



CONSUMERS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 1-3:00PM

NYCDOHMH, Gotham Center, 42-09 28th Street, Room 19-28, Long Island City, NY

Planning Council Members Present: Randall Bruce, Felicia Carroll, Gerald DeYounge, Rev. Keith Holder, Pastor Jerome Payne

Planning Council Members Absent: Victor Benadava (Co-Chair), Gregory Cruz (Co-Chair), Victor Alvarez, John Eddie, Steve Hemraj, Munying Hunt, Deborah Marcano, Hilda Mateo

Community Members Present: Billy Fields, Yves Gebhardt, Joey Lopez,

DOHMH: Rafael Molina, Jan Park, Nina Rothschild, DrPH, Darryl Wong

MEETING MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED:

- Meeting Agenda/Planning Council Ground Rules of Respectful Engagement;
- October 19, 2011 Draft Meeting Minutes;
- HRSA/HAB Monitoring Standards Powerpoint Presentation, 10/27/11;
- Memorandum of Understanding Powerpoint EC Presentation, 11/10/11;
- Draft Memorandum of Understanding, RMC approved 8/23/11;
- Needs Assessment for New York City, 11/4/11;
- Needs Assessment Outline, Internal communication, NYCDOHMH, Planning Council;
- Determinants of HAART Adherence, CHAIN Study, Peter Messeri, PhD;
- Positive Voice, National Association of People with AIDS, Vol 2, Issue 16, 11/7/11;
- ADAP Watch List, NASTAD, November 4, 2011; and
- November 2011 HIV Planning Council Calendar & Highlights

INTRODUCTIONS:

Gregory Cruz & Victor Benadava, Committee Co-Chairs, were unable to chair the meeting. Darryl Wong, Deputy Director of the HIV Planning Council and Jan Park, Governmental Co-Chair of the Planning Council opened the meeting, followed by Committee member introductions. Rev. Keith Holder led the moment of silence and Billy Fields reviewed the Rules of Respectful Engagement. Mr. Wong reviewed the meeting agenda and materials. The minutes of the October 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

PLANNING COUNCIL, FEDERAL/STATE/CITY HIV/AIDS POLICY & WORLD AIDS DAY 2011 UPDATES:

Jan Park provided an update on Federal, State and City policy issues affecting funding for HIV/AIDS services for PLWHAs, noting that the President's, Senate, House and ABAC FY 12 budgets are under negotiations, with the expectation that the Ryan White HATEM Act will be flat-funded, with a small increase in ADAP appropriations. Essential Health Benefits (EHBs) are components of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), included in insurance exchanges which are comprised of advocates from a wide range of chronic and infectious diseases. At the conclusion of the nationwide listening sessions, the CAEAR Coalition will be providing recommendations for a wide range of HIV related services for PLWHA.

At the State level, Medicaid Redesign Teams have solicited input from HIV advocates to insure that there is a wide range of necessary visits in place and at the beginning of 2012, a comprehensive list will be developed from over 4,000 suggestions.

Locally, the Occupy Wall Street movement has focused interest on multi-national pharmaceuticals have come under fire for price gouging of the most disenfranchised populations, patent expiration and generic medication availability. HASA is currently involved in many lawsuits, including a class action lawsuit regarding the mis-appropriation of funds due to PLWHAs.

The Committee was informed that HASA, since April 2011, will pay 50% of one month's rent as the broker's fee, with no expectation that PLWHAs will pay the difference. If there are cases where brokers are demanding the difference, they should be reported to HASA immediately. A list of approximately 25 licensed real estate brokers with contractual agreements with HASA is available and will be distributed shortly.

With respect to World AIDS Day activities throughout NYC:

- Housing Works will be conducting names reading at Housing Works bookstores and thrift shops over the course of one week and will be hosting memorial video hookups for individuals who wish to memorialize loved ones. More information is available at www.housingworks.org
- Kings County Hospital will be hosting an event, although it is as yet undetermined.
- The Mayor will be hosting this year's commemoration at Gracie Mansion on December 1 from 8AM-9:30AM. Planning Council members will be receiving e-vites.
- Unity Fellowship Church in Brooklyn will focus its activities on those who have lived with HIV for 30 years.
- Queens will commemorate World AIDS Day on December 5 at Queens Borough Hall from 1-5PM.

PRESENTATION: PLANNING COUNCIL/GRANTEE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Jan Park presented an outline of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Planning Council and Grantee. The MOU is a condition of the grant award and due to HRSA by December 15th. The Rules and Membership Committee has been working on it, with input from HRSA, reviewing drafts line-by-line for three years, and negotiating the final language with the grantee (the NYC DOHMH Bureau of HIV Prevention and Control). The final draft was approved by the Executive Committee November 10, 2011. The MOU sets out the mutual goals and respective roles and responsibilities of the two parties in the various functions of the Part A grant, such as setting priorities, appointing members, conducting needs assessment, re-allocation and re-programming of funds, grant administration, evaluation, quality management, Planning Council staffing, etc. The MOU also spells out the parties' roles in communication and information sharing and settling disputes, setting out timelines for delivery of reports and data requests.

HRSA MONITORING STANDARDS

In response to the presentation of the monitoring standards last month, an Ad-hoc Task Force was convened and staffed by Nina Rothschild. Sharen Duke will be acting as Chair of the Task Force as the implementation of the standards moves forward, particularly regarding Medicaid certification and the re-definition of program and administrative costs.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Dr. Rothschild provided an overview of this year and next Needs Assessment process, which will look at a wide range of PLWHA needs/unmet needs, as well as develop a HIV provider resource inventory.

BOROUGH UPDATES ON HIV NETWORKING ACTIVITIES

The Manhattan HIV Care Network will meet on December 15.

The Brooklyn HIV Care Network hosted meetings on nutrition and drugs & alcohol. The next meeting will be in January

PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The recent passing of Tracy Moran, from the Mid-Hudson valley, was noted.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00PM.