

**Minnesota Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention
Disparities Elimination Committee
Thursday, October 21, 2021
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present:	
Charlotte Detournay	Nafula Namuninia
Cree Gordon	Sarah Schiele
Teresa Jones (Co-chair)	
Committee Members Absent:	
Megan Mueller (Co-chair)	
Guests:	
Cheryl Barber, Senior Epidemiologist Specialist, MDH	Lexus Stokes, Education and Prevention Specialist, Rainbow Health
Aaron Peterson, Data Coordinator, Ryan White Program	Mariah Wilberg, END HIV MN Coordinator
Emily Reimer, HIV Supports Data Analyst, DHS	
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	
Thuan Tran	DHS (Part B) Representative:
	Fred Ndip
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	
None	MCHACP Staff:
	Carissa Weisdorf (minutes)

Quorum Present? **Yes**

I. Welcome and introductions

- Cree Gordon called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., they were asked to fill-in as the facilitator for today's meeting. Introductions were made.

II. Review and approval of past meeting minutes and proposed agenda

- The September 16 minutes were approved as printed.
- The agenda was approved as printed.

III. END HIV MN Goals 3-5:

- Mariah Wilberg attended the meeting as the statewide HIV strategy coordinator for END HIV MN. She reminded the committee that the state is currently engaging different groups and partners to better understand what the current priorities should be for END HIV MN. Information gained during this phase will inform the agenda of a series of community engagement events occurring in November and December 2021.
- Mariah Wilberg presented **Identifying Current Priorities**. Last month, the committee reviewed the tactics in goals one through five and provided feedback on priorities for goals one and two. Today we will discuss prioritizing tactics in goals three through five.
- Mariah Wilberg reported what the state has heard in the last two years since the strategy launched. She asked, "Does this align with your experience? Is there

anything you would emphasize? Is there anything missing?" She added there will be additional opportunities to provide input on the goals at future meetings.

- Cree Gordon commented to adopt a "status neutral" approach across the board, and not just for housing. Agrees that we need to look beyond just the vessels of what brings HIV into people's lives but the social circumstances that bring HIV into people's lives.
- Charlotte Detournay wants data sharing emphasized and provided the example that her clinic does not receive data on which of their clients are associated with the HIV outbreak. Her clinic has asked for this data over the past nine months and each time it is a hurdle. As the area's largest safety net hospital, they are asked by HRSA what their response to the outbreak is but they do not know which of their clients are associated with the outbreak, making it difficult to change their programming to evaluate whether or not outcomes are improving for this specific population. More data sharing, without the current hurdles and long delays, will allow them to act quicker.
- Mariah Wilberg thanked the committee for taking the time to listen and provide feedback. Mariah can be reached at mariah.wilberg@state.mn.us for any questions or concerns.

IV. Review data for Goal 3 of the integrated plan monitoring table

- Data analysts from Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Department of Human Services, and Hennepin County Public Health updated the monitoring plan with data from 2020 and presented ***Integrated Plan: 2020 Data Update***. Data in goals one, two, and three were presented to the committee and indicated as met, not met, or on-track. Documents presented on the integrated plan and monitoring table are on the council website at: <http://www.mnhivcouncil.org/planning--allocations>.
- Cheryl Barber said one of the largest labs in the country saw 700,000 fewer HIV tests in 2020, likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She said 2020 is going to be an unusual year and hopefully in the next few years testing and staying in care will increase.
 - Aaron Peterson said in the analysis he has done, although there has been a decrease in the volume of testing, the positivity rate seems to be consistent with previous years. He asked if this is true in the EvaluationWeb data at MDH. Cheryl Barber said she can ask Allison LaPointe, the epi supervisor, to review the data and report back to the committee.

V. Review and update report on the status of the monitoring plan

- Carissa Weisdorf displayed ***Report on Goals 1 – 3*** and said the council has reviewed the data in the integrated plan monitoring table every year since 2017 and then creates a report on the progress of meeting the goals of the integrated plan. The report shows the progress, and additional ideas given by council and committee members to help achieve the goals.

