



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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



MARIN HIV/AIDS CARE COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES

January 10, 2018

Marin County Health & Wellness Campus

3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 109

San Rafael, CA 94901

3:00PM – 5:00PM

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DIRECTOR

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I. Call to Order

CM Moske and CM E. Flores called the meeting to order at 3:13 PM.

II. Roll Call

Council Members Present at Roll Call: Linda Dobra, Elaine Flores (co-chair), Wade Flores, Jennifer Malone, Bobby Moske (co-chair), Ken Travirca, Esmeralda Garcia, James Frazier

Council Members Arriving Late:

Council Members Absent: Julie Dowling (excused), Alex Nizovskikh (excused)

Staff Present: Cicily Emerson, Kevin Lee, Lisa Santora

Public Present: David, Alex Diefenbach, Steve, Sarah King (MCC), Sarah Grossi

III. Review and approval of Agenda – VOTE

CM Travirca motioned to approve the draft agenda, seconded by CM W. Flores, approved unanimously by the Council.

IV. Review and approval of Minutes – VOTE

CM W. Flores motioned to approve the draft minutes, seconded by CM Garcia, approved by the Council.

V. General Announcements

- CM Malone distributed a flyer for the HIV League Scholarship for students who are living with HIV.
- CM Malone: because questions were raised about client input at The Spahr Center and the fact that our Board doesn't have client members, I wanted to offer some information to the Council. Regarding eligibility for membership to the Board, the Board is voluntary. They become members by being nominated or applying on their own. A nominating committee reviews the interest of people from time to time, and determines the needs of the Board at the time and looks to fill the Board with people who can fill the needs identified. The Board adopted a policy in 2015 that they would not elect

clients to the board due to conflict of interest, and they revisited this question in the November meeting and took the same position. The conflict of interest largely has to do with personnel issues in the agency and sensitive and confidential matters that don't interfere with services and programs directly. That being said, we had for a period of time, an informal client taskforce, which was a way to give people the opportunity to give input. That went on for a few years and that group doesn't exist at this time, but the Board would like to have an organized way of hearing from clients what their suggestions, thoughts, ideas, concerns, etc. Everyone also knows that we had a merger three years ago where Marin AIDS Project merged with Spectrum, and now our scope is broader than what it used to be so we have more constituent groups to respond, listen to, work with, and serve. The Board consulted with our attorney and will be taking steps this Spring to create probably three advisory committees: one on HIV, and the other possibly on LGBT seniors and youth, but we're not sure yet. We want to hear from different groups and we want that to be a relationship to the Board so that there's an understood and structured way to have those communications, and that everyone's assured that there's an open and collaborative process. We're working on that and hopefully we'll seek input as we're working on that, and so we'll be reaching out to people but feel free to reach out to me. I also want to say that in addition to those committees, we've talked here that there are a number of other forums and mechanisms of feedback. Obviously, I'm on the Care Council and feedback here goes back to the Board and to the staff. We pay a lot of attention to the client satisfaction survey, which will be happening soon. We do take that information to heart and use it.

- Cicity: a question that's come up is whether the individual comments from the client satisfaction survey get shared with the Board?
 - CM Malone: we never have shared them. No one's ever asked for them. I don't believe we've ever shared with anyone except our staff. There was reference at last month's Care Council meeting to a different survey that our Board did; we sent out 1800 surveys through Survey Monkey and we had about 101 responses. Of that, there were 31 respondents who receive HIV/AIDS services, 47 responses from people who participate in LGBT services, and the survey was also distributed to donors, supporters, and other agencies we work with so 50+ responses from people who don't receive services. There have been questions or whether we share that survey. We prepared a brief summary that included limited information; it was a survey done by the Board for its own use.

VI. Public Comment

- Alex Diefenbach: on the Care Council's member handbook page 39, it indicates that if the public has a concern related to an agency receiving funding, we're supposed to be able to bring it to the Care Council and the Council is supposed to refer us to San Francisco. I would like more information about the Council's oversight of contracts. The matter at hand is the food pantry that was left unstocked for the entire month of December. Also, while in the past, clients who were signed up for the food card program would receive a holiday gift card, this year, we were provided a one-day notice to register and pick up a \$50 food card at The Spahr Center, which means that many people weren't able to do this in such short notice. I sent an email to Ms. Malone on December 24 requesting that a card be provided

to everyone on the list, but have yet to receive a response. Finally, a formal complaint to The Spahr Center is being prepared on the matter. Missing out on the food card is urgent, and I want to encourage some action

- David: we're grateful that The Spahr Center did a survey, but we were never able to see the raw data. The lowest satisfaction was regarding the food bank, and I'm wondering why in the picture we're passing around there's nothing in the food bank. Many of us are pre-diabetic and we need fresh foods, and it's just one of the many things we're unhappy about.
- Cicily: we don't get in a dialogue with the public, but I'm happy to talk to you all offline about the oversight the Council has and the services. You can talk to me afterwards.

VII. Co-Chair Report

- CM Moske: there was a meeting with Dr. Matt Willis and it was proposed that a proclamation to the Board of Supervisors for National Condom Week, February 14-21, would be made. The Care Council and The Spahr Center should be involved since it'll raise visibility.

