildebrand welcomed meeting participants. Members introduced themselves and observed a moment of silence. The minutes from the November meeting were adopted by consensus.

Background: Jan Carl Park provided some background on the comprehensive plan for HIV/AIDS services in the NY EMA, noting that the Needs Assessment and Integration of Care Committees vetted the Department of Health's work on goals, objectives, and strategies for the 2009-2012 Comprehensive Plan. Committee member Jennifer Irwin asked whether DOHMH would work into the goals and objectives the Commissioner's statement from December 1st (World AIDS Day) that anyone testing positive for HIV should be offered immediate enrollment in treatment.

Presentation on Goals, Objectives, and Indicators for the Comprehensive Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS Services 2012-2015: A number of questions were raised and answers provided during the presentation:

- Some goals and objectives seem low and not very ambitious (e.g., Objective 1a – for Ryan White – a 3% increase to reach 62,000 unique individuals tested annually through Ryan White-funded programs, by 2014 and Objective 1b – To decrease delayed diagnosis of HIV, by 2015, with an indicator of progress in the RW program of maintaining concurrent (AIDS with HIV) diagnoses at 17% or lower). The conservative estimate is because of the current funding environment. This is a realistic judgment based on expectations.
- Objective 2a is to increase the proportion of newly diagnosed individuals who enter into primary care within three months of HIV diagnosis, by 2015. Jennifer Irwin suggested reducing the time between testing and linkage to care from three months to something lower. Randall Bruce, however, stated that 90 days between diagnosis and linkage is actually pretty good and that health professionals cannot force someone into care.
- For 2a, the Ryan White-specific indicator is an increase in the proportion of newly diagnosed clients who show evidence of accessing primary care within three months of HIV diagnosis, from 43% to 78%. Committee members inquired how the numbers in this jump were developed. Committee members agreed that Dr. Ben Tsoi, who directs testing for the Bureau of HIV/AIDS, would be best positioned to address this question. Dr. Tsoi will be invited to the next meeting on January 6th.
- Committee members questioned some of the numbers indicating change in primary care status measures (for example, Objective 3c is to increase viral suppression). With E-Share, we can expect better reporting on primary care status measures than with AIRS.
- Some confusion emerged regarding ECHPP and EIIHA. Nina Rothschild will bring a couple of paragraphs explaining each initiative to the next meeting.

- A Committee member asked about the cost of these initiatives. Goal 5 refers to a planned cost-effectiveness study and will be addressed during the next Needs Assessment Committee meeting.

Public Comment: No members of the public commented.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Items for Follow Up: Nina Rothschild will bring paragraphs describing ECHPP and EIIHA to the next NA Committee meeting.

Dr. Ben Tsoi will attend the next NA meeting to address any questions regarding testing.