

**MN Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention**  
**Meeting Minutes for December 18, 2018**  
**9:00am to 12:00pm**  
**Health Services Building, Room L15**  
**Minutes**

<b>Council Members Present:</b>	Lesla Nelson (Council Co-Chair)
Alejandro Aguilera	Florence Nabeta
Dennis Anderson	Fred Ndip
Robert Andrews	Val Rubin-Rashaad
Lisa Behr	Tyrie Stanley (Council Co-Chair)
Roger Ernst (phone)	Matt Toburen
Terral Ewing (phone)	Gwen Velez (phone)
Ryann Freeman	John Vener, MD
Cree Gordon (phone)	Johnnie Williams
James McMurray	McKinzie Woelfel (Council Co-Chair) (phone)
<b>Council Members Absent:</b>	Destiny Holiday
Tom Bichanga	Stephen Jensen
Loyal Brooks	David Neller
Raymel Givens	Gelli Overton
<b>Community Members/Guests/Consultants:</b>	Bob Wickoren, Merck
Aaron Peterson, Hennepin County	Bill Tiedemann, Hope House
Anika Kalewoun, Hennepin County	Jo Ann Vertetis, Co-chair CVC
Genny Grilli, MDH	Rachel Fletcher, West Side Clinic
<b>Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:</b>	<b>DHS (Part B) Representative:</b>
Jonathan Hanft	Colleen Bjerke
<b>MDH (Prevention) Representative:</b>	<b>MCHACP Parliamentarian:</b>
McKinzie Woelfel	Pat Reymann, PRP
<b>MCHACP Staff:</b>	
Carissa Weisdorf, Council Coordinator	Jeremy Stadelman, Admin Specialist (minutes)

Quorum Present? **Yes**

**I. Call to Order, Reading of Guiding Principles, Introductions**

- Lesla Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The guiding principles were read and introductions were made.

**Consideration and Approval of Proposed Agenda**

- The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

**Consideration and Approval of November Meeting Minutes**

- The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**II. Co-Chair Update**

- Lesla noted that there was no Executive Committee meeting in December.
- Lesla announced that the council's co-chairs went to the National Ryan White conference in Maryland. The co-chairs will have an update about the conference at next month's meeting.

**III. Council Staff Update**

- Carissa Weisdorf noted that she also attended the National Ryan White conference and explained that staff and council co-chairs had an opportunity to meet our Part A Project Officer, Holly Berilla.
- Carissa announced that the Membership and Training Committee approved a motion to hold the community co-chair election in February, rather than in March. Carissa referred to the **community co-chair responsibilities** document and asked those who are interested in the position to let either council staff or co-chairs of the Membership and Training Committee know by January 18, 2019. Open nominations from the floor will also be allowed on the day of the election.
  - Roger Ernst asked if both community co-chairs would be up for reelection.

- Carissa explained that Lesa must step down due to term limits, but Tyrie Stanley can run for another term.
- Carissa informed the council that Evelyn Combs has stepped off the council and is no longer at HCMC.
- Carissa noted that several council and community members would be filming the council's recruitment video after today's meeting.
- Carissa reminded members that all committee meetings are cancelled for December.
- The council is accepting applications for new members and there will be around 10 openings to fill early next year.
  - We are seeking applications from Latino male unaligned consumers, a state Medicaid representative, and a healthcare provider from a Federally Qualified Health Center.
  - We are also seeking applications from consumers of trans experience so we are reflective of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in our jurisdiction.
- Jeremy Stadelman reminded members to submit their reimbursement requests on a monthly basis.