- The current integrated plan goes through 2021 and work on the next integrated plan will begin early-2022 so we can also collect information about changes and ideas for the next iteration of the integrated plan.
- Disparities Elimination Committee monitors goal three (reducing HIV-related disparities and health inequities) but can provide feedback and input on any of the goals.
- Cree Gordon suggested including a status column on the table to indicate the progress of these ideas. Carissa Weisdorf agreed and said in the past the status has been done verbally in the meetings.
 - Carissa Weisdorf informed the committee that the map plot of HIV/AIDS service providers with the count of people with HIV by zip code is on the council website and development to create a GIS map of the entire state is underway.
- Aaron Peterson added his key points of the data into the meeting chat. He said in consultation with colleagues at Hennepin County Public Health and the state, consistencies include:
 - While HIV incidence is declining overall if you look at the past 1-2 decades, this is attributed to a decline among white men who have sex with men (MSM), particularly middle age white MSM. Men of color of who have sex with men continue to have high incidence (new HIV infections) and poor health outcomes. -- <https://www.hennepin.us/-/media/hennepinus/business/work-with-hennepin-county/docs-m-z/early-identification-report-2020.pdf>
 - The HIV outbreak has highlighted the health and racial disparities experienced by the American Indian population that often suffer from "erasure through data suppression" -- <https://www.hennepin.us/~-/media/hennepinus/residents/health-medical/HIV%20outbreak/20210923%20HIV%20outbreak%20update>
 - Housing is the largest driver of the HIV outbreak and the strongest predictor of viral suppression. -- <https://www.hennepin.us/-/media/hennepinus/business/work-with-hennepin-county/docs-m-z/housing-and-the-ryan-white-hiv-aids-presentation-2017-2020.pdf>

VI. New Business/Unfinished Business/Goal Setting:

- No new business, unfinished business, or goals were discussed.

VII. Set agenda for next meeting:

- Carissa Weisdorf displayed **Results of Disparities Elimination Committee (DEC) work plan survey** and noted there is nothing currently on the committee's work plan for next month.
 - Carissa Weisdorf will reach out to Brenda Senyana once she returns from maternity leave next month to ask her to provide an update on Positively Hennepin.

- There is a HRSA and CDC webinar on the integrated HIV prevention and care planning guidance on Wednesday, October 27 at 2 p.m. Watch a recording at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DuoCmwGLwO4>.
- Carissa Weisdorf noted the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program legislation training was provided at the February 2021 committee meeting and the slides are available at <http://www.mnhivcouncil.org/trainings>.
- The committee is interested in receiving trainings on epidemiologic data and allocations and expenditure data.
- Cree Gordon said the committee previously discussed aging with HIV as a disparity.
 - Rainbow Health now has aging with HIV programing and Cree Gordon suggested having someone from that department provide information to the committee.
 - Charlotte Detournay added Hennepin Healthcare is also changing their programming and they are mirroring the Golden Compass program in San Francisco. They recently created a partnership with Habitat for Humanity to explore aging within the home.
 - Add to the next agenda, Aging with HIV. Invite providers to discuss their programs and discuss disparities they are seeing.

VIII. Announcements

- No announcements

IX. Adjourn

- Cree Gordon adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Meeting Summary:

- The committee provided feedback on the prioritized tactics in goals three through five of the END HIV MN statewide strategy.
- The committee reviewed data for 2020 in the integrated plan monitoring table.
- The committee reviewed the report on the status of the monitoring table.

Documents distributed before the meeting:

- Proposed agenda
- September 16 meeting minutes
- Monitoring plan reporting table
- Report on goals 1 – 3
- FY 2021 DEC workplan

Documents displayed during the meeting:

- Identifying Current Priorities PowerPoint
- Integrated Plan: 2020 Data Update PowerPoint
- Results of Disparities Elimination Committee (DEC) work plan survey

cw