



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**

July 11, 2018

Marin County Health & Wellness Campus

3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 110

San Rafael, CA 94901

3:00 – 5:30 pm

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I. Call to Order

CM Elaine Flores called meeting to order at 3:17 pm.

II. Roll Call

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

Council Members Arriving Late:

Council Members Absent: Wade Flores (excused), Alex Nizovskikh

Staff Present: Kevin Lee

Public Present: David, Alex Diefenbach, Jon Edwards

III. Review and approval of Agenda – VOTE

Kevin Lee requested a change to Item XIII of the agenda: Dr. Stephen Merjavy has withdrawn his application for membership due to his very limited time. If there is ever a need to have a medical provider provide information, he is happy to do that.

CM Frazier motioned to approve the draft agenda with the above amendment, seconded by CM Travirca, approved unanimously by the Council.

IV. Review and approval of Minutes – VOTE

CM Travirca motioned to approve the draft minutes of the June 13, 2018, meeting, seconded by CM Dowling, approved unanimously by the Council.

V. General Announcements

- CM Malone: The Spahr Center Client Advisory Committee applications are also available online. There will be an interview with each person who applies. The panel will include two board members and two clients who are not applying for the committee. Applications are due on Tuesday the 17th.
 - Kevin: what outreach and recruitment efforts have been doing?
 - CM Malone: there was a mailing to the whole client list to attend an informational meeting of clients for input. The application was created with their input and then posted on the website. Announcements were made here and copies were made available via email request.
- CM Moske: there is a free training put on by the Dept. of H&HS. It is a 9-week course, with meetings twice a week at the Sheriff's office in Mill Valley. It is a crash course in mental health. It can lead to an internship with H&HS MHSAS. It has very valuable information. After 9 months of internship, a person can be placed in a well-paying, full-time position with the County's mental health program. Will bring flyers and also send it to members via email.

VI. Public Comment

- Alex Diefenbach presented himself as the spokesperson for individuals concerned about the Spahr Center. He read a published statement of the official values and goals of the Spahr Center: It was founded to address the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and HIV/AIDS patients were to be involved in the design, implementation and governance of the system. This is not being followed by the governing board of the Spahr Center. Since November, the government board has shown hostility toward patient complaints and attempts to form an advisory committee. Responses from the board have been contradictory, illogical, hostile. Patient comments made at the May 29, 2018 meeting were not incorporated into the produced outline. All of this has led us to mistrust what is really going on, what will happen. We are concerned about the appointment of a person with homophobic beliefs through a recruitment process that was kept secret. None of the board members have expressed any understanding of the value of having persons living with HIV/AIDS serve on the board. Therefore, we believe that the Spahr Center administration is out of compliance with the requirements for contracts for Ryan White funding and we have requested an investigation into these matters.
- John Edwards: stated that he has had the honor to serve as a volunteer with the Special Olympics for 18 years, with California State Parks for 2 years, and currently with disabled seniors. In sum, he has served as a volunteer in Marin County for 25 years. He previously volunteered at the Spahr Center. He reports he now

finds himself in a hostile environment. He notes that the administration has refused to appoint a client / person living with HIV/AIDS to the governing board. The reason given was that such a person would have a conflict of interest. However, clients of the Spahr center are clients because they have HIV/AIDS. This position indicates a belief that clients are somehow flawed. Among the clients, he feels that there are surely some individuals who could serve capably and impartially on the board. Now, an advisory committee of clients is being formed but the board still refuses to deny any leadership position to an HIV positive client. His confidence in the Spahr Center is completely eroded and he is now a former donor and volunteer.

VII. Co-Chair Report

- CM E. Flores:
 - Last Saturday, Nordstrom in Corte Madera held an event and is donating a proportion to proceeds to The Spahr Center for HIV/AIDS services. Will let you know when I find out the dollar amount.
 - Regarding the Council in San Francisco, there is an event coming up. Right before the AIDS Walk, there will be a little gathering at the AIDS Memorial Grove where attendees will remember all those who have passed. It will be on Sunday, July 15th at 8:30 am.
- CM Moske: gave a report on the progress of AB 1535, which is about improved access to naloxone. He asked for help in his efforts to acquire information, set up insurance coverage for the uninsured, provide information to pharmacists, etc. and to drum up support for the bill. There are a lot of people living with HIV/AIDS who have comorbidities of substance abuse. Any help would be appreciated. Fred Mayer and the Pharmacist Association are involved in these conversations.

VIII. Prevention Program Report

- CM Dobra:
 - Things are moving along with integrating HIV and STD and finding out who is on PrEP.
 - We were invited to a transitional age youth (TAY) gathering put on by Behavioral Health. There is planning for outreach to teenagers and young adults in inform them of increased risk of STDs. There was a review of the resources available in mental health and the availability of PrEP. It was a great resource sharing and we need to do more of that, especially concerning STDs and sex education. We also learned about the people in the mobile crisis units who reach individuals with substance abuse issues who

face barriers. This led us to working with staff in the Whole Person Care program.

- I attended a planning session with San Francisco's Dept. of Public Health it was a 4-hour activity which was a vignette. It was a fascinating exercise.
- Adrian continues to do the Latino MSM support group.

