

**Sonoma County**  
**COMMISSION ON AIDS**

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HIV CARE CONSORTIUM  
HIV HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL  
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SONOMA COUNTY**  
**COMMISSION ON AIDS/HIV CARE CONSORTIUM**  
**HIV HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**January 14, 2008**  
**490 Mendocino Avenue**

**Members Present:** Anna B., Susan C., Cerrissa M., Ruben C., Rick D., Alix. S. Herb L.  
Marion D, Shari B.  
**Members Absent:** Carolyn E., Lisa A., Lynn C. Harold L. and Steve B.  
**Staff:** Ellen S., Kelly E., Jay M. and Claire E.

1. **Call to Order** – Cerrissa, co-chair, called the meeting to order.
2. **Memorial Moment** – A moment of silence was observed to keep in mind those who have passed during this epidemic.
3. **Announcements and Public Comment**
  - Marion and Shari attended a community forum hosted by The Sonoma County Health Action Committee who have been approached by the Obama transition team to convene community forums and look at issues related to health access and report back to transition team. There were approximately fifty people in attendance, looking at the issue of health care access. This effort reinforces our own agenda to look beyond issues of HIV and look at how HIV needs fit into the larger agenda of health care access..
  - The HIV Prevention Plan has been released and a copy was distributed. The Plan is located at: [http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/prev/prev\\_plann\\_group.htm](http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/prev/prev_plann_group.htm)
  - The HIV Comprehensive Plan, required every two years by HRSA, was also available for review and will be available online at: <http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/ph/hiv/comm.htm>
  - The recently completed Needs Assessment will also be available online at: <http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/ph/hiv/comm.htm>
  - Thank you Shari bringing food for the meeting. For the remainder of the year Commissioners have volunteered to arrange for meeting snacks.
  - The November 2009 scheduled meeting falls on a County holiday. The meeting will be changed to November 18, 2009 the location will be the MediCal offices at 520 Mendocino, the Laurel room.
  - The public comment and confidentially guidelines were reviewed as requested by a member of the public at a prior meeting.

**4. Minutes from the November 19, 2008 Meeting** – A motion was made by Rick and seconded by Susan to accept the minutes. The minutes were approved as written.

**5. Positive Stories**

- Rick shared a story of a client who had experienced many difficulties and is now clean and sober and in stable housing. She was very involved in her own care and case management and is now working part time.

**6. State of the Epidemic - Report from the Department of Health Services**

- As of December 11, 2008, there have been 2,021 AIDS cases reported and there have been 1,142 deaths. There have been 290 cases of HIV reported by name and 11 deaths
- Quality management update at the Center for HIV Prevention and Care. There has been substantial time invested in developing a CQI infrastructure. Last year 67 improvement projects were identified. There are two – four formal projects which will have formal analysis. Other streamlined projects will be tracked for further discussion. This years goals are to enhance the CQI program structure and create a QI culture, to have ongoing data collection to support performance measurement. A chart review was conducted for patients with low CD4 counts. A CQI champion spent 12 hours per week focused on the effort of quality improvement. The ultimate goal is to assess how to work smarter at the work that is producing results for clients and identify work that is not and determine if it needs to continue. Data collection doesn't need to be an expensive and complicated system; chart reviews and discussions with staff about quality improvement have been beneficial.
- The required online course *Ethics in public service* is due by January 1, 2009 and every two years thereafter. If you haven't completed your required course, please follow this link - <http://caag.state.ca.us/ethics/> and print the last page for documentation of completion and give to Ellen.
- The HIV Prevention 2009 – 2010 report has been postponed until the March meeting.
- The applications for the Funding Allocation Working Group (FAWG) were distributed and will be posted on the Commission website next week (<http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/ph/hiv/volunteer.htm>). This will be an especially important FAWG given all the changes to HRSA requirements, the changes that have been implemented as a result of the 2007 retreat, and economic realities. Any questions that potential applicants have can be directed to Ellen.
- The Distinguished Service Awards applications were distributed. They will be posted to the Commission website and are due on April 6, 2009.
- A Commission orientation preceded this meeting. Susan has been appointed by the Board of Supervisors and Dwayne and Celia are scheduled for a January 27, 2009 appointment.
- Staff has been working with the Office of AIDS to create a pre-development contract for HIV-dedicated units in a Burbank housing development funded by HOPWA. Staff was notified that this will not be possible during this funding cycle and the funds will need to be reallocated. Staff may reallocate 25% of the HOPWA grant to supportive services. It was suggested that if a FAWG Lite was convened to determine where the funds could be used best, a scenario 5 could be created in the Part A HIV Services plan. The Part A and HOPWA funding cycles are different and we are not penalized if we return unexpended funds to the State Office of AIDS. Staff will look into a method for moving HOPWA and Part A funds through Case Management in order to allocate more funding to Dental services for the Ryan White '09-'10 fiscal year. The process that the Commission voted for is to have a committee request a FAWG lite and bring that Action Item to the full Commission. It was decided to hold this discussion until the end of the meeting so that

