



CONSUMERS' COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 24, 2015, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

LGBT Community Center, 208 West 13th Street, Rm 101, New York, NY

Planning Council Members Present: Billy Fields (Co-Chair), Randall Bruce (Consumer At Large)
Saul Reyes

Planning Council Members Absent: Altirik Harper, Harry Jackson, Jesus Maldonado, Carlos Rosario,
Kim Watson

Appointed Community Members: Felicia Carroll, Yves Gebhardt, Ron Joyner, Glen Phillip

Guests: Mark Browne, Lawrence Francis, John Schoepp, Corey Thorpe

NYCDOHMH: Jan Carl Park, Darryl Wong

MEETING MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED:

- Meeting Agenda & Rules for Respectful Engagement;
- July 21, 2015 Meeting Minutes;
- CDC/HRSA Integrated HIV Prevention & Care Guidance;
- Request from NYSDOH for Submission of ETE 2020 Implementation Strategies, 10/22/15;
- Strategies and Resources to Increase Employment Opportunities of People Living With or at High Risk of HIV, National Working Positive Coalition;
- Employment Rights for People Living with HIV/AIDS, Legal Action Center;
- AIDS Institute Peer Worker Certification Program, NYSDOH, Presentation, 10/23/15;
- Uptown Manhattan ETE Regional Discussion Notes & Action Plan Framework, 9/21/15;
- Downtown Manhattan ETE Regional Discussion Notes & Action Plan Framework, 9/22/15;
- Medical Monitoring Project (MMP) Quarterly Conference Call Notes, 10/27/15;
- MMP 2015 Sampling Methodology, Local Questionnaire, Outreach Letters, 2013-15 Recruitment Strategies, MMP Project Team, NYCDOHMH;
- Obama Administration Guidance will Increase Access to Hepatitis C Cure Drugs, The AIDS Institute, 11/5/15;
- Transgender Care Movies Into the Mainstream, JAMA, 11/2/15;
- Community Engagement: Beyond the Consumer Advisory Board, Statewide Consumer Advisory Board, Office of HIV/AIDS, Massachusetts DPH;
- NYCDOHMH HIV/AIDS Bi-Weekly Update, July 14, 2015;
- Announcement of Consumer At Large Nominations, HIV Planning Council, NYCDOHMH;
- NYCDOHMH Community Coordinator Job Posting Notice, NYCDOHMH, 10/8/15;
- J&J, ViiV: 2 Injections Every Month or 2 Could Control HIV, Yahoo.com, 11/20/15;
- Hep Free NYC November 2015 Newsletter;
- World AIDS Day Announcement, End AIDS NY 2020 Coalition;
- December 2015 HIV Planning Council Calendar; and
- POZ Magazine, October/November 2015, December 2015.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/REVIEW OF MINUTES

Billy Fields, Co-Chair of the Committee opened the meeting, followed by participant introductions. The Committee was reminded that former Co-Chair David Martin did not submit an application for re-appointment to the Planning Council and has stepped down as Committee Co-Chair. Ron Joyner led the group in a moment of silence in honor of those struggling and those who have passed. Darryl Wong reviewed the meeting agenda, meeting packet and Rules of Respectful Engagement. The July 2015 minutes were accepted by acclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

PLANNING COUNCIL /CONSUMER COMMITTEE UPDATES

CDC/HRSA Integrated Prevention and Care Plan Guidance:

The CDC/HRSA Integrated Prevention and Care Plan Guidance, including the Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need was introduced to Committee members. The guidance states that “*Key principles of the Integrated HIV Prevention & Care Plan development process are **inclusion** of at-risk groups and **representation** of PLWH. [This] inclusion of community stakeholders in the development of the plan helps ensure that HIV prevention and care activities are responsive to the needs in the service area. Impacted communities should be engaged in the planning process to provide critical insight into developing solutions to health problems”.*

Several committee members expressed concern that consumers and Planning Council members will be excluded from the development of this integrated plan and that the community planning process will be circumvented; the role that consumers will play in the development of the plan has not been articulated by the State, the entity leading the process. Mr. Wong assured Planning Council Consumer Committee members that they will be apprised of opportunities, as they arise, for engagement and input into the process before the plan is developed and submitted to CDC/HRSA in September 2016.

There was additional concern that these actions are harbingers of combined, reduced funding in the future and a diminution of stakeholders’ voices, a trend which some consumers believe began long ago, beginning with the dissolution of the PWA Advisory Group and then the subsequent de-funding of the HIV Care Networks. Others expressed disappointment that their earnest efforts to be involved are being met, at best, with indifference. Mr. Fields advised the Consumer members to come to the next Consumers meeting prepared with talking points for presentation at the next full Planning Council meeting, which will meet on Thursday, December 17. Members asked that the Consumers Committee meeting date be changed to December 15 so that consumers are afforded the opportunity to frame their questions and comments in advance of the full Planning Council meeting.

The Planning Council has not yet received City Hall approvals for the recommended Planning Council appointments for the 2015-2018 term. Nonetheless, we are planning our first full meeting for December 17. When we have a fully-seated Planning Council, a Community Co-Chair nominations and election process can move forward, in addition to the appointments/re-appointments of Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs. Moving forward, the Planning Council will begin membership recruitment in early spring so that applications may be solicited, reviewed, selected and transmitted to the Mayor’s Office before summer. The Bylaws also need to be revised to allow members to serve in an interim capacity in between member vacancies.

Ending The Epidemic 2020:

Lawrence Francis, Borough Coordinator for the Ending the Epidemic (ETE) initiative, noted that other groups also contributed to the borough-based discussions. The four major questions were presented, with action plan frameworks identifying goals, activities and responsible parties for both Uptown and Downtown Manhattan. Targeted populations include faith-based institutions and youth and transgender-serving agencies.

Medical Monitoring Project 2015:

Darryl Wong reported that a quarterly conference with the MMP CDC project team was held and that feedback was given on the sampling methodology, NYC’s local Questionnaire (which reflects local concerns around quality of care and provider-client interaction), outreach letters and recruitment strategies. It was noted that much effort is being directed to the identification of Out of Jurisdiction individuals who may have fallen out of care.

PUBLIC COMMENT/NEW BUSINESS/BOROUGH UPDATES/ADJOURNMENT

A call to action in support of Protection for Trans and Gender Non- conforming (TGNC) New Yorkers was distributed for community sign on. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15PM

