

**Minnesota Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention (MCHACP) Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 13, 2023**  
**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**Hybrid Meeting**

**Microsoft Teams meeting**

<b>Committee Members Present:</b>	
Jay Orne (DEC co-chair)	John Vener, MD
Quay Catalpa	Stephen Jensen (M&T co-chair)
Moua Xiong	Charlene Leach
Ellen Ryan	Megan Higdon
Annalise Jackson	Terri Wilder
Julian Hines	Lesa Nelson
Kevin Sitter	Alissa Fountain
Tyrie Stanley (council co-chair, PAC co-chair)	Tristian Sparks (CVC co-chair)
Joe Amrhein (council co-chair, NA&E co-chair)	Shea Grutemaro
Nikki LeClaire	Doug Peterson
Alejandro Aguilera (NA&E co-chair)	
<b>Committee Members Absent:</b>	
Angela Reed	Calvin Hillary Hylton (council co-chair)
Danielle Brantley (CVC co-chair)	Zoe Neba Caboret
Tesha Johnson	James Velek
Gage Urvina	
<b>Guests:</b>	
Cody Raasch, Hennepin County	Pat Reymann (Council Parliamentarian)
Bob Wickoren, Merck	Amy Yang, MCC
Carissa Weisdorf, Hennepin County	Scott Bilodeau, Hennepin County
Jonathan Hanft, Hennepin County	Rashmi Acharya, Hennepin County
Dr. Keith Henry	Amy Caron, Hennepin County
Rachel Heule, DHS	Mary McCarthy, RAAN
Emily Reimer, DHS	Asneth Omare, DHS
<b>Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:</b>	<b>DHS (Part B) Representative:</b>
Eriika Etshokin	Thomas Blissett
<b>MDH (Prevention) Representative:</b>	<b>MDH (Surveillance) Representative:</b>
McKinzie Woelfel	Hannah Kass-Aten
Quay Catalpa	Allison LaPoint
<b>MCHACP Staff:</b>	
Audra Gaikowski, Council Coordinator	Jeremy Stadelman, Admin Specialist (minutes)

Quorum Present? **Yes**

**I. Welcome and introductions**

- Tyrie Stanley called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Introductions were made.
- The candle was lit.
- The agenda was reviewed and approved as written.

- The minutes from the May 9 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

## II. Recipient Report

- Part A: *Eriika Etshokin, Hennepin County Ryan White Program*
  - Part A reports to HRSA/HAB
    - FY 2022 Annual Progress report was submitted May 2023.
    - FY 2023 Program Terms was submitted May 2023.
    - Clinical Quality Management Plan, and Council Roster and Reflectiveness Grid due June 12.
  - HRSA Funding Application
    - Hennepin County is applying for a new HRSA grant for the Part A TGA Jurisdiction. If awarded, HC will work with local community organizations to implement a Status Neutral Non-Medical Case Management model for engaging high risk folks, prioritizing young African American men who have sex with men and Transgender women between the age of 15 and 34 years old. Through this model clients/patients will be connected to PrEP, testing, insurance navigation, primary care, social support/services, etc regardless of their HIV status.
  - HIV outbreak update from MDH Website
    - Hennepin County: As of April 25, 2023, there were 75 Encampment-Related HIV Outbreak Counts and 104 MSM/IDU & IDU Non-Encampment HIV Outbreak Counts.
    - Duluth Area: As of April 25, 2023, there were a total of 37 Cases.
  - Questions:
    - Charlene: Is there a plan to address Ukrainian refugees who are living with HIV?
      - a. Jonathan: they would likely go through the public health refugee clinic for screening and would be connected to care there.
- Part B: *Thomas Blissett, Minnesota Department of Human Services HIV Supports (see written report, sent to the committee on June 13)*
  - Part B Administrative Updates.
    - Resource/Rebate Update. As folks are aware, our program saw variances in our SFY 2022 revenues and expenditures that will lead to full expending of our accumulated rebate balance earlier than had been previously forecasted.
    - DHS was successful in getting a one-time increase in state funding this session as part of the DHS omnibus bill. Through this bill, we received 12.1 million dollars to support grants for supportive services for people with HIV and healthcare costs related to Program HH. This funding is available beginning July 1, 2023 and is available for use through the biennium (through June 30, 2025).
    - The HIV Community Services team has been hard at work on contract actions needed ensure services can continue without interruption in the new state fiscal year beginning 7/1/2023. As shared previously, these amendments included funding reductions. Finishing this contract work is

priority through June. As this work winds down, efforts will shift to plan for use of the state funds. Steps to occur over the summer will include:

