



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**Marin HIV/AIDS Care Council Meeting
MINUTES
Wednesday, May 12, 2010
4:30p.m. - 6:30p.m.
3420 Kerner Blvd.
San Rafael, CA 94903
Connection Center – Room 109
[Approved June 9, 2010]**

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

Council Members Absent: Scott Marcum, Norge Santana

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

Public: Jon Botson, Cher Evans, Ayako Miyashita Esq., Maisha Cole Simmons, Esq.

I. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to Order at 4:42p.m. by Co-Chair Kelley.

II. Roll Call.

Roll was called and quorum was established with 6 of 10 Members present. CM Malone and CM Witt arrived after the roll call increasing the attendance to 8 of 10 Members present. CM Marcum (AE) was absent and excused due to travel. CM Santana (AE) was absent and excused.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda – VOTE

The agenda was reviewed. An ice breaker exercise was added to the agenda following item “VII. Co-Chair Report”

CM Frazier motioned to approve the edited agenda. CM E.J. Flores seconded.

A voice **vote** was conducted. All were in Favor. None were Opposed.

The edited agenda was approved unanimously.

IV. Review and Approval of April 14, 2010 Minutes – VOTE

CM W. Flores made motion to approve the April 14, 2010, minutes. CM Frazier seconded.

A voice **vote** was conducted. Ayes were heard. None were Opposed.

The April 14, 2010 minutes were approved.

V. General Announcements

CM Malone announced that the annual "Until There's A Cure Day" will be held at AT&T Park, Saturday May 15, 2010. The Marin AIDS Project [MAP] will be presented with a grant from the San Francisco Giants Community Fund in a pregame ceremony. Cheer SF will perform.

CM Malone announced that the San Francisco AIDS walk is July 18, 2010. M.A.P. [Marin AIDS Project] will enter a contingent and provide a bus to and from the walk. www.aidswalk.net

CM Frazier reported that on May 7, 2010 he attended CAPS meeting. The program topics included: HIV prevention, community support for MSM [men who have sex with men], African American men, and couples, health disparities in San Francisco, and building community support. CM Frazier also reported that the San Francisco EMA will lose funding in the 2011-'12 budget and Los Angeles, Fresno, and Alameda County anticipate a funding increase.

CM Frazier gave a recap of the May 12, 2010, C.A.E.A.R. [Communities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief] Coalition monthly conference call.

CM Frazier requested that Care Council Co-Chair participate in the call. “Best Practices” are being developed for consumer engagement and empowerment of Planning Councils. The Ryan White requirement of maintaining 33% Consumers on Planning Councils was described and recruitment of Consumers was noted.

C. Emerson announced that a yoga group has been formed for cancer survivors and PLWHA.

VI. Public Comment

Public Comment: None

VII. Co-Chair Report

Co-Chair Kelley report on his trip to Washington, D.C. and participation in the activities of “AIDS Watch 2010”. Visits to the offices of Nancy Pelosi, Barbara Boxer, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jackie Speier and Lynn Woolsey were made. Co-Chair Kelley stated, “Our strategy for our meetings was to ask for a \$126 million increase in healthcare reform, an [National] AIDS Strategy, increased AIDS funding, budget approximation, and also emergency funding. Those were the things we asked Congress for”.

Co-Chair W. Flores reported:

1.) The San Francisco needs assessment focus group of individuals 60 years old and up was conducted. 160 people participated in an on-line focus group facilitated by Randy Allgier. The group included 6 individuals from Marin County and 9 from San Mateo County. 2.) Information from Washington reported that “... the San Francisco EMA was the only EMA that was fully intact. San Francisco reached maximum membership of Providers and Consumers”. 3.) In June 2010, Co-Chair W. Flores will publish a newsletter titled, “Positive Positional”. The news letter is for people living with HIV and will include HIV/AIDS related information, articles of interest, and social and educational events. In addition to local distribution, the bi-monthly newsletter will distributed in Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties and through “Being Alive” in Minnesota. Submission were requested on medical information, HIV testing, events, and articles of interest.

Public Comment: None

VIII. Group Ice Breaker Exercise

Co-Chair Kelley and C. Emerson introduced an exercise designed to talk about important relationships. Each person described their relationships with self - by telling something about their name, another living thing - by telling something about a favorite pet, and the earth - by telling about a favorite or sacred place. Each person selected a stones. When each person completed their share, everyone passed their stone to the person sitting on their left. At the conclusion of the exercise, the stone each person originally selected had made its way around the circle and return to them symbolizing connectedness and relationship based on the sharing of information.

IX. Consumer Rights Advocacy Project – Ayako Miyashita, Esq.

Maisha Cole Simmons, Esq. presented an overview of the AIDS Legal Referral Panel / ALRP, which is the only institution in the San Francisco Bay Area whose entire mission is dedicated to providing free and low-cost legal assistance and education on virtually any civil matter to persons living with HIV/AIDS. Legal referrals include; housing, employment, insurance, immigration, confidentiality matters, family law, credit, government benefits, and public accommodations. This is accomplished through either direct representation of clients by one of ALRP’s five attorneys or by careful placement of clients with one of ALRP’s 700 panel attorneys. It was noted that, “all referrals are warm”. ALRP contacts a panel attorney, so the Client is matched through the referral with someone qualified to provide the appropriate service.