VIII. Prevention Program Report

- The Pacific AIDS Education Training Center (PAETC) has been holding trainings for MCC. They had one today on HIV and stigma, which went, and they were screening it so that all of their clinic staff could participate in the training. They're looking at having them repeat annually.
- The prevention funding through SFDPH is officially over, and we're now receiving funding through the State Office of AIDS (OA). We're closing out those contracts and refamiliarizing ourselves with prior databases.
 - CM Moske: Is there a difference in the funding?
 - Kevin: we used to get \$195,789 from SFDPH, but will only be receiving \$75,470 from OA. We'll have our funding backfilled from another OA funding source, but we don't know if it'll continue beyond September.
- We had leftover funding from our 2017 contract so we're going to implement a STD media campaign around March in light of STD Awareness Week, which is in early April, and we're hoping to have a media campaign more specific to HIV in the summer.
- We're continuing to use Data to Care – our HIV and STD data – to enhance our prevention efforts.

IX. Division of Public Health Report

- Clinic Transfer – Lisa Santora
 - Sarah King, Clinic Director at MCC Campus (in San Rafael), has been working with our team to ensure patient care. We have a line list of our specialty patients, and have been working with each patient to confirm where they'll be going for care and what the best option for them is.
 - As far as providers, we have Dr. Ellen Rosenthal who recently completed an HIV care refresher at UCSF; Dr. Stephen Merjavy who is a family physician and HIV specialist by completing a two-year HIV fellowship at USC; Dr. Sandra Wallace who is the infectious disease specialist; and Michelle Cohen who is a nurse practitioner who has seen patients living with HIV at MCC. There will be a dedicated Care

- Coordinator, Valerie Mendoza, and a dedicated phone number for patients.
- There will be communications in English and Spanish that will be sent to patients providing information and FAQs, based on questions that came up during the Meet-and-Greet. Kevin's information is on the letters and he can track any concerns.
 - We'll be meeting with our case managers, The Spahr Center, and MCC staff to develop a warm hand-off process for patients. MCC will follow with a welcome letter to patients, and the priority will be to get patients to their first appointment. If there is any lost to follow-up, we have a system to connect people back into care, which will be working more closely with MCC.
 - The last day patients will be seen at the HHS specialty clinic is January 24. There will likely be patients who despite our attempts to contact and inform them of the change, will not be aware of this, and when they come back into our system of care, we'll be ready to connect them.
 - MCC is getting set up as an ADAP enrollment site, and had a site visit today.
 - Cicily: we won't meet until March, but perhaps we can ask MCC to present then on how things are going.
 - CM W. Flores: where is the Dental Clinic?
 - Lisa: the Dental Clinic is on 4th Street. There isn't a dental clinic on the campus.
 - CM Moske: what will be the model for MCC?
 - Lisa: Sarah King is the Clinic Director and Dr. Jon Froyd is the Medical Director of the campus clinic. Sarah is focused on the clinic operations and Dr. Froyd works on clinical care. They also have a Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Jose Chibas, and the Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Mitesh Potat. There are also lead nurses at each site and Jessica Rios is the nurse for the specialty clinic. There are also five enrollment workers and the Care Coordinator who's Valerie Mendoza.
 - CM Frazier: what's being done about the issue of stigma?
 - Lisa: Linda Dobra, Sarah King, and Susan Wiebers at MCC have partnered with the PAETC to provide trainings including cultural competency, stigma, etc.
 - CM Dobra: we'll continue to determine what training needs come up.
 - CM W. Flores: will you be doing outreach to undocumented communities?
 - CM Dobra: there are always prevention activities that happen in the community to try and reach these populations, and to support them with testing and referrals.
 - CM E. Flores: will the phone lines be the same line?
 - Lisa: there will be designated phone lines for specialty care patients, and that number will be provided in the letter we send out as well as the one provided by MCC.
 - Sarah King: the phone line will have someone answering at all times and will be re-routed to someone if Valerie Mendoza is not available. We'll

also work with our Call Center to know how to respond to calls that are made to the regular phone line.

- CM Moske: what’s the process for patients with mental health issues?
 - Lisa: MCC’s doctors can refer into their behavioral health program, or they can be referred to the appropriate services.
- Kevin presented on the FY17/18 spending-to-date.
- Kevin provided an overview of the FY16/17 ARIES demographic data.

X. Marin County 2017 STD Update – Cicily Emerson

- Cicily presented on STDs in Marin County.
 - Bacterial STDs – chlymida, gonorrhoea, and syphilis – are on the rise throughout California, which has the highest in the country.
 - Rates of STDs highest among African Americans and men who have sex with men.
 - At least in San Francisco, as rates of HIV have decreased, other STDs have increased.
 - Marin’s syphilis rates are not as high as other counties within California.
 - In Marin, we haven’t seen any major demographic patterns with syphilis transmission.
 - PrEP doesn’t prevent against the transmission of other STDs, and condoms are the only way to protect against STDs.
 - We’ll continue to work on promoting HIV testing and STD screening within clinics, and conducting targeted outreach to providers to do good sexual history and screening. Many providers might not be able to identify syphilis so education is important.

Public Comment: None

XI. New Business – None

- Develop a workgroup that will review the Care Council by-laws. CMs W. Flores, Garcia, E. Flores, and Moske are interested in being part of the workgroup.

CM W. Flores motioned to create a by-law workgroup, CM Frazier seconded, approved by the Council.

XII. Adjourn

CM Moske and CM E. Flores adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2018
 Marin County Health & Wellness Campus
 3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 110
 San Rafael, CA
 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

PLEASE PLAN TO COME TO THE MEETING ON TIME, AS WE WILL BE STARTING ON TIME AND ENDING ON TIME – We **cannot** extend the meeting time. Thank you!