



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



**Marin HIV/AIDS Care Council Meeting  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, August 7, 2013**

**4:30p.m. - 7:00p.m.**

**3240 Kerner Blvd.**

**San Rafael, CA 94901**

**Connection Center – Room 110**

**[ Approved December 11, 2013 ]**

Larry Meredith, Ph.D.  
DIRECTOR

Margaret Kisliuk  
DIVISION DIRECTOR

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**Council Members Present:** Roy Bateman, Kevin Cronin, Elaine J. Flores, James Frazier, Deborah Kasel, Walter Kelley, Scott Marcum

**Council Members Absent:** Trinity Dushon(AE), Jennifer Malone(AE)

**Staff Present:** Cicily Emerson, Chris Santini, Michael Schieble

**Public:** Jami Ellermann, Leslie Gallen

**I. Call to Order**

Co-Chair Cronin called the meeting to order.

**II. Roll Call**

Roll was called and quorum was established, with 7 of 9 Members present. CM Dushon(AE) and CM Malone(AE) were absent and excused.

**III. Review and Approval of Agenda - VOTE**

The order of the agenda was changed. "V. General Announcements" was moved to the end of the meeting agenda to maximize the discussion time for the FY2013-'14 Reallocation.

CM Bateman motioned to approve the revised agenda. CM Frazier seconded.

A voice **vote** was conducted. No objections were heard.

The revised agenda was approved.

**IV. Review and Approval of July 10, 2013 Minutes – VOTE**

CM Bateman submitted to Council Support a written correction to his statement appearing in the FY2013-'14 Reallocation discussion. [XII. Review of FY2013-'14 Allocation and Reallocation by Service Category, page 6, "CM Bateman voiced his agreement..."]

CM Frazier made motion to approve the July 10, 2013 minutes with one correction. CM Kelley seconded.

A voice **vote** was conducted. No objections were heard.

The revised minutes from the July 10, 2013 Marin Care Council meeting were approved.

**V. Public Comment**

None

**VI. Co-Chair Report - VOTE**

Backfill Request

Co-Chair Cronin distributed and reviewed a draft letter to Larry Meredith, Ph.D. regarding the Ryan White funding cuts. The letter stated, "... the Marin HIV/AIDS Care Council voted unanimously to request that the County backfill this cut...". (see attachment draft letter dated August 7, 2013).

Co-Chair Cronin stated, "I'd like to open the discussion on the substance of the letter".

The letter outlined reasons that the County "should also look to collaborate with other providers", specifically

Kaiser-Marin. "Kaiser has case managers or benefits people in San Francisco, the East Bay and Sonoma to serve PLWH, but in Marin those services have been provided by Ryan White funded entities." CM Frazier asked if the draft letter should be "run by" Dr. Witt? Co-Chair Cronin commented, "I don't know if we want to put him [Dr. Witt] in that position". CM E.J. Flores reported that she had coffee with Dr. Witt and discussed the topic. CM Bateman asked for clarification on who was making the request to Kaiser, was it the Marin AIDS Project/M.A.P., the Care Council, or the County?

CM Bateman suggested that the letter should include a request to meet with Dr. Meredith and "...not go directly to the Board". Co-Chair Cronin reported that last year's request was sent to Sprakie Spaeth.

CM Kasel suggested that "Affordable Care Act" be spelled out and not be abbreviated as "ACA" in the letter. CM Kasel stated, "We're not seeing actual number" and asked why the Care Council was not requesting backfill funding for specific Service Categories. Co-Chair Cronin replied that County general funds did not have the 75%/25% requirement and would provide more flexibility in restoring the system of care.

Public Comment: C. Emerson offered to assist the Care Council to facilitate the request to County Staff, stating "...we can set up a link".

CM Kelley made a motion to approve the draft letter with two amendments; 1.) Spell out ACA. 2.) Request a meeting with Dr. Meredith and the Care Council Co-Chairs. CM Bateman seconded.

A voice **vote** was conducted.

Ayes were voiced. No objections were heard.

The draft letter, with two changes was unanimously approved.

## **VII. Division of Public Health Report**

C. Emerson reported that the San Francisco Health Reform Task Force continues to meet and is producing "great recommendations".

C. Santini reported that the reimbursement of travel expense to/from Care Council meetings for HIV+ Council Members, for the period of March-June 2013, had been processed and "checks are in the mail".

Public Comment: None

Following the Public Health Report, C. Santini gave a detailed, column by column explanation of the spreadsheet, "2013-15 Decision Matrix for Allocation of Ryan White Funding in Marin County". For the 2013-'14 current year budget reallocation discussion [Agenda Item "X."], the spreadsheet included year-to-date expenditures by service category and a County proposed reallocation by service category.