Public Comment: None

IX. Division of Public Health Report

- Kevin:
 - I sent out materials to the group which hopefully you received. The materials summarize the results of the client satisfaction surveys, the different trends around utilization for the different service categories, etc. Members should feel free to ask any questions of Kevin.
 - Related to prevention, we are no longer receiving funding through San Francisco, but now from the State. We have not received that funding yet and have hit a roadblock and need to figure out the budget piece, and I'm working with the State to resolve issues. We should be receiving \$74,000 for prevention which is a cut from what we received before. But, the State has backfilled it with Part B funding. We should be pretty good.
 - A few months ago, the State had additional funding for Part B and they asked that we review our additional Part B contract which runs from October to September and currently funds the housing services and pantry at the Spahr Center plus Early Intervention Services to see if additional funds are needed. Early Intervention Services has been focused on outreach and access to services. We are good until the end of September, but we found out that a lot of counties had applied for the funding and as a result, are receiving a reduction in what we had requested which was \$143,000; instead, we will receive \$88,000. So, Cicily and I will work on figuring out what that means in services. We will keep the Council updated on this issue.
 - CM Moske: how does this reduction in funding impact services?
 - Kevin: at this point it's hard to say. Outreach may receive reduced funding because there are other sources of funding for that service. However, after analysis, we may need to reduce funding for all services. Council members should bear in mind that these funds are indeed "additional funding" and so not a part of the base budget. We have never expected it to be permanent.

- Even though we haven't received our prevention funding through the State, the State has asked us to plan for next year. So, we have gotten together with representatives of the Spahr Center to see how we can support and improve HIV testing, client care, partnership services, syringe access, and PrEP. These are five strategies that the State is really promoting and advocating for in prevention. This supports a larger prevention plan which we hope to see in Marin County.
- Lisa Santora and Matt Willis met with MCC leadership on July 5, 2018, to talk about medical case management. They plan to meet again in about three months, after MCC starts to provide case management to assure it is up to par. It has been a challenge because they have been waiting for the State to develop the contract and approve it. Fortunately, MCC has now been approved as an ADAP site. They have been doing weekly case conferencing which Linda Dobra has been a part of with The Spahr Center and MCC to help coordinate and assure that clients are able to access the care they need across the programs.
- CM Dobra: MCC and HHS will be hosting several meetings to address any issues affecting patient care. MCC has taken on patients with HIV/AIDS as well as TB and STDs and is preparing a Quality Improvement program for people living with HIV/AIDS which they plan to present soon at the DNC Caring along with metrics.
- Kevin did a conflict of interest review and had all CM's sign off on the agreement. He reviewed the definition of actual and perceived conflicts of interest plus some examples. He stated that all CM's must agree to separate themselves from all possible conflicts and then sign the agreement. All present CMs reviewed the document and signed it.

Public Comment: None

X. Fiscal year 2019-20 Annual Prioritization – VOTE

- Kevin passed out a worksheet to all CMs to determine priorities for the FY 2019-20. The worksheet listed all the services in Marin County covered by Ryan White funding. At the bottom of the sheet is a list of all services that used to be funded by Ryan White but are no longer. This is because either the service was deemed not to be needed or is being funded through another source. Once each member has determined his/her priorities, Kevin will input them and the Council will discuss and vote.

FY2019-20 Marin HIV/AIDS Care Council Service Category Prioritization

	Service Category	2019-20 Rank
j.	Mental Health Services	1
n.	Case Management (Non-Medical) aka Benefits Counseling	2
l.	Medical Case Management	3
f.	Health Insurance Premiums and Cost Sharing	4
d.	Oral Health Care	5
a.	Outpatient /Ambulatory Health Care	6
r.	Food Bank/Home-delivered Meals	7
q.	Emergency Financial Assistance	8
c.	AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance	9
z.	Psychosocial Support Services	10
t.	Housing Services	11
w.	Medical Transportation Services	12
m.	Substance Abuse Treatment Services– Outpatient	13
ad.	Residential Substance Abuse Treatment	14
g.	Home and Community based Health Care (Nurse Case Management, Attendant Care)	15

- After this session, Kevin stated that the priorities determined were mental health, case management, health insurance premium, outpatient care, primary care, ambulatory care, home delivered meals, emergency financial assistance, psycho-social, transportation, housing, education.
- There was general discussion and questions.

CM Moske motioned to approve the Ryan White service category priority rankings for FY2019-20. Seconded by CM Frazier.

Yes: CM Dobra, CM Dowling, CM Garcia, CM E. Flores, CM W. Flores, CM Frazier, CM Moske, CM Travirca

No: None

Abstain: None

Recuse: CM Malone

Motion passed with 8 voting in favor.

- Kevin will include this list in the matrix.

Public Comment: None

XI. Break

XII. 2018 Community Forum Planning, continued

- There was general discussion whether or not to table this topic. There was agreement that it should be tabled.

XIII. Membership – VOTE

- Renewal of Membership: Linda Dobra, Wade Flores, Bobby Moske
- Each member provided a statement as to why they wish to continue membership on the Council.

CM Malone motioned to renew the membership of CM Dobra, CM Flores, and CM Moske for another two years. Seconded by CM Travirca. The motion was passed unanimously.

XIV. New Business – None

XV. Adjourn

CM E. Flores adjourned the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, July 25, 2018
Health & Wellness Campus
3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 110
San Rafael, CA
3:00 – 6:00 pm**