Ayako Miyashita, Esq. presented information on the HIV Consumer Advocacy Project / HCAP. The HIV Consumer Advocacy Project is Ryan White funded and provides advocacy and mediation services for PLWHA in San Francisco, Marin, and San Mateo Counties. ALRP is the Service Provider. Based on a Client’s circumstances or situation, services may be needed “not to litigate, but to advocate”. A Client who wants to file a grievance is provided information on the process and assistance in filing the grievance. ALRP has two trained mediators on staff to provide fair and an impartial assessment of the dissatisfaction. Client advocacy services include the development of a clear plan that outlines the steps of a grievance. The goal is to resolve the issue at the lowest possible level and achieve a fair resolution. As an example, a PLWHA who

has been terminated from services could file a grievance against the policy or procedure. Ms. Miyashita added, "...I would appreciate and encourage folks to contact us".

A question and answer period followed. CM Cronin asked if a Client can file a grievance on there own. Ms. Miyashita confirmed that a Client could file a grievance directly, however involving a "third party" [HCAP] may produce a quicker resolution and make available additional resources to the Client. A handout titled, "*Grievance Procedures*" was distributed to Care Council Members.

Public Comment: None

X. Division of Public Health Report

C. Emerson reported: 1.) The June 28, 2010 agenda of the San Francisco HIV Health Services Planning Council includes the annual reports from Marin and San Mateo Counties. The item had been rescheduled and moved from the May to the June 2010 agenda. Care Council Members were encouraged to attend.

2.) The 2010-'11 Ryan White Part A award was announced. There was a reduction of 5.3% in the amount of \$45,359 compared to the 2009-'10 award. The funding reduction was based on an overall reduction in the award. Marin County's portion is based on percent of living AIDS cases and may have been further decreased because of an increase in administrative costs by San Francisco. 3.) The State Part B award was announced at \$180,283. C. Emerson commented that given the Part A reduction and the Part B amount there would be enough funding to maintain the system of care. Contracts for the Part B funding started on March 1, 2010. 4.) Funding of a new State service, Health Education and Risk Reduction was announced. The service category covers a broader scope and is not identical to the previous prevention funding. Currently, HIV testing is available at the Department of Health STD Clinic. 4.) An overview of the voucher programs for direct service in the Service Categories of Oral Health, Direct Emergency Financial Assistance - Pharmaceuticals, Transportation, and Food will be presented by the Department of Health at a future Care Council meeting.

Public Comment: None

XI. Finalize 2010-'11 Budget - VOTE

A spreadsheet of the 2010-'11 Proposed Part A Allocation was projected. A handout titled, "Highlights of the Proposed Ryan White Allocation Adjustments for 2010-11" (*see attachment*) was distributed. In addition to the Part A amount, information on Part B funding scenario was included in the spreadsheet.

A 35 minute question and answer period followed.

6:28p.m. Point of Order. Motion and vote to extend meeting time to 6:45p.m.

It was confirmed that the Community Outreach and Advocacy Committee meeting scheduled to follow the Care Council meeting had been cancelled.

CM Witt made motion to approve column "I" (see below) totaling \$816, 529 as the 2010 -'11 final Part A Allocation. Co-Chair W. Flores seconded.

Public Comment: None.

A randomized roll call vote was conducted.

Vote:

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

Noes: None

Recuse: CM Cronin, CM Malone.

Abstain: None

The 2010 -'11 fiscal budget allocation was approved. 6-0-2-0

Service Category	2010/2011 Part A Allocations
Primary Medical Care	\$ 126,601
Mental Health	\$ 105,643
Medical Case Management	\$ 224,010
Home & Community-based Health Services-Skilled Nursing and Attendant Care	\$ 64,304
Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment	\$ 15,686
Oral Health	\$ 48,771
Direct Emergency Financial Assistance-Pharmaceuticals	\$ 12,513
Non Medical Case Management (Advocacy & Benefits Counseling)	\$ 108,698
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment	\$ 10,486
Direct Emergency Financial Assistance-\$	\$ 33,403
Food	\$ 38,000
Transportation	\$ 7,106
Health Education and Risk Reduction	\$ -
Council Support	\$ 21,308
TOTAL	\$816,529

Core Services 2010/11 75% Target= 596,416	\$ 597,527
Support Services 2010/11 25% Target= 198,805	\$ 197,693

XII. Membership Committee Report

Agenda item tabled due to meeting time.

XIII. Community Outreach and Advocacy Committee Report

Agenda item tabled due to meeting time.

XIV. Care Council Mission Statement Review

Agenda item tabled due to meeting time.

XV. New Business

Next Meeting: June 9, 2010, 4:30p.m.-6:30p.m. Connection Center, Room 109.

- Agenda Item – JS/CE – Report Homecare Service Category overview.
- Agenda Item - JS/CE – Report on Voucher Program(s).
- Agenda Item – JS - Handbook Updates.

- Agenda Item – Conflict of Interests Statements.
- CE – Details of yoga group for Cancer Survivors.
- JS – Update demographic profile – “Our Clients” (Handbook page 8/ last updated 1/15/2008).
- JS – Certificate of Appreciation KC & DW completion of term.

XVI. Meeting Adjourned at 6:36p.m.