

Sonoma County
COMMISSION ON AIDS

HIV CARE CONSORTIUM
HIV HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL
490 Mendocino Avenue, Ste. 202
Santa Rosa CA 95403
phone (707) 565-6680
fax (707) 565-6619

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SONOMA COUNTY
COMMISSION ON AIDS/HIV CARE CONSORTIUM
HIV HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL
June 10, 2009
490 Mendocino Avenue

Members Present: Glenn S., Marion D., Ron K., Ruben C., Alix. S., Lynn C., Cerrissa M., Shari B., Rick D., Herb L. Lisa A., and Susan C.,
Members Absent: Steve B., Dwayne Z., Anna B., Celia B., and Harold L.
Staff: Kelly E., Ellen S., and Claire E.

1. **Call to Order** – Lynn called the meeting to order.
2. **Public Comment** –The public was asked to join the members at the table. There will be a second opportunity for public comment after the Funding Allocation Working Group (FAWG) presentation.
 - This month Project ReConnect will finish this fiscal years work. There was an emphasis this year on supporting HIV services provider agencies. ReConnect Advocates focused on housing and substance use. Last week ReConnect presented a training designed to help other jurisdiction launch a ReConnect effort. Several teams from counties throughout Northern California participated. Advocates are committed to continuing the effort and spreading the ReConnect message,
3. **Memorial Moment** – A Client passed away this week that had been in drug treatment.
4. **Announcements**
 - Marion is concerned by the reductions to optional MediCal services including dental. CMSP has decided not to pursue a dental only program.
 - Welcome to Ron and Glenn who were just sworn in as new commissioners.
 - Eric Acuna participated in the AIDS LifeCycle ride this week.
 - Rick participated in the rally today at the Capitol and met with legislators.
5. **Minutes from the May 13, 2009 Meeting** – A motion was made by Shari and seconded by Cerrissa to accept the minutes. The minutes were approved as written.
6. **Positive Stories**
 - Glenn is proud that the child he became a guardian for has successfully graduated from school.
 - Sean mentioned the new DAAC “Gotcha Covered” campaign which just began with the support of HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention funding. There are three outreach workers doing community outreach for MSM.
7. **State of the Epidemic - Report from the Department of Health Services**

- Shari reported that as of May 20, 2009, there have been 2,031 AIDS cases and 1,147 deaths. There have been 298 name based HIV cases and 13 deaths. California's HIV/AIDS Reporting System (HARS) is changing over to CDC's e-HARS.
- The County budget was recently approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Center budget has over \$500K in cuts, many achieved through deleting vacancies but after July 1st, nurse practitioners will not be seeing clients; the three doctors will be seeing clients for medical care. There is a waiting list for transfer clients within the County.
- The Governor's proposed State budget eliminates 100% of general fund from the Office of AIDS except for ADAP. The ADAP reduction is \$12.3 million achieved from formulary modifications and premiums from those at 200% of poverty. The conference committee discussed these items on Tuesday; they left all the Office of AIDS items open for further discussion. Sonoma County receives ~\$200,000 for Education and Prevention; ~\$100,000 for surveillance; \$65,000 for NIGHT; ~\$200,000 for counseling and testing; and ~\$700,000 for early intervention.
- Shari requested that the HIV Services plan that will be presented later in the meeting by the FAWG be considered in light of no changes to other funding. Then be prepared to amend the plan when new information is presented. She also requested that the Commission consider changing the implementation date of any new services plan to deal with new realities
- Marion asked how the status of the Transitional Grant Area (TGA) and the state match are impacted by these budget cuts. Sonoma County does not meet the numeric eligibility to be an EMA. We are hoping to continue to receive Part A funding and the Ryan White extension looks like it will be a three year extension.
- Gary shared that TGA status depends on the new legislation and there are various proposals about future status of TGAs. The Part A maintenance of effort (MOE) was changed in the legislation. MOE will now be narrower than any HIV related activity and will include only medical and supportive core activities.
- Kelly reported that due to the State budget, as of July 1 the county will suspend contract work that may not be funded if the budget passes in the current form. Care Service contracts aren't being terminated at this time.
- In 2006 we started talking about ReConnect, and the vision, the goals, and the philosophy has positioned Sonoma County in the right direction to do the work that is needed. The visionary genius of the consumers pushed us in that direction.

8. Presentation of the Funding Allocation Working Group Recommendations

- FAWG members provided an overview of the process. The community members met for three weeks and received information on service utilization and epidemiology. They worked in small groups and as a whole to make funding and non funding recommendations which were presented in a report.
- There were improvements made from previous processes such as; having all the information at the start of the meetings and having staff available for clarification at all meetings. Instructions were given to FAWG members to review staff recommendations and not change the bottom line. FAWG members decided to focus on core services and the reconnect philosophy with respect to all service delivery.
- Recommendations were made to increase primary medical care and dental care as critical services. The reductions resulted in flat funding or increases to the current funding but were reductions to the staff recommendations. Non-medical case management was increased by \$5,000 and food was kept at current year funding. The Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) and

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) were unchanged from the staff recommendations.

- Non funding recommendations included adopting the HRSA guideline to have 75% of individuals have annual dental check ups, enforce the HRSA guidelines for utilizing the home and community based assistance, and have medical staff distribute transportation vouchers. FAWG members expressed strong recommendations to increase client responsibility and require service providers to work the ReConnect philosophy into their service delivery at all levels.
- Commissioners expressed interest in integrating ReConnect more fully by having full consumer involvement at agencies by providing services.
- By having a team of consumers and providers sharing their strengths; the ReConnect model can move to the next level. A group of interested commissioners will collaborate to look at funding a model project.
- **Conflict of Interest Standards** were reviewed by staff so that Commissioners who have a conflict would abstain from voting on the HIV Services Plan.

9. Public Comment

- A member of the public commented that prevention outreach is crucial to stop the spread of HIV; it is a key service for the community.

10. Action Item: Adoption of the HIV Services Priority Plan for FY2010-2013 including MAI and HOPWA plans

- Alix made a motion to accept the proposed plan and Marion seconded the motion. Commissioners voted six in favor, with six abstentions. The Action item was accepted with no changes.

11. Administration Business

- Cerrissa reported that staff did the semiannual review of attendance and all members are currently in compliance

12. Draft Bylaws Revision – first read

- Members reviewed the revised Bylaws. A change will be made to include work done by “any committee or task force as authorized by the commission” and the Bylaws will be brought to the July meeting for a vote.

13. PAC/RAC Committee update

- Food for Thought was contacted to discuss community engagement.

14. What’s New in HIV?

- There were 17 people from Sonoma at the Sacramento rally who visited legislative offices.

15. Items for next meeting agenda. There will be an application to review in closed session. A member acknowledgement and the second read and vote on the Bylaws revision. Staff will ask for a report on the recent homeless count and if there are state budget updates there will be an agenda item to discuss the impacts on the HIV services plan and timeline. A services item will be added to the agenda for an update on the recent changes to service delivery.

16. Closure – Meeting was adjourned at 6:40

The next meeting is on July 8th, 2009 at 4:15 p.m.
490 Mendocino Ave, upstairs, Santa Rosa