



Meeting of the
PRIORITY SETTING & RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

Monday, July 7, 2015
AIDS Service Center of NYC, 64 W. 35th St., 3rd Floor
3:15 – 4:45 pm

MINUTES

Members Present: Sharen Duke (Co-Chair), Matthew Baney (Co-chair), Victor Ayala (by phone), Randall Bruce, Joan Edwards, Graham Harriman, Matthew Lesieur, Amanda Lugg, L. Freddy Molano, M.D., Tom Petro

Other Planning Council Members Present: Billy Fields, Lisa Zullig

Members Absent: Steve Hemraj, Jan Hudis, Jesus Maldonado, Jan Carl Park, Lazara Paz-Gonzalez, Sam Rivera, Claire Simon, Lyndel Urbano

Staff Present: David Klotz, (DOHMH)

Agenda Item #1: Welcome/Introductions/Moment of Silence/Minutes

Ms. Duke and *Mr. Baney* opened the meeting, followed by introductions. *Mr. Harriman* led a moment of silence. The draft minutes of the June 8, 2015 meeting were approved with no changes. *Mr. Klotz* reviewed the meeting packet.

Agenda Item #2: FY 2016 Application Spending Plan

Mr. Klotz presented the most recent 2016 national appropriations requests, which show flat funding from both houses of Congress and the President. This means, given the recent trend of the NY EMA's proportion of cases nationally continuing to decline, that there will likely be another decline in formula funding for the EMA in FY 2016.

All PSRA members disclosed their conflicts of interest. The Committee was reminded that in last year's application spending plan, PSRA requested a \$3M targeted increase to Housing and an 8% proportionate increase to all other categories. There was a discussion on whether or not the conditions for requesting additional housing dollars still existed. Points raised included:

- Housing can easily take endless resources.
- Housing Placement Assistance is underspending because of the difficulty finding affordable units.
- HOPWA has taken another reduction this year, as well as adding new counties to its grant area.
- Some housing units have been lost (e.g., the Mapplethorpe residence).
- Many clients have been in "transitional" housing for over 10 years.

Mr. Harriman presented proposed decreases in three categories that are being re-bid for FY 2016, based on trends in spending data. The grantee recommends -\$190,097 for Harm Reduction (HR), based partly on expected State approval of Medicaid for these services; -\$109,123 for Mental Health (MH); and -\$33,493 for Home and Community-based Services (HOM). Early Intervention Services (EIS) is not being rebid until FY 2017, and so no reduction in the allocation is justified yet.

There was a discussion of requesting a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) even in the current funding environment, to reflect the increased cost of doing business for providers. The following is a summary of the discussion:

- ADAP/ADAP+ received a \$4.6M reduction in the Part B award this year, and will likely receive another cut next year, and so the program should not be exempt from any across-the-board increases.
- PSRA ideally needs detailed cost and need data to determine allocations beyond the carrying cost of programs. The Committee should undertake a rigorous process in the fall-winter to develop a new methodology for determining funding based on need, unit cost and impact on health outcomes.
- Other factors to consider during this process include changes in the environment and the impact of Medicaid reform, DSRIP, Health Homes, and new funding for the Governor's End of AIDS initiative.
- Work should be done category-by-category for the whole portfolio, starting with the 5 categories that are being re-bid (HR, MH, HOM, Legal, EIS). Medical Case Management should be included, even though it is a national model and achieving stellar results.
- PSRA needs to look at other resources and investment in services.
- Further reductions in EIS should be examined, although carefully, as the EMA's early intervention/linkage to care plan is 33% of the application score, and the EMA must document that it will not lose capacity.
- Funds from the three taken-down categories can be redistributed to the two categories that consistently over-perform and are identified by consumers as high priorities – Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) and Housing). These services also have been shown to have a direct positive impact on health outcomes and linkage to care, and will have an immediate benefit to clients.

A motion was made and seconded to re-allocate the \$332,713 taken down from HR, MH and HOM to FNS and Housing. A friendly amendment was made to reallocate those funds proportionate to those category's allocations (38.2% FNS, 61.8% Housing), and to exclude Housing Placement Contracts. The motion was approved 7Y-0N (3 not voting due to conflicts of interest).

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to request a 3.5% COLA for the entire Base award, to be distributed to all categories proportionately based on rank, with HR, MH and HOM excluded.

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to request flat funding for the MAI portion of the award.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, August 10, 2015, 3-5pm to discuss the process for revisiting the ranking and allocations process in the fall, including data needs.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.