



## **CONSUMERS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, February 12, 2014, 2:30 – 4:30 PM  
AIDS Service Center, 41 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street, NY, NY

**Planning Council Members Present:** David Martin (Co-Chair), Billy Fields (Co-Chair), Randall Bruce (Consumer-At-Large), Felicia Carroll, Muying Hunt-Chena, Saul Reyes

**Planning Council Members Absent:** Victor Alvarez (Tri-County), Lotus Blackman, Kareem Clemons, Rev. Keith Holder, Deborah Marcano, Antonio Munoz, Pastor Jerome Payne, Tracy Neil

**Appointed Community Members:** Yves Gebhardt, Ron Joyner, Joey Lopez, Glen Phillip

**NYCDOHMH:** Darryl Wong

### **MEETING MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED:**

- Meeting Agenda/Planning Council Ground Rules of Respectful Engagement;
- January 15, 2014 Draft Meeting Minutes;
- HRSA Notice of Grant Award, 3/1/14 – 2/28/15;
- Domestic HIV/AIDS Funding Cuts Partially Restored, The AIDS Institute, 1/14/14;
- AIDS Budget and Appropriations Coalition (ABAC), FY 2015 Appropriations for Federal programs,
- Breaking the Silence of an Epidemic, NASTAD, October 2013;
- Ryan White Part A Client Satisfaction Survey – Super Committee Workgroup, 11/15/13;
- EIS Funding Reduction Scenario Summary, PSRA, 2/14;
- Ryan White Funded Early Intervention Services (EIS), NYCDOHMH, 1/14;
- Ryan White Part A Home & Community-Based Health Services, 1/14;
- Ryan White current portfolio list, FY 13-14;
- HASA Fact Sheet, December 2013;
- HIV Care Services Community Advisory Group (CAG) Announcement;
- HIV/AIDS Weekly Update, NYCDOHMH, 2/7/14;
- Assessing the Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Health Insurance Coverage of People with HIV, Kaiser Family Foundation Issue brief, January 2014;
- Consumer Committee February 2014 Meeting Evaluation Form;
- February & March 2014 Planning Council Meeting Calendar;
- 2013-14 Consumers Committee Contact Sheet;
- Consumers Committee 2013-14 Committee Membership;
- POZ Magazine, December 2013, January/February 2014.

### **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:**

David Martin, Co-Chair, and Randall Bruce, Consumer-At-Large opened the meeting. Darryl Wong led the moment of silence, noting the one year anniversary of the passing of JoAnn Hilger, former Ryan White grant administrator. Members introduced themselves and the Rules of Respectful Engagement were reviewed before Darryl Wong, Planning Council Staff Liaison, reviewed the meeting agenda and accompanying meeting materials.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

#### **DEVELOPMENT OF 2013-14 COMMITTEE WORKPLAN:**

- ***Presentations & Skills-Building Trainings:***

Committee members were requested to identify 1) up to three topical areas for presentations to the Committee and 2) up to three areas of capacity/skills building of potential utility to the consumers in the Planning Council decision-making process. After analysis of written responses, a comprehensive list of issues to be addressed will be developed for presentation at the March meeting, at which responses will be ranked in order of priority.

- ***New Membership Outreach:***

As in previous meetings, the ongoing need to attract and recruit PLWHAs from diverse, underserved and difficult-to-reach populations was underscored. Members were asked to identify up to three populations in their borough of residence or where they seek services in order to target outreach efforts in reaching youth, women and transgender people for membership in the committee.

- ***2013/14 Committee Participation***

It has been noted that several Planning Council members and appointed Community members have not attended committee meetings since the beginning of this current cycle. In reflecting on how member attendance can be increased, particular attention should be paid to the face to face interview process, where it may be possible to ascertain commitment to the time requirements of Planning Council participation.

#### **PLANNING COUNCIL/CONSUMER COMMITTEE UPDATES**

##### **CAB Best Practices Survey & Recommendations:**

After approval of the CAB Best Practices Survey & Recommendations by the Executive Committee in December 2013, the full Planning Council will review and consider the recommendations for approval at the full March 2014 meeting.

##### **FY14 Appropriations/NY EMA FY14 Partial Award, Darryl Wong**

The NY EMA has received it's partial FY 14 Base & MAI award in the amount of \$30,021,349. The EMA will receive notification of the amount of the remainder of the award towards the end of May.

##### **Hepatitis C Policy Workgroup**

Jan Park and Darryl Wong have begun attending internal NYCDOHMH policy meetings on Hepatitis C. Issues discussed included the Hepatitis Fair Pricing Coalition, possibilities for joint HIV/HCV advocacy efforts, the Affordable Care Act/Health Care Reform and Hepatitis and potential policy initiatives with the City Council that will support the Hepatitis C (HCV) Strategic Plan. It was also agreed that clarification would be sought from HRSA regarding the use of HIV testing funds to pay for Hepatitis C testing, at venues where HIV testing is performed.

##### **Client Satisfaction Survey (Electronic)**

##### **Priority Setting/Resource Allocation (PSRA) FY 14 Spending Scenarios: Early Intervention Services (EIS) & Home Care Services (HOM):**

It was reported that at the most recent PSRA meeting on February 12, the following points were made:

- PSRA should consider raising the goal for positivity and linkage as a marker for allocations.
- With diminishing resources, Ryan White funds should be used as much as possible for PLWHA, rather than "worried well".
- Hospitals and community health centers offer the most routine screening due to the law mandating that tests be offered, but testing numbers are still relatively low. Ryan White funds promote the implementation of systems for routine testing.
- These programs are performance-based, and so are only reimbursed for tests done.

- EIS should be reduced by a total of \$5M (including the original \$3M recommended in the application spending plan), based on the number of programs that are significantly below target.
- There is a pending request to HRSA to use EIS funds for hepatitis C screening. Also, there are some over-performing contracts, and so consideration should be made for keeping some EIS funds available to account for these contingencies.
- The program should set quantifiable standards, as other funding streams do (e.g., CDC).

A motion was made and seconded to reduce the EIS allocation by \$5M. A friendly amendment was accepted to make the cut \$3M up to a maximum of \$5M to allow for the grantee to account for the value of over-performing contracts. A vote was taken and the motion defeated, but as there was not a quorum, the vote was invalid. A recommendation was made to keep the reduction at \$3M and PSRA will continue discussion on further possible reductions at the next meeting.

With respect to Home Care Services, it was also noted that if this category were no longer funded, clients would have to be transitioned to another agency to receive similar services. There are no waiting lists for these programs and there is a high cost per client, mostly because services are delivered in the client's home. As these are cost-based contracts, it is not possible to tease out actual spending per client. Also, all clients were enrolled pre-Medicaid expansion or ACA implementation. Because the environment has changed significantly since these were first funded, the Council should not let another year or two go by without making serious changes to this category. On a broader note, there was discussion on whether PSRA's funding decision should come before IOC even considers restructuring the category definition, or if the process should be reversed. There was discussion at IOC that PSRA should decide on funding first, and if the category is not funded, there is no need for a new service directive. PSRA recommended that the allocation should be lowered to reduce duplication of services.

#### **Meeting Evaluation:**

The meeting evaluation from the January 2014 meeting indicated a general level of agreement (Mean = 4.6, (Range 3.8 - 4.9) with the statements in the evaluation instrument, with the exception of the meeting end time (3.8). While efforts have been made to tailor the agenda to limit the number of items for discussion, a prompt start time is essential.

#### **BOROUGH UPDATES/NEW BUSINESS**

There were no new borough updates.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned a 4:30PM