The discussion proceeded to the Agenda Item X., the reallocation of Part A funds for 2013-'14.

## **VIII. Statements of Conflict of Interest**

Following the 2013-'14 Reallocation, Council Support informed the Co-Chairs that the statements of Conflict of Interest had been skipped on the Agenda. Council Members agreed that there were no changes since the verbal statements made at the July 10, 2013 Care Council Meeting. Council Support was instructed to report in the minutes the July 10, 2013 statements.

CM Bateman: Unaffiliated. County employee with a perceived Conflict of Interest.

CM Cronin: Actual conflict of interest – All Service Categories, except Substance Abuse and Oral Health. Affiliated with Marin AIDS Project /Service Provider.

CM E.J. Flores: Unaffiliated

CM Frazier: Unaffiliated

CM Kasel: Unaffiliated

CM Kelley: Unaffiliated - Consumer

CM Marcum: Unaffiliated

Public Comment: None

**IX. Review of FY2013-'14 Allocation and Reallocation by Service Category**

The reallocation discussion flowed out of the Public Health report, following the review of the 2013-'14 Reallocation Proposal by the County.

County Proposal Summary

Based on the 2013-'14 actual award of \$546,427, the Reallocation is \$88,606 less than the amount used for the original Allocation. The Reallocation will need to total to the actual award amount.

Oral Health will be funded, going forward, using Part B dollars. \$18,025 is budgeted from Part B. \$5,689 is the actual year-to-date expense (March-June 2013) and will be allocated from Part A funding.

It was noted that; Medical Case Management, Home and Community Based Care, AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance, and Emergency Financial Assistance year-to-date expenditures appear in bold on the Decision Matrix because they are "disproportionate expenditures in 1<sup>st</sup> 4 months".

CM Kasel asked who made the decision to decrease Emergency Fund benefit levels and voiced her concern, stating "[I] found out in a news letter and didn't even get a phone call".

Leslie Gallen reported that in the AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance Service Category, the year-to-date disproportionate expenditures have been driven by, "...high cost medications not covered by health insurance". "... a number of people have started using inhalers".

C. Santini reported that in "Primary Care the \$30,257 spending year-to-date is funded by Part B".

CM Bateman voiced concern that the Home and Community Based Care year-to-date spending was trending "at a disastrously high spending rate".

CM Kasel suggested that the Contractors be asked to charge less overhead in order to reduce program operating costs. A discussion followed. The discussion concluded with CM Bateman stating, "...that's a contracting issue".

CM Frazier voiced his concern stating, "People are getting HIV every day, if we make the cuts, we're hurting".

**Core Services**

There was a workgroup style discussion of proposed Reallocation amounts by Service Category.

CM Kelley made a **motion** to approve the following dollar amounts for each **Core Service Category** as the FY2013-'14 Reallocation. CM Bateman seconded.

**Core Services**

Outpatient /Ambulatory health services	\$129,704
Mental health services	\$80,325
Medical case management	\$132,668
Home and community-based health services (Nurse case management)	\$38,237
Home and community-based health services (attendant care)	\$0
Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment	\$7,975
Oral health care	\$5,689
AIDS pharmaceutical assistance (local)	\$12,000

**\$406,598**

A randomized roll call **vote** was conducted.

**AYES:** CM Bateman, CM E.J. Flores, CM Frazier, CM Kasel, CM Kelley, CM Marcum.

**Noes:** None

**Recuse:** CM Cronin

**Abstain:** None

**6-0-1-0 Motion** Passed: 6/6= 100%

**Support Services**

CM Kasel asked if Council Support was a Support Service – Service Category. C. Emerson responded that it was a separate amount or percent and not part of Support Services and was not included in the 75%/25% calculation.

CM Bateman suggested dollar amounts for the Support Services Reallocation (below). Non-medical Case Management was discussed. CM Bateman stated, “A dollar is never going to be worth more than a dollar”. The value of benefits counseling, accessing available resources, programs, and non-Ryan White dollars was discussed, which could produce more than a dollar spent in this Service Category. CM E.J. Flores stated, “There are certain benefits that the Client’s are going to have to do for themselves”. The example of the requirement that SSI needs to be done by the Client was given. CM Kasel added that people applying for insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act / ACA will have “assistors” and going forward Clients will need to complete an annual income tax return. C. Emerson reminded Council Members that the ACA was being implemented in 2014 and the Reallocation was for the current fiscal year. CM Kelley voiced the need for benefits counseling in order to “navigate the system”.