further discussion could occur at the break and that the Needs Assessment report could inform the decision.

## 7. Needs assessment Report

- The last needs assessment was done in 2005. This assessment will be used for the Comprehensive Plan and for the FAWG. It wasn't intended to be a client or agency satisfaction survey but focused on clients well being and concerns. There were almost 200 responses and clients responded favorably to the change in focus of the survey to their needs. Results showed that most clients who responded indicated they are in good physical health and have strong support networks. There were also high rates of health insurance and the majority of clients have a very low viral load. One quarter of clients indicated that the ability to pay can be a barrier to receiving services. Approximately half of the respondents are working or seeking work. Staff will continue to review the data. The document will be available on the Commission website. There was an effort to reach more clients and if agencies were interested there is interest in continuing to reach other clients. Commissioners discussed the complex issue of co-occurring disorders primarily mental health and substance use issues. With HIV treatment available in this county the other disorders are the primary issue for clients.

8. **What's New in HIV?** – There was nothing else new in HIV was mentioned.

9. **Brown Act:** Due to requirements that the Commission meetings be available to the public the meeting time will be changed. All future meetings will be one hour earlier (4:15 – 6:30) beginning with the March 2009 meeting.

10. **Presentation:** The Mental Health Coalition presentation will be rescheduled.

## 11. Committee reports

- **Business Committee** – The business committee discussed the dental task force, the distinguished service awards, the Part D site visit and FAWG. Lisa and Harold will be taking a leave of absence.
- **PAC/RAC/Community Relations Committee** - PAC/RAC met on January 8<sup>th</sup> and discussed Project ReConnect. Now that the second group of ReConnect Advocates is being selected, PAC/RAC/Community Relations will focus more on PAC and Community Relations issues and Project ReConnect will focus on its own work.

***Monthly Countdown: The implementation of the transition for services needs to be complete in less than 13 months.***

- **World AIDS Day** – The World AIDS Task Force raised \$600 during many events that occurred throughout the week. Planning for next year has already begun.
- **HIV Services Committee** – The services committee will be meeting tomorrow, on the agenda is the update you will be receiving from the dental task force.
- **Dental task force** Met on December 4, 2008 with representatives from dental clinics, medical, service organizations, and county staff. The group discussed the HAB outcome goal of having 75% of clients have one routine annual dental exam. Utilization data and provider lists were reviewed. At the January 8, 2009 meeting, dentists and staff outlined dental procedures and the task force discussed what services were considered basic and what services are considered acute care. Staff will develop a list and there may be two funding tiers for dental procedures. The next steps will be a communication plan for providers and consumers and data gathered to review the dental services provided. The TGA wide continuous quality improvement plan has a priority on the issue of

increased communication and may assist with the effort of informing providers and clients of dental resources.

- **Prevention Committee (PPG)** – The PPG will meet on February 19th where the currently funded HIV prevention providers will share their programs.

## **12. New Business**

### **Discussion: Distinguished Service Awards 2009 task force**

- The DSA 2009 committee members will be: Cerrissa, Steve, Jay and a consumer.

**Discussion: FAWG Lite for HOPWA funds.** The members discussed this and asked that the Services Committee discuss this issue and determine if an Action Item will be brought to the March meeting.

**13. Items for next meeting agenda.** An update on the FAWG process and Medical Case Management.

*The next meeting is on March 11th, 2009 at 4:15 p.m.*

**490 Mendocino Ave, upstairs, Santa Rosa**

**14. Closure** – Meeting was adjourned at 7:45