



## **CONSUMERS COMMITTEE**

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

BOOM!Health Harm Reduction Center, 226 east 144<sup>th</sup> Street, Bronx, NY

**Planning Council Members Present:** Billy Fields (Co-Chair), David Martin (Co-Chair), Randall Bruce (Consumer At Large), Carlos Rosario, Kim Watson

**Planning Council Members Absent:** Lotus Blackman, Altirik Harper, Harry Jackson, Jesus Maldonado, Antonio Munoz, Lazara Paz-Gonzalez

**Appointed Community Members:** Ron Joyner, Glen Phillip

**NYCDOHMH:** Darryl Wong

### **MEETING MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED:**

- Meeting Agenda/Planning Council Ground Rules of Respectful Engagement;
- October 22, 2014 & December 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes;
- Part A Quality Conference Announcement, January 2015;
- AIDS Budget & Appropriations Coalition, Dec 2014;
- Advancing the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, Regional Listening Session, August 7, 2014;
- Linkages to Care for Newly-Diagnosed Individuals Who Test HIV Positive in Non Primary Care Settings, AIDS Patient Care & STDs; Vol 26, No. 3, 2012
- Health Insurance Coverage for People with HIV under the ACA: Experiences in Five States, Issue Brief, Kaiser Family Foundation, December 2014;
- Influenza Advisory, 2015 Advisory #2, NYCDOHMH;
- Treatment of Patients with Influenza with Antiviral Medications, CDC Health Alert Network, 1/9/15;
- Emergency Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Can Prevent HIV Infection; 2014 Advisory # 3, NYCDOHMH;
- New York HIV Planning Council 2014-15 Member & Alternate Contact List;
- January 2015 Meeting Evaluation; and
- January 2015 Planning Council Meeting Calendar.

### **WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Billy Fields and David Martin, Co-Chairs of the Committee opened the meeting, followed by guest introductions. It was noted that Planning Council staff member Rafael Molina is on extended leave. Randall Bruce led the group in a moment of silence in support of those who have struggled with HIV/AIDS. The Rules of Respectful Engagement and the meeting agenda were reviewed. The October and December 2014 minutes were accepted by acclamation. A community member commented that the volume of meeting materials can be burdensome and that discussion be limited to those items impacting Ryan White services and the Planning Council directly.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

D. Romeo commented that the lack of funding for education is hampering progress for those communities who are highly impacted by the epidemic. C. Walters questioned the timeliness of surveillance data i.e., 2012 data is used for planning in 2015.

### **ELECTION OF THE 2014-2015 CONSUMER COMMITTEE AT LARGE MEMBER**

Although there was not sufficient quorum at the meeting to conduct the Consumer At Large election, a motion was made to proceed with the election given that during the past two months no new additional individuals, aside from Randall Bruce, were nominated for the vacant position. Mr. Bruce made a brief statement as to his experience, interest and commitment to fulfilling the responsibilities of this position. Therefore, Randall Bruce, running un-opposed, was elected by acclamation.

**CONSUMER COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

Mr. Wong announced that of fifteen (15) new Planning Council new appointments and re-appointments, eight (8) are PLWHAs.

*The Part A Quality Improvement Conference: Providers & Consumers Improving Care Together* will take place on January 27, 2014. David Martin, Co-Chair, will be co-facilitating a panel of presenters who will address consumer engagement and empowerment in quality management. He will be speaking briefly about the 2012/13 CAB Best Practices Survey and Recommendations, which seeks to articulate the best practices regarding consumer engagement, input/feedback and retention issues at Community Advisory Boards throughout the City. There were concerns stated regarding agency non-participation, response rates and receptivity to such surveys, which was inconsistent in our survey sample.

**PLANNING COUNCIL UPDATES:**

The Planning Council, at the December 18 meeting, approved the FY 14 estimated carryover request, which allows the NY EMA to “carryover” unspent funds into the next fiscal year. It was speculated that the NY EMA will most likely receive flat funding, which in reality is a decrease in funding when taking into account program inflation, salary costs, etc. In response to a concern that not all funds are expended, it was explained that there is a vigorous re-allocation process that reduces potential underspending by terminating or reducing under-performing contracts and shifting those funds to ADAP at the end of the year. The NY EMA has demonstrated high rates of spending, with less than 1% carried over to the next funding year.

THE NYCDOHMH HIV One Stop initiative was introduced, which is an enhanced linkage to care for those who test positive at NYCDOHMH STD clinics. Four (4) clinics with high HIV seroprevalence will be targeted in enhancing direct linkage to treatment at the time of diagnosis.

The Tri-County region of the New York EMA (Eligible Metropolitan Area) is poised for changes in contract administration and service planning. Formerly, the Tri County region has convened its own planning process and contracts were managed by the Westchester County Department of Health. Moving forward in 2015, the Grantee and master contractor will subsume contract management. It has not yet been decided how the community planning component will be implemented. Technically, the Tri County Steering Committee will be another committee of the Planning Council, with changes in the Mayoral Executive Order and ByLaws necessary before this shift can be implemented.

A request was made to the Grantee to reinstate funding for recruitment and data collection/analysis of the Tri-County cohort, which had been suspended due to a 14.75% decrease in our 2013 award.

The HIV Planning Council Strategic Planning Retreat was announced for all appointed Planning Council members. The event will take place on Thursday, February 26 at the Schomburg Center in Harlem.

**PUBLIC COMMENT & ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15PM.