



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

June 13, 2018

Marin County Health & Wellness Campus

3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 110

San Rafael, CA 94901

3:00PM – 5:00PM

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I. Call to Order

CM Moske and CM E. Flores called the meeting to order at 3:27 PM.

II. Roll Call

Council Members Present at Roll Call: Linda Dobra, Julie Dowling, Elaine Flores (co-chair), Wade Flores, Bobby Moske (co-chair), Ken Travirca

Council Members Arriving Late:

Council Members Absent: Jennifer Malone (excused), James Frazier (excused), Esmeralda Garcia (excused), Alex Nizovskikh (excused)

Staff Present: Cicily Emerson, Kevin Lee

Public Present: David, Steve Daly, Alex Diefenbach, Dennis Elder (The Spahr Center), Sarah King (Marin Community Clinics), Stephen Merjavy (Marin Community Clinics), Laurel Taschetta (HHS), Jeremy Tsuchitani-Watson (AIDS Legal Referral Panel)

III. Review and approval of Agenda – VOTE

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

IV. Review and approval of Minutes – VOTE

CM Travirca motioned to approve the draft minutes, seconded by CM Dowling, approved by the Council.

V. General Announcements

- CM W. Flores: finished second step for being a member of the MCC board. Next step is to be put on, which should happen in July or August.

VI. Public Comment

- Steve Daley: I'd like to address how the Council allocates resources for food, and how clients secure food needs in their lives, in this case, through

food cards and a food bank. I'd like to advocate for devoting more resources for food cards. Food banks are a great service, but they have limitations: open during a limited times, limited food options, are difficult to get to, and creates anxieties for clients. Food cards don't have any of these challenges, and provided inflation, I would strongly suggest increasing the amount. Food cards provide clients with a sense of agency to get what they need, when they need it.

- Alex Diefenbach: I'd like to reiterate what the gentleman said. Also, would like to comment on the Advisory Committee. The Spahr Center had a meeting to gather client feedback and several Board members were present, and there was good discussion. However, I learned that The Spahr Center is not collecting additional feedback at this point, and are moving forward with developing this committee without further client input. Update on Board recruitment is that the most recent member was homophobic and we brought it up, and that appointment has since been reversed. The Board is now indicating that they want to recruit someone who is an HIV advocate, but not necessarily someone who is living with HIV.
- David: I called Valerie today. I get my dental work through MCC and I was hoping that I can get both case management and dental services through there, and Valerie said that I could. However, she said that MCC is not certified to provide yet. I'd like to get this squared up because my ADAP renewal is coming up in June.

VII. Co-Chair Report

- CM E. Flores: Nordstrom, where I work, wants to give proceeds from an event this weekend to The Spahr Center's HIV services.
- CM Moske: the State of California has agreed to pay for NARCAN, or naloxone, which reverses the effects of opioid overdose. So if you know of any people who use drugs, they can obtain a NARCAN kit to carry with them. We're trying to get this into Marin County pharmacies, and work with the County on having it available.

Public Comment: None

VIII. Prevention Program Report

- We now have people who are trained up and looking at our systems to make sure people are linked to PrEP or into care if they're living with HIV. We're tightening our systems in-house and in the community.
- We're also looking at needle exchange and seeing how we can provide support in the jails or in the community, and that NARCAN is available at the needle exchange. There's an effort to get this out in the community to service providers.

Public Comment: None

IX. Division of Public Health Report

- Cicily:
 - We're in the process of putting in a request for Ryan White Part B X08 funding from the State, which currently funds housing services, food pantry, and Early Intervention Services – outreach and linkage for people at risk of falling out of care – at The Spahr Center. This is

a one-time, additional State funding from September 30 to September 29 that we've received for the past year and a half, and we're pretty confident that we'll get it.

- HHS has been in the process of strategic planning, and we're getting closer to have an external strategic plan. We're already doing some of what's in the plan such as using data or working with community to inform planning, and I look forward to sharing this with you further.
- I also wanted to share that for many years, people on disability didn't qualify for CalFresh, but there's now a proposal on the governor's desk that will eliminate this exclusion so that people on SSI and disability would be able to get CalFresh: <http://www.cafoodbanks.org/blog/ca4ssi-coalition-sends-strong-message-governor-ssi-cash-out>. This would be significant for most Ryan White clients who are on disability who could benefit from the benefits. There are also many food resources in Marin including phone apps that identify food resources, and programs for seniors and the aging population.
- Kevin:
 - We received an update from our Ryan White Part A, and it looks like we'll very likely receive a \$13,354 reduction in our award. That said, we want to provide as many services as possible, but because we are likely to lose funding, we have to be mindful about how we allocate funds to services with the greatest utilization and need. We'll be reviewing this in the near future, especially in light of prioritization and allocation, and will provide our recommendations to the Council.
 - Cicily: In the supplemental request for funding through the State, we did ask for more funding for food cards to offset this likely lost of funding.
 - We will do prioritization and allocation next month on July 11 and July 25, respectively. In preparation for this, we've shared information and data from the Annual Client Satisfaction Surveys, the Service Category Summary Sheets, epidemiology data, and ARIES data. I will work on summarizing all of this data in a more concise and palatable way to share with the Council prior to our next meeting.

