



Meeting of the
POLICY COMMITTEE
Sharen Duke, Chair

July 22, 2013
AIDS Service Center of NYC
41 East 11th Street, 5th Floor
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Members Present: Kareem Clemons, Sharen Duke, Adrian Guzman, Graham Harriman, Jan Hudis, Paul Meissner, Jan Carl Park, Kimberleigh Smith

Members Absent: Yves Gebhardt, Sandy Guillaume, Matthew Lesieur, Lorna Littner, Esther Lok, Gloria Searson, Lyndel Urbano, Dorella Walters

NYC DOHMH Staff Present: Rafael Molina, Nina Rothschild, DrPH

Others Present: Randall Bruce, Marissa Darcy, Billy Fields, Jessica Reinhart, Stephen Sukumaran

Material Distributed:

- Agenda
- Minutes from the May 20th Policy Committee meeting
- New York EMA FY 13 Ryan White Part A Award Budget Cut Situation Brief from May 30, 2013
- PSRA Tool
- Payer of Last Resort Tool Update and Data Summary
- HR2699 Congressional Bill on Hold Harmless
- HIV Medicine Association Policy Statement on HIV+ Organ Transplantation
- FAQs on HIV+ Organ Transplantation
- Planning Council Letter to FDA Commissioner Peggy Hamburg about HIV+ Organ Transplantation
- GMHC Material on MSM Blood Ban
- Press Release About Free HIV Testing in Front of NY Blood Center
- Planning Council Letter to Dr. Thomas Farley About MSM Blood Ban

- NYS Bill S02189 Criminalizing HIV Transmission
- Document Prepared by Grantee Staff Listing HRSA Service Categories, Manatt Findings, and Current Policy Issues
- White House Statement on Accelerating Improvements in HIV Prevention and Care in the US through the HIV Care Continuum Initiative
- Planning Council Committee Evaluation Form
- Planning Council July Calendar

Welcome/Introductions/Review of the Meeting Packet/Review of the Minutes: Committee Chair Sharen Duke welcomed meeting participants. Committee members introduced themselves. Nina Rothschild reviewed the contents of the meeting packet. The minutes from the May meeting of the Policy Committee were accepted for posting on the Planning Council website at nyhiv.org.

Reduction in Grant Award: Governmental Co-Chair Jan Carl Park informed Policy Committee members that the NY EMA's grant award from HRSA has been reduced by approximately \$18 million dollars because of sequestration and a mathematical error miscalculating our award in 2010, 2011, and 2012. The Priority Setting and Resources Allocation (PSRA) Committee, using its tool, proportionally reduced all the services we fund. The reductions were proportionally weighted and were put into effect this month.

Mr. Park and the Committee Chair, Sharen Duke, met with the Chairs of Appropriations and told them about how the cuts are affecting the NY EMA. We were assured that these leaders would fight sequestration on our behalf. Fortunately, we have strong allies in the Senate – but we are less sure about the House.

Mr. Park also informed Committee members about the part of the legislation known as hold harmless that ensures that older jurisdictions with an infrastructure are to be held harmless from large fluctuations in their awards. Hold harmless was created to prevent a destabilization in services. Hold harmless is controversial because it means that newer jurisdictions with younger epidemics are not protected from fluctuations. These younger jurisdictions, therefore, want to get rid of hold harmless – and it is, in any case, due to disappear very soon as specified in the Ryan White legislation. CAEAR Coalition members discussed this situation at a recent meeting. On the following day, Congressman Pallone from New Jersey introduced a bill concerning hold harmless. The NY EMA will try to retain hold harmless.

Payer of Last Resort: Grantee staff member Anna Thomas presented on the update to the payer of last resort (PLR) tool, originally developed in 2006. We use the tool in the process of ranking service categories, examining whether

there are any other payers for a particular service. The tool provides the fullest possible description of the current funding landscape in New York City. Ryan White is the payer of last resort and can only be used when there are no other funders of a service. For the undocumented, Ryan White is the only payer.

The tool has some limitations: for example, it doesn't capture the barriers that are a primary reason why these services exist. It also provides insufficient information on capacity and quality and doesn't mention the cost of delivering the service. Committee members suggested including the Ryan White definition of each of these services within the tool. Mr. Park noted that the PSRA tool includes information on whether a particular service promotes access to care and maintenance in care, and this information helps to address barriers. We look forward to continuing the Policy Committee's current charge – namely, to investigate where the Ryan White Planning Council can meet needs not fully addressed elsewhere, in addition to assessing needs and making suggestions for improvement of service models.

Announcements: Adrian Guzman noted that a forum for the Mayoral candidates would take place the following day.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.