



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Larry Meredith, Ph.D., Director

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
**COMMUNITY HEALTH &
PREVENTION SERVICES**

Marin HIV/AIDS Care Council Meeting MINUTES

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

(Approved 3/10/10)

4:30p.m. - 6:30p.m.

3420 Kerner Blvd

San Rafael, CA 94903

Connection Center – Room 109

899 NORTHGATE DRIVE, SUITE 415

SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

PHONE: (415) 473-4340

FAX: (415) 473-6266

Council Members Present: Roy Bateman, Kevin Cronin, Elaine J. Flores, Wade Flores, James Frazier, Walter Kelley, Jennifer Malone, Scott Marcum, Norge Santana, David Witt.

Council Members Absent: none.

Staff Present: Cicily Emerson, Chris Santini, Michael Schieble, Jenny Stephens.

Public: Will Boemer, Cher Evans.

I. Call to Order.

Meeting Call to Order at 4:43p.m. by Co-Chair W. Flores.

II. Roll Call.

Roll was called and quorum was established with 9 of 10 Members present. CM Witt arrived after the roll call at 4:58p.m. and increased the final attendance to 10 of 10 Members present.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda – VOTE

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

CM Marcum motioned to approve the agenda. CM Frazier seconded.

A voice **vote** was conducted. All were in Favor. None were Opposed.
The agenda was approved unanimously.

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes – VOTE

CM Frazier made motion to approve the January 13, 2010, minutes. CM E.J. Flores seconded.

A voice **vote** was conducted. Ayes were heard. None were Opposed.
The January 13, 2010 minutes were approved.

V. General Announcements

CM Marcum announced that volunteers are need for clean-up at the M.A.P. benefit on Saturday, February 13, 2010, after the Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo performance. Contact Andy Fyne at M.A.P. for information.

Co-Chair Kelley announced that on April 23, 2010, [from 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m.], the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) at UCSF will host a conference, "Making a Difference". www.caps.ucsf.edu

Co-Chair Kelley reported that Sunday, February 7, 2010, was National African American [Black] HIV/AIDS Awareness Day -2010. [www.blackaidsday.org]

Co-Chair W. Flores announced that the San Francisco Consumer Rights Advocate, Jo Lynn of Shanti had passed away. Eric Sutter of the Legal Aid Referral Panel has been hired for the Consumer Rights Advocacy position.

VI. Public Comment

Will Boemer (*Summary of Public Comment*) W. Boemer wished everyone a belated Happy New Year and reported on the February 10, 2010, CAEAR [Communities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief] Coalition monthly conference call. Prior to the conference call, the access information was e-mailed by J. Stephens and Marin Care Council Members were encouraged to participate. Jewel Lee will replace Randy Allgaier as the facilitator of the monthly conference call.

4:58p.m. Dr. Witt arrives.

Detailed notes of the conference call were furnished to Council Support and are available for review. The agenda included: 1.) Outreach. 2.) Current Federal appropriations and funding. 3.) April 26, 2010, "AIDS Watch", 4.) National AIDS Strategy [NAS] announcement scheduled for June 2010. 5.) May 19, 2010, HepC Awareness Day. 6.) HRSA housing.

CM Malone asked about the outreach strategy to develop participation from the middle of the Country. W. Boemer commented that the goal was to have representation on the conference call from mid-America agencies. Currently the participation is from the coasts. CM Malone offered information on contacts from the M.A.P. directory.

VII. Co-Chair Report

Co-Chair W. Flores reported:

1. The "...Steering Retreat went well last January [January 15, 2010, San Francisco HIV Health Service Planning Council "Summit"] went well. It was well attended." Topics discussed included; Centers of Excellence (COE's), budget cuts around the State, and collaboration between Committees. The Consumer Affairs group, which is similar to the Marin Community Outreach and Advocacy Committee, will merge with the Membership group to produce a better focus for the EMA.

2. Participating on a recent conference call from the Montebello HIV Clinic. As part of the AIDS Project Los Angeles, the topic of the call was "stigma for Latino / Latina with HIV". The call included women who reported that child care and domestic violence were some of the issues to consider when bringing Latina into care. Community resource referrals would be important. A full report will be available in March 2010.

3. A MediCal 2010 -'11 report of the State budget cuts by Anne Donnelly was recapped. Co-Chair W. Flores stated, "... budget amendment cuts already impacted are \$85million in cuts to the State Office of AIDS and HIV Programs – MediCal". Funding cuts include; in-home support services and Cal Workers, SSI, cash assistance for Immigrants, drug and alcohol programs, major risk insurance program, and mental health. A handout titled, "Talking Points: ADAP Governor's Budget 2010-2011" was distributed. An increase in the Governor's budget proposal to add \$87.5 million in new General Funds and the elimination of ADAP services in jails was noted.

4. The San Francisco HIV Planning Council ad hoc Needs Assessment Committee has elected W. Flores as a Co-Chair. African Americans, Aging HIV+ 55 years and older, and HIV+ / HepC+ co-infected Communities will be the focus of the needs assessment. Focus groups will be conducted and an incentive will be provide to Consumers who attend. A focus group of Service Providers will meet. The Committee will be working with Harder and Company to issue a report.