CM Kasel stated, “I disagree, the Emergency Funds should not be cut” adding, “it’s not fair that we put a cap on resources”.

CM Kelley made a **motion** to approve the following dollar amounts for each **Support Service Category** as the FY2013-’14 Reallocation. CM E.J. Flores seconded.

**Support Services**

Case management (non-medical)	\$108,000
Residential substance abuse treatment	\$0
Emergency financial assistance	\$21,517
Food (vouchers)	\$0
Medical transportation services	\$6,000

**\$135,517**

Public Comment: None

A randomized roll call **vote** was conducted.

**AYES:** CM Bateman, CM Kelley, CM Marcum.

**Noes:** CM E.J. Flores, CM Frazier, CM Kasel

**Recuse:** CM Cronin

**Abstain:** None

**3-3-1-0 The motion DID NOT PASS:** 3/6= 50%

CM Kasel made a **motion** to approve the following dollar amounts for each Support **Service Category** as the FY2013-’14 Reallocation. CM Bateman seconded.

**Support Services**

Case management (non-medical)	\$97,778
Residential substance abuse treatment	\$0
Emergency financial assistance	\$29,263
Food (vouchers)	\$0
Medical transportation services	\$8,476

**\$135,517**

**TOTALS**

Council support	\$4,311	
Core Services	<b>\$406,598</b>	75.00%
Support Services	<b>\$135,517</b>	25.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$546,426</b>

Public Comment: None

A randomized roll call **vote** was conducted.

**AYES:** CM Bateman, CM E.J. Flores, CM Frazier, CM Kasel, CM Kelley, CM Marcum.

**Noes:** None

**Recuse:** CM Cronin

**Abstain:** None

**6-0-1-0 Motion Passed:** 6/6= 100%

**X. Review and Prioritization of Core Service: Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance - VOTE**

C. Emerson gave an overview of this Core Service, Service Category.

The Ryan White Program Services Definition: “[f] Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing Assistance is the provision of financial assistance for eligible individuals living with HIV to maintain a continuity of health insurance or to receive benefits under a health insurance program. This includes premium payments, risk pools, co-payments, and deductibles.”

It was noted that the Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing Assistance is not a new Service Category. The Service Category had not been funded in the past, however the Care Council would need to consider funding the Service Category in the 2014-'15 Allocation. Examples were given of the need for this Core Service given the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and possible changes in programs from the State Office of AIDS.

CM Frazier made a **motion** to include the Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing Assistance, Service Category in the 2014-'15 Allocation. CM Kelley seconded.

C. Santini commented, that if approved by the Council, the 2014-'15 County proposal would include an amount for the Service Category. CM Kasel asked if there would be any information on need, based on income, similar to the percents reported in the Service Summary Sheets, “Service by % of Federal Poverty Level”.

Public Comment: None

A voice **vote** was conducted. All were in favor. No objections were heard.

It was approved to include the Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing Assistance, Service Category in the 2014-'15 Allocation.

**XI. FY2014-'15 Service Category Budget Allocation – VOTE**

*Tabled due to meeting time*

**XII. Council Co-Chair Nominations**

Council Support reported that Co-Chair Cronin is finishing his third consecutive term and Co-Chair Marcum is finishing his second term. Co-Chairs may serve no more than three consecutive terms.

Nominations

**Roy Bateman** was nominated by Co-Chair Cronin. CM Kelley seconded.

CM Bateman commented that the Care Council should be cautious about having a County Employee as a possible Co-Chair of a community advisory committee.

**Scott Marcum** was nominated by CM Kelley. CM Frazier seconded.

**Walter Kelley** was nominated by CM Bateman. CM Frazier seconded.

**Deborah Kasel** was nominated by Co-Chair Marcum. Co-Chair Cronin seconded.

**Elaine J. Flores** was nominated by CM Kelley. CM E.J. Flores declined the nomination.

Additional nominations will be accepted and the Co-Chair vote is scheduled for the September 11, 2013, Care Council meeting.

**XIII. Membership**

No business

Public Comment: None

**XIV. Community Outreach and Advocacy**

*Tabled due to meeting time*

**XV. General Announcements**

*Tabled due to meeting time*

**XVI. Next Steps – New Business**

Next Meeting: September 11, 2013, - Connection Center, 4:30p.m. - 6:30p.m.

**Next Step / To Do's**

- Agenda Item – Support Services philosophy for all support service categories.
- Agenda Item - Client education on money management.
- Agenda Item (September 2013) Community Forum planning or other outreach event planning.
- MJS – Produce stickers with Guiding Principles.
- MJS – Facilitate TD subsequent term application.

**XVII. Meeting Adjourned at 6:36p.m.**