- a. Updating forecasts for SFY 24 and 25 with new state funding.
  - b. Identifying the amount of new state funding needed to sustain funding for subrecipients at current levels (aka the levels after the reductions we've made) through SFY 2025 (June 30, 2025).
  - c. Determining the use of any remaining funding.
    - i. This could include review of funding reductions that have been made and adjusting funding to some service activities through the end of SFY 2025.
- MASSIVE THANKS to all the many community partners who raised their voices in different ways to help legislators understand the importance of this funding. This would not have happened without you!
  - HRSA Updates. The XO8 Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity was due on April 20, 2023. DHS completed and submitted our application for funding before this deadline. DHS anticipates hearing the outcome of this application in summer, 2023. Funding, if awarded, would be available beginning 9/29/2023.
  - Centralized Eligibility (CE) Update. MN CE goes live Monday 08/14/2023! MN will be working on a new Quality Improvement project with Technical Assistance from HRSA to map out and improve the experience of people and providers with the system. Data matching and other IT work has started with our partners MN Department of Health and Tri-Young as we prepare for one CareWare and CE. We are finalizing written communication and community engagement plans for consumers and providers planned between now and 08/14/2023. Stay tuned for some consumer and provider engagement meeting and additional written communication about CE.
  - Ryan White Part B site visits have been completed and letters are going to providers.
  - Darin Rowles remains the main contact for Ending HIV Minnesota.
- Prevention: *McKinzie Woelfel, Minnesota Department of Health HIV/STD/TB*
    - MDH Legislative Updates
      - Policy Updates-Amongst the many great legislative laws Governor Waltz signed, he signed (Chapter 52 - MN Laws) legislation into law that defines paraphernalia law to remove syringes, and deletes equipment used to test drugs. It also decriminalizes possession of paraphernalia, and this includes equipment used to smoke or snort substances. Lastly the law defines syringe service programs and puts them into law. Major advances for the PWID and harm reduction community.
      - 2.267 million in FY24 and FY25 for HIV Prevention Health Equity funds were approved and in the Governor's budget for grants programs.
      - MDH will also receive some for grants to develop, implement or promote drug overdose and morbidity prevention programs and activities. The funding will be directed to overdose prevention among people experiencing homelessness (PEH).

- Staffing
  - We are in the process of conducting interviews for a STD/HIV Nurse Specialist and hope to have someone hired by late July early August.
- MDH PRIDE Volunteer Opportunity – if anyone would like to attend the MDH booth at Pride to promote/recruit for the council please message McKinzie.

### III. Committee reports (see written reports)

- Executive and Co-chair Update
  - Received a parliamentary procedures training from council parliamentarian, Pat Reymann.
  - Reviewed and discussed results of the meeting format survey and the council and committee operations evaluation.
  - Heard reports from each standing committee, council co-chairs, recipients, and council staff.
- Community Voices Committee (CVC)
  - Met on May 8, from 4pm-6pm, virtually and in-person at the Aliveness Project.
  - Voted to continue hosting in-person meeting location at the Aliveness Project for the remaining of FY2023.
  - Discussed creation of an ad-hoc committee to plan the World AIDS Day Breakfast event.
- Disparities Elimination Committee (DEC)
  - Hosted mental health provider panel and the committee will analyze the information at future meetings and discuss how to address gaps in mental health care for people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committee
  - Approved the objectives and measurements for the Assessment of the Efficiency of the Administrative Mechanism.
  - Continued discussion on HIV in jails and prisons and had conversations with subject matter experts, Dr. Rachel Prosser and Gael Ziemer.
- Planning and Allocation Committee
  - Did not meet.
- Membership and Training Committee
  - Reviewed attendance and selected committee members to contact council members who had missed meetings.
  - Interviewed applicants and discussed interviews.
  - We are seeking applications from people who fill the following vacancies:
    - a. Greater MN
    - b. Hospital planning agency or health care planning agency
    - c. State Medicaid agency