In the discussion that followed; additional unmet needs, stigma and barriers to care, other needs, home communities, service from providers, needs of White men with HIV, Latino and Latina needs, Asian needs, Native American needs, and under reporting in Communities were identified as areas for future needs assessment. The 2010 needs assessment will focus on four topics. There will not be a focus group in Marin or San Mateo County. CM Malone stated, "We will need to develop a strategy for maximum participation from Marin." An increase in incentive was suggested to increase Marin participation. A report of the budget for the San Francisco Needs Assessment was requested. The final report is scheduled for April 2010. A concern noted was that the report would be based on limited data.

Public Comment: None

VIII. Speaker: Ana Bagtas- County of Marin Department of Health and Human Services

Co-Chair W. Flores introduced the Presenter.

Ana Bagtas stated that she worked for the County of Marin, Department of Health and Human Service, Division of Aging and Adult Services.

Before starting the presentation of services available, A. Bagtas asked, “When you think of aging and getting older, what are some of your thoughts, fears, concerns, as well as hope[s] and things to look forward to as you get older?” Council Member responses included; having a Community of older HIV+ and not being alone, recognition that older people with HIV need help, concern that doctors can talk about aging or HIV, but not both, possible discrimination and ageism – “little elderly ladies are thought of as aging”, lack of understanding by service providers of the needs of aging with HIV. Summarizing the Council Members comments, A. Bagtas stated, “...some of the needs are unique to this group and some are very much congruent with some of the things that we heard from other groups...”. A. Bagtas identified as being HIV affected, having had an Uncle with HIV who died twenty years ago. A. Bagtas reported that a recent needs assessment (2009) that the Division uses for data, missed the aging HIV+ population in the assessment.

In a brief summary of the Federal Older American’s Act, passed in the 1960’s, some of the services introduced at that time to the aging included, Meals-on-Wheels, Adult Day Program, and Whistle Stop. Aging is defined as 60 year old or older. Information about the aging population indicates that women live longer than men and women are more likely to ask for help than men.

A handout titled (*see attachment A*) “Home and Community Based Services” outlined twenty-one services. Marin County information is available on the web www.marin.networkofcare.org/aging or by calling (415) 457-INFO (4636). The services are not needs tested and not based on income. Most funding of programs is Federal, however the recent State budget cuts impacted adult day care, adult health case management (Linkages Program) and possibly In Home Health Services (IHHS). The U.S. Administration on Aging www.eldercare.gov was suggested as an information resource by CM Malone. The Network of Care for Aging is Marin County’s comprehensive online search tool for information, services, and resources for older adults and people with disability. www.marin.networkofcare.org/aging The Marin Adult Information and Referral line (415) 457-4636 is answered by a person, does not have a call routing menu which eliminates pushing buttons, and outside of business hours has an answering machine. The standard for retuning messages is twenty-four hours.

A sixty-one page housing resource guide for Marin County older adults titled, “Choices for Living – 2009” was distributed. Affordable housing, assisted living, and continuing care communities are listed by city in Marin County. The address, phone number, cost, and a summary of the facility is listed as well as other important and helpful information from the Marin County Division of Aging and Adult Services. The model of care is designed to enable individuals to stay independent and in their home. “Age In Place” is the goal of case management, so an older person does not have to move. A new partnership with the Marin Community Foundation (MCF) has been formed to address affordable housing.

At the recent Los Angeles Conference of the California Wellness Foundation, the use of volunteers was presented and encouraged to offset the State budget cuts and stretch program funding. The Beacon Hill model is being implemented at Main Village in Belvedere. The cooperative neighborhood movement is the payment of a flat rate fee for services. Negotiations with Service Providers, ranging from a plumber to in-home-health-care, result in services that are available at a flat fee. CM Bateman asked about the housing waiting list and offered the assistance from another Agency to centralize the waitlist and report the wait time. CM Witt added that hospital Social Workers are an additional resource of housing information.

Co-Chair W. Flores asked if the Service Providers listed on the “Home and Community-Based Services” handout were trained in working with individuals with HIV/AIDS. A. Bagtas replied that there were a number of special needs populations including, English as a second language, LGBT, and people with HIV, “...we are just scratching the surface”. The second Thursday of the month the advisory Council meets. All were encouraged to attend and the meeting.

Public Comment: None

- IX. Membership Committee Report (*see below*).
- X. Community Outreach and Advocacy Committee Report. (*see below*).
Co-Chair W. Flores approved C. Emerson's request to move the Department of Health report up on the agenda due to meeting time.

XI. Division of Public Health Report

C. Santini commented that the San Francisco needs assessment, "...is to ask you about unmet needs". A satisfaction survey "...asks your opinion about the services received from the County". The Marin County Satisfaction Survey is currently being sent out to Clients. New questions about transportation are included and the last section of the survey includes a needs assessment question based on the information received from the Care Council. CM Frazier asked if the survey includes questions on housing. C. Santini responded that the survey asks questions about services provided by Ryan White funding. Housing is not funded by Ryan White, however a Client might use the comment section to make remarks on housing. The last day to return a survey is Friday, February 26, 2010. A \$20 food gift card will be sent to Clients as a incentive for their completed survey.

