

MN Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention
August 10, 2021 9am – 11am
Virtual Meeting

Meeting Summary/Minutes

Council Members Present:	
Johan Baumeister	Lesla Nelson
Charlotte Detournay	Sue Purchase
Alissa Fountain	Jessie Saavedra
Raymel Givens	Sarah Schiele
Cree Gordon (Council Co-Chair)	Paul Skrbec
Calvin H. Hylton	Jeremy Stadelman
Teresa Jones	Tyrie Stanley
Larry McPherson (Council Co-Chair)	Antony Stately
Javier Andrews-Mendoza	Jo Ann Vertetis
Amy Miller	McKinzie Woelfel (Council Co-Chair)
Nafula Namuninia	
Council Members Absent	
Nyonbeor Boley	
Community Members/Guests/Consultants:	
Alejandro Aguilera	James McMurray
Thomas Blissett	Stephen Jensen
Brian Goodroad	Jared Shenk
Sarah Horton	Emma Young
Mary McCarthy	
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	DHS (Part B) Representative:
Jonathan Hanft	Darin Rowles
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	MCHACP Parliamentarian:
None	Pat Reymann, PRP
MCHACP Staff:	
Carissa Weisdorf, Council Coordinator	Richard Puella (minutes)

- I. **Call to order and Introductions, Read Guiding Principles and Agenda and July minutes approval:**
 Larry McPherson called the meeting to order at 9am and the guiding principals were read.
 - There were no objections to the proposed agenda.
 - The past meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

- II. **Getting to know each other: breakout rooms**
 - By popular demand, the council participated in another getting to know each other session, and Richard Puella placed all participants in breakout rooms.
 - Members agreed overall that these sessions are great.

- III. **Recipient updates:**
 - Part A report provided by Jonathan Hanft
 - The FY 2020 Part A Federal Financial Report (FFR) has been submitted, which closes out the previous fiscal year that ended on February 28, 2021.
 - 97% of funds were spent.

- A total of \$159,714.85 of combined formula and MAI funds are available for carry over.
- The FY 2022-2024 Part A grant application is due October 6, 2021.
 - First time it is a 3-year grant application rather than one year.
 - New additions to the application:
 1. New unmet need estimate framework, which is defined by HRSA as, “The portion of the population of people diagnosed with HIV who are not receiving medical care.”
 2. Use epidemiological and needs assessment data to identify three subpopulations of focus.
 3. HIV care continuum now includes received care and retained in care stages.

HIV outbreaks among people who inject drugs:

- As of August 3, there are 79 cases associated with the outbreak in the metro area and 17 in the Duluth area outbreak.
- 62 cases in Hennepin County and 16 in Ramsey County.

Update on COVID -19 response:

- Because of the Delta variant and increase in cases, opening of county buildings has been delayed to November, which in turn, means there will not be meeting space in the county for in person meetings until at least November.

- **Part B Provided by Darin Rowles**

Update on Covid-19 response:

- DHS is in the process of releasing plans for their returning to the office, which included a plan to reopen the Anderson building on September 7th.
- DHS will be moving to a hybrid model of in person and remote working.
- Updates will be provided as the situation evolves.

Staffing update:

- Thomas Blissett has started as the HIV Community Services supervisor on July 21, 2021. Thomas will be delivering the Part B updates at council meetings moving forward.
- The job bulletin for the data analyst position has closed and work is progressing to fill that position.

Grant administration:

- Multiple reporting elements both programmatic and financial were completed and submitted on time in July.
- Part B State and Territories formula and AIDS Drug Assistance Program notice of funding of opportunities are due on November 8, 2021.
- Subrecipient site visits are currently in progress. Visits are being performed in a hybrid of in-person and remote meetings.
- The Community Services unit has finalized the program income policy and procedure for subrecipients who have program income.
- A reminder that Minnesota’s peace time emergency ended at the beginning of July, and the COVID waiver on recertifications that were in place for Program HH and AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is ending. Communications have been sent to active clients that this change is happening. Starting in September folks that are due because of their birthday or half birthday need to complete

an annual recertification within the regular timeline to remain open in the program.

- Procedural changes that allow for verbal attestation for forms to be completed will remain in place.