Public Comment: None

X. Membership Discussion – VOTE

- Review of Stephen Merjavy's Care Council application – copies of applications were distributed to councilmembers for review. No questions or discussion on application

CM Moske: motion to accept Stephen Merjavy's application, and invite him to be interviewed. Seconded by CM Dobra. Approved unanimously by the Council.

Public Comment: None

XI. Marin Community Clinics Speciality Clinic Update – Sarah King

- Sarah King is the Clinic Director at MCC
- February 1 was when services at HHS Clinics transitioned over to MCC

- 120 previous HHS Clinics patients verbally confirmed moving over to MCC. As of today, 12-14 individuals have not come in for a visit, and we're working on contacting and reaching out to these people.
- In order to improve the flow of care, we're bringing in in-house laboratory services to the 3260 location. We're working with Quest Labs to be onsite, which will hopefully happen in the next month, and is important because if someone is out of care, they can receive full services immediately.
- Patients are starting to connect with other services provided by MCC such as optometry, nutrition, etc.
- We continue to work on medical case management services including ADAP, OA-HIPP, and a new OA PrEP program that the State is rolling out. We are still waiting for the State Office of AIDS to approve our contract, which has been in the works for the past six months. Following that, we'll have enrollment workers who can enroll eligible clients into these programs.
- We continue working having Ryan White templates in our electronic health records (EHR), NextGen, and hope to get this worked out so that we don't have to double-enter information and instead the information will be more available across providers. The next upgrade should have features that integrate Ryan White, and will hopefully happen in July.
- We've continued working with The Spahr Center, and we case conference every Tuesday along with Linda Dobra where we discuss clients to make sure everyone's connected.
- Related to food, we have a pantry every Wednesday at Health Hub at the San Rafael location, one on Thursdays in Novato, and hopefully one at the 3260 location with more resources.
- CM W. Flores: some Ryan White clients may receive dental care at MCC, but their medical care at Kaiser. Will there be a clash?
 - Sarah King: No, we definitely have patients who receive dental care at MCC and medical care outside of MCC. We can assist with medical case management even if a patient isn't receiving medical care at MCC.

Public Comment:

- David: I tried calling the State regarding ADAP, and it seems like six months is a long time to be waiting. My eligibility is due soon, and I'd like for this to be resolved as soon as possible.
 - Sarah King: I've been contacting people at the State myself, and the County has been trying to help. They've informed us that for anyone approaching re-enrollment, we can provide a temporary extension, which I've been doing. I will continue to have my team advocate for patients.

XII. HIV Consumer Advocacy Project Presentation – Jeremy Tsuchitani-Watson

- The HIV Consumer Advocacy Project (HCAP) is housed in the AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP), which offers free and low-cost legal assistance to people living in the Bay Area with HIV/AIDS. HCAP works with people living with HIV/AIDS who access Ryan White services to ensure they're able to maintain services and a relationship with their service provider. HCAP also helps with referrals and grievances.
- HCAP works with service providers to provide technical assistance.

- In the 2017-18 fiscal year, there were 93 unduplicated clients with a total of 131 HCAP matters addressed. The issues were mostly related to housing, primary medical care, dental care, and case management, and had to do with quality of care, access, and termination from services.
- Clients continue to experience challenges related to housing and homelessness, mental health and substance use, and dental services.
- Contact for assistance: (415) 701-1200 x322 or jeremy@alrp.org.

Public Comment: None

XIII. Division of Public Health Report – FY17/18 ARIES Data Overview

- Kevin provided an overview of FY17/18 ARIES data:
 - 279 clients were seen under Ryan White Part A funding between March 1, 2017 to February 28, 2018.
 - Most clients served were male, White, over the age 50, stably housed, below 200% the poverty level, receiving Medi-Cal and/or Medicare, and had contracted HIV as a man who had sex with another man.

Public Comment: None

XIV. 2018 Community Forum Planning

- CM W. Flores and CM Moske: It may make the most sense to host one forum this year and take the opportunity to provide lots of resources for those in attendance.
- CM Travirca: Aging may be a good topic to cover in addition to other topics and services.
- Cicily: Let's plan for the community forum to take place in October or November given summer vacations and Kevin's departure from the County, and to convene a planning committee in September.
 - CM W. Flores: We may want to consider even late November or December if we need more time.
- CM E. Flores: It'll make sense to have a forum to also hear people's experiences following the clinic changes.
- CM Dobra: It sounds like it'd be open to everyone who receives Ryan White services.
- CM Travirca: For the sake of time, we should table this for our next meeting where we can hammer down a date.

Public Comment: None

XV. New Business – None

XVI. Adjourn

CM Moske and CM E. Flores adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 11, 2018
Marin County Health & Wellness Campus
3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 110

San Rafael, CA
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 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!