A handout titled "2009/10 Ryan White Spending" was distributed and reviewed. Spending based on invoices from March to November 2009 was summarized. C. Santini reported that following the January Council meeting information was received from a Provider, "...requests for emergency funds far exceeded the money that was available". Additionally, the County had agreed, for a limited time, to provide the money for the February food cards prior to receiving the funds from the State.

C. Santini suggested that the Council consider redirecting \$4,400 unspent funds from Residential Substance abuse to Emergency Financial Assistance overages. In the discussion that followed it was noted that the emergency financial assistance was to cover requests for pharmaceuticals not covered by ADAP. It was unknown if the available amount to redirect would cover the entire short fall. Problems would not be created for Clients in the Food and Transportation category because of the County's interim funding. As in past, the November 2009 and December 2009 food cards had been increased. CM Witt commented that in the future the Council would need to consider and forward to the County the recommendation that contracts stipulate the use of generic medication and a Client medical review. Medications other then HIV drugs would not be name brand. CM Cronin reported that the requests were for HIV related medications from Clients who were unable to get the drugs from MediCal.

CM Witt motioned to authorize a one time transfer of unspent funds from Residential Substance Abuse Treatment to Direct Emergency Financial Assistance – Pharmaceuticals. CM Marcum seconded.

Public Comment: M. Schieble of Council Support requested clarification about the transfer from a Support Service category to a Core Medical Service category which would change the Core – Support percent. The change "up" [increase] to Core Medical Services would "help" the percent.

VOTE: A randomized roll call vote was conducted.

Ayes: CM Bateman, CM W. Flores, CM E. J. Flores, CM Frazier, CM Kelley, CM Marcum, CM Santana, CM Witt.

Noes: None

Recuse: CM Cronin, CM Malone.

Abstain: None

The unspent funds [\$4,400] from Residential Substance Abuse Treatment will be transferred to Direct Emergency Financial Assistance – Pharmaceuticals. **VOTE 8-0-2-0.**

C. Emerson reported: 1.) In 2009 -'10 the County paid \$31,675 for HIV medications in the County Jails. The expenditure was not paid for by Ryan White funds. 2.) Starting March 1, 2010, the Marin AIDS Project will be the Service Provider / Contractor for in home health services. 3.) Obstetrical services continue to be provided on the Health and Wellness Campus. 4.) C. Emerson suggested that advance of prioritization and allocation the Council should review of the service categories that operate as voucher programs. The April 2010 Care Council agenda would be the best time to discuss the topic. 5.) Next years Part A amount is unknown, and we are expecting a flat allocation, but It is anticipated that a potential increase in San Francisco Administrative expenses will result in a ten percent decrease in Part A dollars for Marin.6.) Part B

funding for 2009 -'10 was \$166,000. Although the actual funding is unknown, there could be an increase in Part B funding from last year. 7.) Due to a contracting [decrease in] County budget, the Council Support budget was reviewed. The County has been augmenting the Council Support budget and in the coming year there will be a reduction in scope of services that the County is able to provide for Council Support. One option to consider is fewer Care Council meetings. CM Bateman suggested that if there is a need for the same number of meetings, less Staff support at each meeting might be considered. Co-Chair W. Flores commented that possible changes with the COAC may result in savings to Council Support. C. Emerson will meet with the Care Council Co-Chairs to develop a proposal for the Council.

Public Comment: None

XII. Finalize 2010 Care Council Calendar - VOTE

The Marin HIV/AIDS Care Council – 2010 Annual Calendar was approved with additions by the Care Council on January 13, 2010. The item was deleted from the agenda

XIII. New Business

Next Meeting: March 10, 2010, 4:30p.m.-6:30p.m. - Connection Center, Room 109.

- Agenda Item – Membership Committee report on changes / updates to the Handbook.
- Agenda Item – Council Support County Budget Reduction.
- Agenda Item – (JS) Care Council Meeting Evaluations Summary report.
- Agenda Item – Infrastructure Work Group – Review of goals.
- CE Research presentation – services for people with HIV/AIDS provided by Center for Independent Living.
- WF – Distribute copies (via e-mail) of State Budget Cuts (Anne Donnelly memo).
- CE & JS – Meet with Co-Chairs – reductions in County budget for Council Support.

XIV. Membership Committee Report

Committee Co-Chair Marcum reported that the February 2, 2010 meeting agenda included: 1.) A discussion of the targeted recruitment plan. 2.) Continued discussion of Care Council Members attendance of the San Francisco allocation and prioritization meeting and the possibility of a policy and Bylaw change.

Public Comment: None

XV. Community Outreach and Advocacy Committee Report

COAC Co-Chair Santana reported that the January 28, 2010, meeting was cancelled. The COAC will meet immediately following today's Care Council meeting.

Public Comment: None

XVI. Meeting Adjourned at 6:33p.m.