Questions:

- Tyrie asked what the status is for centralized eligibility.
 - Darin noted that with regards to the data sharing element, a verbal agreement between Hennepin County, MDH and DHS has been agreed upon.
 - Work remains on the documenting of the guarantees that will be a part of the technology that the three parties need to agree to.
 - Will the changes made to food vouchers remain or will it change once COVID is over?
 - Darin noted that the goal is to keep food vouchers at the current level for as long as possible, and it is anticipated that the resources will be available to maintain current levels. It is paid through rebate funds.
 - Jonathan announced that there will be an upcoming provider COVID meeting that Hennepin County and DHS are hosting, which will be on August 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.
 - Cree mentioned that 6-month recertifications can be completed online and asked if there have been any talks of allowing the annual recertifications to be done online.
 - Darin noted that an online annual recertification system is in near completion. Folks working on that assignment have been reassigned to COVID-19 response, and Darin will have a more concrete update to share at next month's meeting.
- **Prevention:** No update. Next update is scheduled for September.

IV. Council staff update:

- Carissa Weisdorf mentioned that the final report from the assessment of the planning council conducted by HealthHIV has been released and she encouraged everyone to read through the report. The report can be accessed on the council website at <http://www.mnhivcouncil.org/executive.html>.
- The Executive Committee will be reviewing the results of the assessment and will be discussing next steps at their September meeting. Carissa asked if anyone has any feedback or suggestions to please share it with council staff.
- A post meeting evaluation will be distributed after every council meeting. This is a recommendation from the assessment report.
- Richard Puella mentioned that as of today 15/22 responses have been received for the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism and asked those who have not completed it to please do so. He noted the importance of completing the assessment, as the results are reported directly to HRSA and is a graded portion of the grant application.
 - Tyrie mentioned the Assessment is a requirement of council members.

- Carissa said yes, it is a requirement of members, and is written into the federal legislation.

V. Committee reports:

- **Executive Committee and Co-chair Update:**
 - McKinzie Woelfel reported that the first hard topics conversation will be on September 14, 2021, following the council meeting. The conversation will be facilitated by Larry and Cree and the topic will be on Black people living with HIV/AIDS who do not have access to complete information about services and benefits available.
- **Planning and Allocations**
 - **Action Item:** Tyrie Stanley introduced two action items.
 - **MOTION:** Tyrie moved that the council accept the Planning and Allocation’s recommendation to approve the fiscal year 2022 pre-award allocations proposal with a waiver. Carissa noted that if any members move to make any changes then conflict of interest will be managed. No debate. **VOTE:** The motion carries with 17 (yes), 0 (No).

Roll Call	Aye/No
Johan Baumeister	Aye
Charlotte Detournay	Aye
Alissa Fountain	Aye
Raymel Givens	Aye
Cree Gordon	
Calvin Hylton	Aye
Teresa Jones	Aye
Larry McPherson	Abstained due to facilitation
Javier Andrews-Mendoza	Aye
Amy Miller	Aye
Nafula Namuninia	
Lesa Nelson	Aye
Sue Purchase	Aye
Jessie Saavedra	Aye
Sarah Schiele	
Paul Skrbec	Aye
Jeremy Stadelman	Aye
Tyrie Stanley	Aye
Antony Stately	Aye
Jo Ann Vertetis	Aye
McKinzie Woelfel	Aye

- **Action Item:** Tyrie Stanley moved the following action item:
- **MOTION:** Tyrie Stanley moved for the council to accept Planning and Allocation’s recommendation and approve the FY 2021 post-award and carry over allocation proposal. Since the actual amount is to be determined, the committee approved

proportional adjustments for any amount of carry over between \$150,000 and \$170,000. Carissa mentioned that actual amount has been determined, it is \$159,714.85. No debate. **VOTE:** The motion carries with 18 (yes), 0 (No).

Roll Call	Aye/No
Johan Baumeister	Aye
Charlotte Detournay	Aye
Alissa Fountain	Aye
Raymel Givens	Aye
Cree Gordon	Aye
Calvin Hylton	Aye
Teresa Jones	Aye
Larry McPherson	Abstained due to facilitation
Javier Andrews-Mendoza	Aye
Amy Miller	Aye
Nafula Namuninia	
Lesla Nelson	Aye
Sue Purchase	Aye
Jessie Saavedra	Aye
Sarah Schiele	
Paul Skrbec	Aye
Jeremy Stadelman	Aye
Tyrie Stanley	Aye
Antony Stately	Aye
Jo Ann Vertetis	Aye
McKinzie Woelfel	Aye

- **Community Voices:**
 - Jo Ann reported that there hasn't been a meeting since July 12th.
 - Promotional brochures and recruitment postcards have been distributed to several agencies and the community hoping it will encourage participation in the CVC and the council. Jo Ann encouraged council members who serve clients to encourage CVC participation with their clients.