#### IV. Recipient Reports

- **Part A Update**

*Jonathan Hanft, Hennepin County*

- FY2018 estimated unobligated balances due Dec. 31
    - Jonathan noted that there would be less unobligated balances than last year.
    - Council co-chairs will sign the form which will be submitted to HRSA.
  - **FY2019 HIV Appropriations Table**
    - Appropriations were passed by congress and signed by the president; Part A should get its full award on time this year.
    - Flat funding is expected for FY2019.
    - It is estimated that a 6% increase in funding is needed to keep up with the need.
  - The most powerful impact on legislators is hearing personal stories; contact your representatives, particularly for new congressional members.
  - Part A Notice of Funding Opportunity- Building Capacity for HIV Elimination in Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A Jurisdictions, due January 28.
    - Five grants will be awarded, up to \$100,000/year for two years.
    - Four domains may be funded:
      - Infrastructure support
      - Information dissemination and marketing
        - Part A would use these funds for targeted awareness campaigns, including using social media.
      - Community engagement
        - Part A would use these funds for:
          - Community planning
          - Focus groups
          - Stakeholder engagement
            - Develop a model of community engagement
            - Community targeted awareness campaigns
            - Build capacity for smaller organizations to compete with public funding
            - Targeted communities include African born and African American same gender loving men
          - Enhancement of core medical and support services
- National Ryan White conference highlights
  - Data to Care initiatives were discussed.
  - There are opportunities to work with pharmacies to increase adherence to treatment.
  - The current Health and Human Services Secretary attended and the administration plans to release an updated national HIV strategy in 2019.

- QMAC is recruiting new members; contact Anika Kaleewoun (anika.kaleewoun@hennepin.us) if interested.
- **Part B Update:**  
*Colleen Bjerke, DHS*
  - Part B supplemental funding
    - Part B received about \$900,000, which has gone mostly to EIS (early intervention services) and is contracted through the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).
    - Some money went into ADAP.
  - The Department of Human Services (DHS) is interviewing for a data analyst position.
  - Statewide strategy update:
    - There will be a Legislative review in January.
    - A central focus of the strategy is on infrastructure planning, including housing and workforce development.
    - DHS can provide a more in depth review of the strategy, if requested.
  - DHS plans to provide additional background information on rebate funding for the council.
  - Equity in contracting:
    - Colleen noted that it would be helpful to have a conversation with members about how to make contracts more equitable.
      - The Disparities Elimination Committee is currently working on these issues and the co-chairs, Raquelle Gant and Dennis Anderson, would like to have further discussions with DHS about equity in contracts.
- **Prevention Update**  
*McKinzie Woelfel, MDH*
  - McKinzie announced that the EIS supervisor position will be reopened.
  - MDH will be updating its website soon.

## V. Committee Reports

- Executive
  - See ***Committee Report Summaries*** handout
- Community Voices
  - See ***Committee Report Summaries*** handout
- Disparities Elimination
  - See ***Committee Report Summaries*** handout
- Membership & Training
  - See ***Committee Report Summaries*** handout
  - Raquelle asked for an update about the Disparities Elimination Committee's request to have a consumer membership spot held for a transgender or non-binary individual.
    - Carissa explained that it is a HRSA requirement to reflect the local HIV/AIDS epidemic, so we will making an update to our tracking grid to include transgender individuals. We are asking for the council's help in recruiting individuals who fill this spot.
- Needs Assessment & Training
  - Alejandro Aguilera announced that the committee will be looking at developing assessments for Part B and Prevention.
  - PrEP survey:
    - MDH is trying to increase the number of respondents from target populations; incentives are now available.
    - Jonathan noted that national PrEP data is available to review at [www.AIDSvu.org/prep](http://www.AIDSvu.org/prep).
  - See ***Committee Report Summaries*** handout
- Planning & Allocations
  - Tyrie reviewed the report on [Goals 1 – 3 of the integrated plan monitoring plan](#).

