



Meeting of the
POLICY COMMITTEE

Adrian Guzman, JD, MPH and Matthew Lesieur, MA, Co-Chairs

February 3, 2015
FPWA at 281 Park Avenue South
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Members Present: Adrian Guzman, Esther Lok, Amanda Lugg, Jan Carl Park

Members Absent: Yves Gebhardt, Graham Harriman, Matt Lesieur, Jason Lippman, Paul Meissner, Carlos Rosario, Kimberleigh Smith, Lyndel Urbano

NYC DOHMH Staff Present: Sarah Braunstein, PhD, M. Bari Khan, Nina Rothschild, DrPH, Charu Subharwal, MD, Anna Thomas, Wilbur Yen

Others Present: Randall Bruce, Brendan Conner (by phone), Guillermo Garcia-Goldwyn, Maiko Yomogida

Material Distributed:

- Agenda
- Minutes from the December 15, 2014 Policy Committee Meeting
- Presentation: HIV Care Status Reports
- Ryan White Work Group Draft Letter Recommending Deferral of RW Reauthorization
- Kaiser Family Foundation Report on Health Insurance Coverage for People with HIV Under the Affordable Care Act: Experiences in Five States
- BLOG.AIDS.GOV: Ongoing Efforts to Reduce Reporting Burden for HHS HIV Grantees by Dr. Ronald Valdisseri
- Washington Post Blog: Which of the 11 American Nations Do You Live In? by Reid Wilson
- The President's Budget: Middle Class Economics: Enhancing the Lives of Americans Living with HIV/AIDS, and Fighting the HIV/AIDS Epidemic
- Budget for Fiscal Year 2016: HRSA
- BLOG.AIDS.GOV: President's FY'16 Budget: HIV/AIDS

- HIV Health Reform: Preferred Voluntarily Caps HIV Drug Prices for HIV Drugs
- HIV Prevention Justice Alliance: Ryan White. Real Lives – Stories on the Real Impact of the Ryan White Care Act
- NYC DOHMH Epi Data Brief on Sexual Activity Among HIV-Positive Persons in Care in New York City
- Planning Council Calendar for February 2015

Welcome/Introductions/Moment of Silence/Review of the Meeting Packet/Review of the Minutes/Announcements: Committee Co-Chair Adrian Guzman welcomed meeting participants. Attendees introduced themselves. Guillermo Garcia-Goldwyn led the moment of silence. Nina Rothschild reviewed the contents of the meeting packet. The minutes from the December meeting were passed by consensus and will be posted on the Planning Council website at nyhiv.org. Planning Council staff announced that Matt Lesieur has been appointed as Co-Chair of the Policy Committee and that Adrian Guzman will join the staff of the Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control in a policy capacity.

HIV Care Status Reports: Dr. Charu Subharwal, Medical Director of the Field Services Unit in the Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, with support from Dr. Sarah Braunstein, Director of the HIV Epidemiology and Field Services Unit, presented on the HIV care status reports. The presentation is posted on the Planning Council website. The following are some major points from the presentation and the discussion:

- The 2010 New York State HIV testing law was revised in 2012, allowing the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH) to share a limited amount of patient-specific data from the HIV registry regarding the care status (receiving care or not receiving care) of a person living with HIV who has not been seen in 12 or more months.
- Data that can be shared includes whether or not follow-up is needed on an HIV+ individual who may have fallen out of care.
- Providers participating in the initiative must be located in NYC.
- Only one person per site can access the information.
- Information is not displayed by patient name but, rather, by patient number.
- The provider accessing the information will receive a message that follow-up is needed or not needed. Notification that follow-up is not needed means that the HIV+ individual is either receiving care elsewhere or is dead.
- Demographics on the population out of care (and in need of follow-up) are not yet available.

- The system is very carefully constructed in order to ensure that there are no security breaches.
- Can this be included as a tool in the linkage RFP currently under development in the IOC Committee?
- Finding people who have in fact fallen out of care is incredibly labor-intensive. Members of the CHAIN team are experts in this arduous work.
- New York State is very interested in using this tool as a model. The State maintains a rest-of-the-state registry and a State-wide registry.
- Can we use aggregate data about people who are in need of follow-up in a more proactive way? This model is very prescriptive about who has access.
- Drs. Subharwal and Braunstein agreed to let the Planning Council know about any plans for promotion as DOHMH approaches a City-wide launch. One possibility for promotion is to use public health detailers.
- Planning Council staff will work with Drs. Subharwal and Braunstein to identify a date for presentation to the full Planning Council.

Condoms as Evidence: Brendan Conner, a staff attorney at Streetwise and Safe, spoke about condoms as evidence of intent to engage in prostitution. The following are highlights from his remarks and the discussion:

- Using condoms as evidence perpetuates stigma surrounding condoms.
- The strategy also creates a perverse incentive for pimps to withhold condoms from prostitutes, although the presence of condoms is usually not necessary or sufficient to secure a conviction of engaging in prostitution.
- Use of condoms as evidence is not banned altogether because finding a bucket of condoms on the premises of a sex trafficking operation can be used to convict the traffickers.
- A felony trafficking offense can lead to 20-30 years in prison.
- Governor Cuomo has two opportunities to amend his budget and include this provision.
- The Planning Council can draft a letter requesting that Dr. Mary Bassett meet with Council leadership to discuss this issue, but Dr. Bassett has already taken this issue as far as she can.

Public Comment: No members of the public commented.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.