



CONSUMERS COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 23, 2013, 1 - 3 PM
NYCDOHMH, 42-09 28th Street, Conf Rm 17-42
Long Island City, NY

Planning Council Members Present: Gregory Cruz (Co-Chair), David Martin (Co-Chair), Randall Bruce (Consumer-At-Large), Felicia Carroll, Billy Fields, Rev. Keith Holder, Muying Hunt, Antonio Munoz

Planning Council Members Absent: Victor Alvarez (Tri-County), Lotus Blackman, Deborah Marcano, Pastor Jerome Payne, Tracy Neil, Saul Reyes

Community Members: Jose Colon-Berdecia, Ron Joyner, Joey Lopez, Marcelo Maia

NYCDOHMH: Rafael Molina, Darryl Wong

MEETING MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED:

- Meeting Agenda/Planning Council Ground Rules of Respectful Engagement;
- July 24, 2013 Draft Meeting Minutes;
- Team Icebreaker Activity, EGM Consulting;
- Small Group Get Acquainted Session, EGM Consulting;
- Announcement of At large Consumer Member Election;
- Consumer Committee 2013/14 Contact Sheet;
- Consumer Committee Roles and Responsibilities;
- NY HIV Planning Council Bylaws, 1/13;
- Care Coordination Services Client Satisfaction Survey, NYCDOHMH, BHAPC;
- Supportive Counseling Services Client Satisfaction Survey, NYCDOHMH, BHAPC;
- 2013-14 HIV Planning Council Workplan & Timeline;
- Consumer Committee Meeting Evaluation;
- POZ Magazine, October/November 2013; and
- October & November 2013 Planning Council Meeting Calendar

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

Gregory Cruz, Co-Chair and David Martin, newly-appointed Co-Chair, opened the meeting. Joey Lopez led the group in a moment of silence. It was noted that Petra Berrios of the Leadership Training Institute (LTI) of Cicatelli Associates has been battling cancer and that Pastor Payne has had many health struggles over the last six months. Following the group review of the Rules of Respectful Engagement, Darryl Wong reviewed the meeting agenda and materials. The minutes from the July 2013 meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

ICEBREAKER ACTIVITY:

In order to help new Planning Council Consumer Committee members become integrated into the Planning Council and to continue building a sense of teamwork and collaboration among Planning Council & Committee members, while encouraging acceptance and appreciation of differing perspectives, two icebreaker activities were selected for the Consumer's Committee first meeting of the 2013/14 planning cycle. Both activities utilized **small-group processes**, consciously following an experiential learning cycle that includes having Committee members think individually before group sharing, to allow all participants to prepare their thoughts (and level the playing field for those who need a little time to

prepare before they are comfortable speaking in groups). The first activity asked participants to identify with a list of HIV/AIDS related activities and experiences, seeking to develop an inventory, from which many commonalities emerged (highlighted in red):

Planning Council Affiliation:

(2) Newly Appointed Member; (2) Soon to Retire; (8) **Member of Standing Committee**; (2) Chair of PC Standing Committee; (4) Have attended every PC meeting in 2013; (3) Involved in another city's RW Planning Council; and (8) **Completed on line Planning Council orientation**

PLWHA:

(11) **Lived with HIV > 20 years**, (0) Am a caregiver for a child with HIV/AIDS; (12) **Have been an AIDS activist for > 10 years**; (2) Have worked in HIV/AIDS in at least 2 states and (2) Have served on HIV Prevention Community Planning Group (CPG/PPG)

HIV/AIDS ASO/CBO: (6) **Employed by service providers**; and (1) Served on Board of Directors.

The second icebreaker, a getting-to-know-each-other activity that helped participants better understand both their own motivations and ways of interacting and those of other group members, revealed a wide range of motivations, linked with a common thread through three framing questions:

The most important reason I am serving as a Planning Council member, Planning Council support staff member or Grantee staff member is:

- to prevent the 80's from repeating itself – being positive, but with few, if any, treatment options;
- to address the needs of PLWHA;
- to know and learn all I can to help others;
- to advocate for the > 50 yo population;
- to give an active voice to those with physical disabilities;
- to lend leadership to PLWHAS and to act as a role model;
- to make an impact of quality of care and to represent the needs of PLWHAs;
- to impact knowledge and use my experience to contribute to others;
- to increase access to programs;
- to increase PLWHAs participation in decision-making;
- to educate self and others;
- to have voice heard to help other; and
- to focus experience, skills and education on my community.

I feel that a committee or Planning Council meeting is successful when:

- there is a consensus of ideas;
- the meeting starts and ends on time;
- the meeting is effectively organized;
- there is input and a voice;
- meeting participants get involved;
- input is based on knowledge;
- people stop arguing and get down to business;
- people actively listen;
- when there is a shared understanding of what happened;
- things get done and information can be disseminated;
- others listen to what I have to say;
- I learn something and I can share it; and
- Everyone is on the same page, irrespective of universal agreement

To work effectively with me, the most important thing you need to know about me is:

- I am a good listener;
- I am task-oriented;
- I am open minded & willing to learn and consider new ideas;
- I make decisions based on research & data;
- I like facts;
- I possess an historical/institutional memory;

- I like to know what I'm talking about/being informed;
- I value honesty & transparency;
- I get to the point;
- I value my personal time;
- I am a "sponge" and take in all that I can;
- I like to communicate, verbally and non-verbally; and
- I like to offer solutions and not just re-state problems

The most personally satisfying thing I have done in 2013 is:

- To fight to maintain my health;
- Re-connecting to family members;
- Getting myself "together";
- Finishing school;
- Getting married;
- Being appointed to the Planning Council;
- Securing good housing & reducing medical/hospital visits due to mold;
- I reached 65 yo;
- I kept every medical appointment;
- I became a real "NYer";
- I pursued a Human Rights violation in court;
- To get along better with my mother;
- To learn that NO is a complete sentence/to become discerning about my time & commitments;
- I have fully recovered from cancer; and
- Watching my daughter turn 13 yo.

CONSUMER COMMITTEE UPDATES

Darryl Wong announced that the nominations for the 2013/14 Consumer At Large were open and that the election of this individual will take place at the November meeting and that three new consumers (Billy Fields, Antonio Muniz & Saul Reyes) were appointed to the Planning Council.

2013-14 PLANNING COUNCIL & COMMITTEE WORKPLAN/TIMELINE

Darryl Wong outlined the plan for moving the recommendations derived from the CAB Best Practices Survey from the Committee through the Executive Committee & Planning Council, in order for Public Health Solutions, upon Planning Council recommendation, to incorporate these guidelines and recommendations into their contractual negotiation.

Given the lack of time, discussion about the 2013/14 workplan, timeline and membership outreach plan was postponed to the November meeting. The Co-Chairs re-iterated the need for committee members to arrive on time so that there is sufficient time to discuss all agenda items. The Committee agreed to extend the meeting by 15 mins, although some participants had other commitments immediately following the meeting.

BOROUGH UPDATES/NEW BUSINESS

There were no borough updates. The new member orientation will be held on October 31 from 9AM-1:30PM, followed by the Planning Council from 3-5PM that afternoon.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned a 3:15PM