



Meeting of the

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

April 10, 2008

3:00-5:00 pm

El Faro, 179 East 116<sup>th</sup> Street, 3rd Floor

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Eli Camhi, Felicia Carroll, Joan Edwards, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, JoAnn Hilger, Jennifer Irwin, Fabienne Laraque, MD, MPH, Julie Lehane, PhD (alt. for Tom Petro), Matt Lesieur, Patrick McGovern, Jan Carl Park (Governmental Co-Chair), Edward Telzak, MD

**Staff Present:** David Klotz, Rachel Miller, Nina Rothschild, DrPH, Anthony Santella, DrPH

**Others Present:** Manny Ducret

**Material Distributed:** Agenda; minutes from previous EC meeting on March 13, 2008; MAI spending plan; draft of letter from Planning Council to NY Assembly Health Committee Chair Richard Gottfried endorsing AB 09195 on HIV testing; text of AB A09195; draft of letter from Planning Council to US Representative John Dingell supporting HR 5613, a moratorium on Administration-imposed Medicaid regulations; text of HR 5613; multiple letters on Medicaid targeted case management; dates for AIDSWatch 2008; GMHC announcements about AIDS Walk New York; announcement about first New York Ryan White reauthorization forum on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Welcome:** Jan Carl Park opened the meeting, acknowledged the death of the father of Ryan White Planning Council staff member Darryl Wong, and acknowledged all those who have predeceased us.

**Review of Agenda/Minutes:** Mr. Park reviewed the three major items on the EC agenda, including the MAI spending plan and reprogramming; Committee updates; and the agenda for the full Planning Council meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The EC agenda was approved with no changes. Mr. Park also reviewed the minutes from the previous EC meeting on March 13. Executive Committee members voted to accept the minutes with 4 abstentions and no votes in opposition.

**MAI 2007-8 Spending and Reprogramming:** Mr. Park initiated the discussion of the MAI spending plan, noting that MAI grant funds 6 service categories: ADAP-Plus; Maintenance in Care; 24-hour drop-in center for HIV+ prison releasees; treatment adherence; early intervention services; and housing placement. A total of \$7,516,547 is available for program costs, of which \$7,233,642 has been committed, leaving \$282,905 to be committed. Mr. Camhi formally requested the approval of the EC for the plan previously approved by the Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Committee to use the uncommitted dollars to reward high performers, giving the grantee discretion regarding how to apply and/or launch programs. He advocated for allowing for flexibility while aiming for very limited carryover. All EC Committee members present voted in favor of this proposal.

**Letter on NYS Assembly Bill 09195 Regarding HIV Testing:** NYS Assemblyman Dick Gottfried and NYS Senator Tom Duane have introduced bills in their respective legislative bodies regarding HIV testing. The AB 09195 is a compromise bill that would change State law, making consent for HIV testing part of consent for general medical care with an opt-out provision. The bill, which does not require pre-test counseling, would also mandate the offering of an HIV test in most physicians' offices. The Planning Council's Policy Committee generated a letter supporting AB 09195 and that letter has been forwarded to the EC. The purpose of the bill is to help the approximately 25% of people who don't know that they are infected learn their HIV status earlier in the course of their illness. This bill strives for middle ground; the Centers for Disease Control would prefer that people undergo HIV testing without written informed consent.

Executive Committee members discussed the Gottfried bill. Ms. Gamble-Cobb inquired whether providers would be taught how to do post-test counseling. If this bill becomes law, providers will be required to connect someone who tests positive to care but will not actually do the post-test counseling. Ms. Irwin raised the topic of literacy issues and language barriers, noting that some people will not understand what they are signing unless they have a conversation about consent prior to signing. Mr. Lesieur noted that a lot of people already have the mistaken impression that they are being tested for HIV, even when they are not undergoing testing. Dr. Telzak commented that many individuals who did not realize that they were going to be tested will test positive and stated that he finds this situation acceptable. Mr. Lesieur noted that the test should be billable to Medicaid and that discussion is still underway with private sector insurance companies regarding payment. The bill refers to testing during outpatient and Emergency Room medical visits. Mr. Lesieur noted that the New York State Health Department has submitted a similar but not identical bill as part of the budget process. Mr. McGovern motioned to support the proposed legislation with a letter. All EC members present voted in favor of forwarding the letter to the full Planning Council, with no votes in opposition and one abstention.

**Letter to US Representative John Dingell on a Proposed One-Year Moratorium on Administration-Imposed Changes in Medicaid Regulations:** Under the Administration-imposed changes in Medicaid regulations, Medicaid would no longer pay for escorts to services and would require only one case manager. Representative

Dingell's bill would put a stop to these Medicaid changes for one year and would require the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to do an examination of the impact of these regulations on a state-by-state basis. Mayor Bloomberg's letter on this topic, included in the EC packet, maintains that the cost of the regulations would be \$500 million annually. Mr. Camhi motioned to send a letter supporting the moratorium to Representative Dingell. All EC members present voted in favor of forwarding the letter to the full Planning Council, with no votes in opposition and no abstentions.

### **Committee Updates:**

- **Policy Committee:** Two of the Policy Committee's main involvements recently include the letters for Assemblyman Gottfried and Representative Dingell.
- **Needs Assessment:** Ms. Irwin noted that the NA Committee met recently and focused on reacquainting members with the role they play in the planning process. Dr. Angela Aidala gave a review of the history and role of CHAIN and distributed a list of all CHAIN studies done to date in order to help NAC members assess where they can obtain information for the PSRA tool. NA Committee members also requested a presentation by Dr. Fabienne Laraque of her proposal for reconfiguring case management in New York City. Subsequent to the meeting, NA members also received a copy of the memo describing the work of the task force that developed the old version of the PSRA tool. The NA Committee will meet again in May. Mr. Park noted the departure of Clarissa Silva from DOHMH and stated that Dr. Santella will join Dr. Rothschild in providing Planning Council and DOHMH support to the Committee.
- **Integration of Care:** Ms. Gamble-Cobb stated that IOC members heard a presentation by Tom Petro on case management in Tri-County and a presentation by Dr. Fabienne Laraque on integrated case management in NYC. IOC will meet again and will then move the case management model forward to the PSRA Committee.
- **Consumers Committee:** Ms. Carroll stated that the Consumers Committee had its first focus groups on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Participants spoke very passionately about their personal experiences and voiced many different opinions. Information from the focus groups and a survey of clients in Maintenance in Care programs will help to inform the community planning process.
- **Finance Committee:** Dr. Ed Telzak will provide an update on the Finance Committee at the next EC meeting.
- **Rules and Membership:** Mr. Park noted that the RMC will examine how the Planning Council does recruitment over the next few months and will revisit the bylaws.

- **PLWHA AG:** On April 12<sup>th</sup> the AG will discuss transgender health issues and will view a 20-minute film about the gender identity project. Mr. Park also hopes to set up a conference call with NAPWA regarding AIDS Watch. Some organizers of AIDS Walk will attend the meeting, and participants will also break down into groups to discuss policy, recruitment, and treatment and care.

**Review of Agenda for Full Planning Council Meeting:** Mr. Park reviewed the proposed agenda for the PC meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Camhi asked whether the PC should invite someone from the State Medicaid office to speak about the potential impact of the proposed Medicaid changes.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Ducret spoke about testing in Article 27 F facilities.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.