- **Disparities Elimination:**
 - Received training on Part A MAI funding.
 - Discussed the FY 2021 proposed post-award adjustments and carry over allocations for MAI and held an electronic vote to approve it.
 - Discussed the FY 2022 proposed pre-award allocations for MAI and held an electronic vote to approve it.
 - Added items to the work plan.

- **Membership & Training:**

- Stephen Jensen reported that a completed version of the membership selection document will be finalized this month and will be presented to Executive Committee and the council next month.
- **Needs Assessment & Evaluation:**
 - Reviewed data from the 2020 HIV/AIDS Needs Assessment.
 - Debriefed the data dashboard presentation.
 - Reviewed the results of the council and committee operation evaluation.

VI. HIV Clinical Update:

- Brian Goodroad provided an update to the council and presented, “*New (ISH) ARVS or those in development.*”
Questions:
 - Jo Ann Vertetis asked about the cost of new ARV medications.
 - Brian explained that medication cost is consistent with two full regimen cost but does not account for costs associated with administering the injection or the monthly visit to the clinic. Insurance payments estimated between \$2,500 - \$3,000 a month for injectable medications. Brian noted that since the injectables are new and have not been widely implemented, he is unaware if people are experiencing a lot of prior authorization or refusal by insurance. He continued to note that it seems that issues around the system being able to support these new injectable medications is the reason they are not readily available yet.
 - Jo Ann asked if anyone besides Hennepin Healthcare is offering this medication.
 - Brian explained he is not aware of any other HIV clinics offering it yet.
 - Calvin Hylton asked if it was known if any formularies have picked up this medication and if others are considering it.
 - Brian mentioned that he thinks it is on the DHS formulary, but noted that until clinicians challenge insurance companies by prescribing it they won't know.
 - Darin noted that he will work the ADAP team to provide an update. He noted that for Minnesota programs, all new medications being introduced must complete a 6-month authorization process, which the injectable medication just completed. He explained that there are details that still need to be worked out with billing for ADAP and Program HH.
 - Jonathan mentioned the HIV treatment guidelines were updated within the last year and asked if there was anything significant in the update that everyone should know.
 - Brian explained that concerns around Dolutegravir and pregnancy have been resolved.
 - Paul Skrbec referred to the areas that these injectables need to be given (gluteal area) and raised concerns around mobility and asked if are plans to produce a once a week injectable, like those prescribed to diabetics.
 - Brian explained the if a patient is looking at medication that will last 1-2 months, medications with that lifespan need to be injected into deep muscle tissue.
 - Jessie Saavedra asked if there were any age requirements for injectable medications.
 - Brian noted that it is only approved for adults 18 and over.
 - Brian can be contacted at b_goodroads@msn.com or brian.goodroad@metrostate.edu if folks have any questions or concerns.

VII. Unfinished Business:

- Tyrie recommended that Membership and Training schedule future updates with Brian Goodroad.

VIII. Open Forum:

- Paul brought up a concern around pharmaceutical companies hosting events disguised as dinners etc., to gather marketing information from clients. Paul feels that the ethical treatment, and protection of clients should be addressed.

IX. Announcements and adjourn:

- McKinzie Woelfel announced that MDH is looking for volunteers to join a program review panel. This panel will be tasked with reviewing all the HIV educational materials. Reviewers should be knowledgeable in HIV related topics but do not need to be experts in the field.
- Larry McPherson mentioned that the community cook out was canceled and will be held on Saturday 8/14/2021 on Rice and Sherburne.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Meeting Summary

- The council received updates from each standing committee, council staff, and government recipients.
- The council approved the fiscal year 2022 pre-award allocations proposal with a waiver.
- The council approved the FY 2021 post-award and carry over allocation proposal.
- The council received an HIV clinical update from Brian Goodroad.

Documents Distributed before the Meeting:

- 2021.08.10 MCHACP Agenda
- 2020.07.13 MCHACP Minutes
- August Committee Report Summaries
- Action item: FY 2022 pre-award allocations proposal with a waiver
- Action item: FY 2021 post award and carry over allocation proposal

Items Displayed at the meeting:

- New (ISH) ARVS or those in development.

RP/cw