- Alejandro noted that he would like to see transgender and individuals who use intravenous drugs listed as a target population for goal 1.6. Alejandro agreed to discuss this further at the next Needs Assessment and Evaluation meeting.
- See **Committee Report Summaries** handout

## VI. HIV and Aging Update

*Ryann Freeman, MSW, Program Planner, Hennepin County Ryan White Program*

- Ryann presented a PowerPoint on HIV and aging (Jeremy Stadelman emailed the presentation to the council on December 19).
- Bill Tiedemann from Hope House noted that the HIV Housing Coalition has been focused on HIV and aging and plans to continue having conversations about issues related to aging.
- Val Rubin-Rashaad noted that she has connections to case managers who work with older clients; Ryann will connect with Val about this.
- Aaron Peterson wondered if Ryann had any recommendations about how consumers can be better advocates for themselves.
  - Ryann explained that there are resources that she can share with the council.
- Jonathan wondered if there was anything about aging with HIV included in consumer quality trainings.
  - Anika explained that there is a module dedicated to self-advocacy, but it is not geared towards older adults. However, this can be organized, if there is interest.
- Fred Ndip asked what older adults are saying they need.
  - Ryann explained that she conducted focus groups in New York City about this and she can share these resources with Fred.
- Jo Ann Vertetis indicated an interest in being a part of the HIV and Aging Coalition.

## VII. Questions about presentation

- None.

## VIII. BREAK

## IX. Hepatitis C Update

*Genny Grilli, MPH, Senior Epidemiologist, Minnesota Department of Health*

- Jeremy Stadelman emailed the presentation to the council on December 19.

## X. Questions about presentation

- Jo Ann asked what the costs for Hepatitis C treatment were.
  - Genny replied that, originally, it cost about \$100,000 for a course of treatment, but costs have gone down to about \$45,000.
- [Project ECHO](#) is working to connect patients to care.
- Jonathan asked about the co-infection rate with HIV.
  - Genny indicated that the co-infection rate was around 6%.
- Jonathan wondered if MDH tracks treatment.
  - Genny replied that MDH is able to get the vast majority of this data, but they do not proactively work to get the data.
- Rachel Fletcher noted that she has seen reinfections in those with diabetes and her agency changed protocol for those who have diabetes and are receiving treatment for Hepatitis C.
- John Vener wondered how MDH can determine if someone has naturally resolved their infection.
  - Genny replied that this can be hard to determine, but younger individuals may be more likely to naturally resolve their infection (15-20% naturally resolve their infection).
  - Some genotypes may give some protection against reinfection, but it is possible to be reinfected even for those who naturally resolve their infections.
- Colleen wondered if a continuum of care for Hepatitis C has been developed.
  - Genny explained that it is difficult to capture the necessary data (mainly claims data), but they have mocked up a care continuum in the past.

- There is a national cascade, but MDH is interested in developing one for Minnesota.
- Alejandro wondered if there are any efforts to coordinate medication price negotiations.
  - Genny noted that MDH started some partnerships with a Medicaid group and they hope to continue these efforts in Minnesota.
    - There are concerns about lawsuits from clinics, prisons, and patients.

**XI. Unfinished Business / New Business**

- Alejandro noted that HIV and aging information is available from [The Well Project](#).

**XII. Open Forum**

- Tyrie announced that he is working to resolve some of the issues that occurred after a recent committee meeting.
- Colleen announced that a statewide strategy coordinator position is open at DHS. The individual will report to Darin Rowles.
  - The posting was emailed to the council.
- Alejandro noted that he would like to open the door to having Community Voices Committee meetings in Ramsey County.

**XIII. Announcements**

- Alejandro announced that he is organizing a community input session with Clinic 555 and People of Color Pride on December 20.
  - He will send out a flier about the event.
- Val announced that there is a present wrapping fundraiser at YAP (Youth and AIDS Project) today, 11am to 4pm.
- The Aliveness Project is in need of socks for men and presents for teenagers.
- Carissa announced that the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on January 3, 10:00am to 12:00pm.

**XIV. Adjourn**

- **MOTION:** The meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

**Documents Distributed Before the Meeting:**

- Proposed Agenda
- November 13 Meeting Minutes
- December 18 Committee Report Summaries
- Report on Goals 1-3 of the monitoring plan
- Community co-chair responsibilities

**Documents Distributed at the Meeting:**

- Part A Recipient Update
- FY 2019 Appropriations for Federal HIV/AIDS Programs

JS/cw