

**MN Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention
Community Voices Committee Meeting (CVC)
(Remote Mtg.)
March 8, 2021
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Meeting Summary/Minutes**

Committee Members Present:	
Andrew Bauman, Co-Chair	Larry McPherson
Loyal Brooks	Lesa Nelson
Belinda Charleston-Green	JoAnn Vertetis
Stephen Jensen	
James McMurray, Co-Chair	
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	DHS (Part B) Representative:
Thuan Tran	Colleen Bjerke
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	
None	
MCHACP Staff:	
Richard Puella, Council administrative specialist (minutes)	Carissa Weisdorf, Council coordinator

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

- Introductions were made, and the guiding principles were read.
- The proposed agenda and past meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

II. Open Forum:

- Based on discussion at the last CVC meeting, open forum will start early in the agenda.
- This will provide an opportunity for the other standing committee co-chairs to share updates with CVC on work their committee is doing.
- JoAnn Vertetis brought up childcare for meetings and the difficulties around how it is structured.
- She asked if anything has been done to address childcare or what can be done to change that process.
- She mentioned that childcare is very awkward for women to access in order to be able to attend meetings, especially during these times when most childcare programs are closed.
- She feels that it's important that childcare be available so that people can attend not just meetings, but doctor and other health appointments as well.
- Carissa Weisdorf spoke to the council policy on childcare.
 - For folks that want to attend any committee or council meetings, the childcare reimbursement policy is available to anyone who has a family member or someone outside of the home provide care.
 - Reimbursement is available at a reasonable rate.
 - Currently there is no set amount, but reimbursements are capped and are not to exceed \$75 per day.
 - JoAnn noted that she has never seen that posted/announced before.
 - Carissa noted that including a statement noting that childcare is available will be added to the CVC fliers.

- Belinda Charleston-Green mentioned that she does childcare and, in the past, has had to bring children to meetings, and asked how the policy applies to her under those circumstances.
- Carissa mentioned that the policy is available for any qualified child.

III. Connecting the Work:

- Co-chairs in attendance provided updates to the committee.
 - Executive Committee
 - Larry McPherson mentioned that the Executive Committee approved to reelect the council parliamentarian and developed the criteria for the grievance committee.
 - The Executive Committee approved and forwarded PAC's recommendation of the annual review of the services standards.
 - Review of the collaborative partners understanding was agreed upon between all parties (MDH, DHS, Hennepin County, and the Council).
 - Disparities Elimination Committee
 - Larry McPherson mentioned that the Disparities Elimination Committee received a presentation from Part A and Part B on funding sources.
 - Training on the Ryan White legislation was also provided.
 - The FY 2021 workplan was reviewed and approved.
 - Planning and Allocations Committee
 - Andrew Bauman reported that PAC has reviewed the integrated plan monitoring table.
 - Annual review of the services standards was completed.
 - Membership and Training Committee
 - James McMurray reported that the M&T Committee completed the committee assignments and assigned all new members to a committee.
 - Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committee
 - Lesa Nelson reported that the Needs Assessment survey results are still being worked on.
 - A Data Dashboard training is being planned for the council in the future.

IV. Educational Component:

- Carissa Weisdorf provided a training on the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Service Areas.
- Carissa provided a quick overview of the [Data Dashboard](#), and basic site navigation.
- Colleen Bjerke spoke to the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) and explained that federal funding is roughly 5-6 million dollars a year, and those funds can only be used for ADAP.
- Andrew Bauman asked if it didn't matter where ADAP was prioritized, would it change anything if ADAP was left last in priority ranking.
 - Colleen noted that it would not change anything.
- Colleen Bjerke gave an update for Part B.
 - Part B received over \$197,000 in CARES funding.
 - Funds were used food vouchers, and phone assistance.
 - All CARES dollars have been spent.

V. Co-chair Election:

- James McMurray called for nominations for CVC co-chair.

- James McMurray and Andrew Bauman will run for a second co-chair term.
- With no further nominees James McMurray and Andrew Bauman were elected by acclamation.

VI. New or Unfinished Business:

- James McMurray mentioned eligibility for the COVID vaccine has expanded recently and encouraged people to get the vaccine. There is a state website where you can get connected to a vaccine appointment.
- Carissa Weisdorf shared the COVID vaccine connector link (<https://vaccineconnector.mn.gov/>).
- Folks can sign up to receive notifications on when and where people can get vaccinated.
- James McMurray asked what can be done for those who may have difficulty connecting to remote meetings.
 - Larry McPherson mentioned that are council members who need internet and equipment assistance.
 - Richard Puella mentioned that iPads are currently being configured by Hennepin County IT department. Once iPads are ready, he will distribute them to members ASAP.
- James McMurray noted that additional meetings have been added based on the requests of the committee.
- Andrew Bauman mentioned that the goal was to have 6 meetings a year which will provide some additional time to work.
- Andrew asked how these extra meetings would affect when the time comes to do priority setting.
- Carissa noted the council prioritizes services every other year and this is done in June. Community input into priorities from CVC will need be completed in May.
- The committee agreed to meet every other month (May, July, September, November, and January).

VII. FY 2021 work plan

- The committee wants to revisit sending out an evaluation to people who previously attended CVC meetings but no longer attend. They will review the survey in May and review the results at the July meeting.

VIII. Set agenda for next meeting:

- Review survey about recent CVC meetings

IX. Announcements and Adjourn:

- No announcements were made

Meeting summary:

- Received updates from each standing committee and government recipients.
- Carissa Weisdorf provided a training on the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Service Areas.
- The committee was given an overview of the [Data Dashboard](#).
- The committee held co-chair elections and nominated James McMurray and Andrew Bauman to serve a second term as co-chair.
- The committee was given information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine connector <https://vaccineconnector.mn.gov/>.

Documents Distributed for the Meeting:

- 2021.03.09 CVC agenda
- 2020.12.07 CVC minutes
- Understanding RWHAP service categories
- Community Voices Committee Co-Chair Position Description
- FY2021 CVC work plan
- CVC meeting flier

Documents Displayed at the Meeting:

- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Service Areas, Community Voices Committee March 8, 2021

RP/cw