



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

April 9, 2015
LGBT Center
208 West 13th Street

Members Present: Angela Aidala, PhD, Fay Barrett, Randall Bruce, Daniel Castellanos, DrPH, Carrie Davis, Timothy Frasca, Sabina Hirshfield, PhD, Jennifer Irwin, Rosemary Lopez, Anne Lyster, Antonio Munoz, Jan Carl Park, Glen Phillip, Mary Poupon

Members Absent: Maria Caban, PhD, Jeanine Costley, Guillermo Garcia-Goldwyn, Graham Harriman, Frank Machlica, Marcy Thompson

NYC DOHMH Staff Present: Kate Penrose, Nina Rothschild, DrPH, Wilbur Yen

Public Health Solutions Staff Present: Derek Coursen

Others Present: Felicia Carroll

Material Distributed:

- Agenda
- Minutes from the March 12, 2015 NA Committee Meeting
- Needs Assessment Committee: List of Proposed Products
- Planning Council Calendar for April 2015

Welcome/Introductions/Moment of Silence/Review of the Meeting Packet/Review of the Minutes: The Committee Co-Chairs welcomed attendees. Meeting participants introduced themselves. Randall Bruce led the moment of silence. Nina Rothschild reviewed the contents of the meeting packet. The minutes from the March Needs Assessment Committee meeting were accepted for posting with one change on the Planning Council website at nyhiv.org.

Acknowledgement of the Role of the LGBT Center in the Fight Against AIDS: Committee members, led by Jan Park, paid tribute to the work of Act Up on the premises starting in 1987 and to the spirit and the energy still present. Mr. Park also acknowledged friends from Act Up who were silenced by AIDS.

Dissemination of Information on HIV Treatment and Care to Service Providers and Community Members: Dr. Castellanos noted that this committee completed the formal needs assessment last year. We are now in the process of following up on the recommendations and obtaining additional information which can be utilized by community members and service providers. Ryan White funds pay for e-Share and for CHAIN. We do not have the resources to hire a consultant and pay for additional research and need to make use of the data at our disposal. Committee members provided suggestions for future work:

- Think about the role of consumers and how to incorporate consumer feedback into the documents we develop.
- Use this conversation as a map and take it beyond the NA Committee.
- Develop a plan for enhancing the access of Ryan White clients who are co-infected with Hepatitis C (HCV) to the very expensive new generation HCV meds (not covered by the NYS ADAP program).

Committee members settled on the following plans and volunteered for participation in these projects to bring together the voices of service providers and consumers:

- Request reports from CHAIN and the Research and Evaluation Unit (discuss feasibility and the resources needed):
 - Angela Aidala, PhD
 - Tim Frasca
 - Sabina Hirshfield, PhD
 - Jennifer Irwin
 - Anne Lyster
 - Jan Carl Park
 - Mary Poupon
- Prepare a set of fact sheets to disseminate to the community on a regular basis:
 - Angela Aidala, PhD
 - Randall Bruce
 - Tim Frasca
 - Mary Poupon

- Organize a half-day community briefing for providers and consumers:
 - Angela Aidala, PhD
 - Fay Barrett
 - Rosemary Lopez
 - Antonio Munoz
 - Glen Phillip

Carrie Davis, Daniel Castellanos, and Nina Rothschild will serve on all three groups.

Hepatitis C Virus (HCV):

- The NYS ADAP Program is funded at \$300 million but does not include the new generation HCV meds in its formulary.
- The Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Committee has asked for an examination of need for HCV medication among Ryan White clients in the NY EMA who cannot obtain treatment through other payers (Medicaid, patient assistance programs, etc.).
- HRSA permits the EMA to fund an LPAP – a licensed pharmaceutical assistance program to help clients obtain HCV meds.
- The NA Committee needs to review the data and assess need
- What are the costs? What are the benefits?
- An active HCV advocacy coalition already exists. We should consider bringing the coalition into the discussion.
- There is a website where consumers can go to express their concerns about accessing medications.

Public Comment: No members of the public commented.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.