### IV. Council Staff Report

- The community input session on substance service standards will be held on July 10, 3-4pm.
- There will be a statewide health assessment discussion at the next CVC meeting.
  - In addition, there is a [survey](#) to gather feedback. The survey closes on June 30.
- The meeting location and time for CVC will be discussed at the next meeting. If you have input, please attend the next meeting

- The council's new attendance policy will go into effect on July 1, 2023.

**V. Public Health Emergency Unwinding** *Asneth Omare & Rachel Heule, Minnesota Department of Human Services*

- Rachel presented a **PowerPoint on the Program HH Update on MA Renewal Restart** (Audra sent the presentation to the council on June 13).
  - Renewals are due by the end of your birthday month.
  - Program HH to track clients and will temporarily cover medications for those who lose coverage.

**VI. Bylaws changes training** *Audra Gaikowski, Council Coordinator*

- Audra presented a **PowerPoint on Bylaws Changes** (Audra sent the presentation to the council on June 13).
  - MCHACP Bylaws on our the [council's website](#).
  - If you would like a paper copy, please reach out to Audra or Jeremy.
  - Bylaw 2.10C will go into effect on July 1, 2023.

**VII. Break**

**VIII. Cascade of care presentation, Dr. Keith Henry**

- Dr. Henry presented a PowerPoint titled, **CROI 2023 and the Status of HIV/AIDS in Minnesota** (Audra sent the presentation to the council on June 14).
- Questions:
  - Is PEP underutilized?
    - Yes, it is a great conduit to get people on PrEP, but there is poor follow up.
  - There is a goal to reduce HIV by 90% by 2030, but 25% of those with HIV/AIDS pass through the corrections system; can we reach this goal without addressing corrections and HIV?
    - People lose Medical Assistance while in jail and that should be fixed.
    - When released, they should have an appointment and way to get to the appointment and be offered medications right away.
    - It would be helpful to get rid of Medicaid Exclusions, which is a federal rule. We've got to be creative because we have good resources and can do more to address HIV/AIDS in the state.
  - There is a lack of political enthusiasm for addressing HIV/AIDS in the state.

**IX. Council Conversation**

- None

**X. Unfinished Business/New Business**

- None

**XI. Open Forum**

- There was no discussion.

## **XII. Announcements**

- We just celebrated 40 years of the [Denver Principles](#) and it is important to honor this as we continue to fight HIV. The future of HIV/AIDS should include meaningful involvement of people living with HIV.
- Dr. Keith Henry is giving a talk at Ramsey County on June 21, 2023, 9am-12pm about the history and present status of the HIV epidemic.
- Audra asked members to look over **results of the meeting format survey** (Audra sent the results to the council on June 13). Each committee will be having a conversation at their next meeting to decide what format best for each committee.

## **XIII. Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned at 11:17am.

### **Meeting Summary:**

- Part A, Part B, and MDH updates were provided.
- Committee updates were reported to the council.
- The council received an update on the Public Health Emergency Unwinding.
- The council was provided a training on recent Bylaws changes.
- Dr. Keith Henry provided an update on the Status of HIV/AIDS in Minnesota.

### **Documents distributed before the meeting:**

- June 13 Agenda
- May 9, 2023 minutes
- Committee Report Summaries
- Part A Update
- Meeting format survey responses

### **Documents displayed during the meeting:**

- PowerPoint on the Program HH Update on MA Renewal Restart
- PowerPoint on Bylaws Changes
- PowerPoint titled, CROI 2023 and the Status of HIV/AIDS in Minnesota

### **Documents distributed after the meeting:**

- Part B Council Update

**JS/ag**