

**Minnesota Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention
Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2023
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present:	
Jay Orne (Disparities Elimination)	Tyrie Stanley (Council Co-Chair, Planning and Allocation)
Calvin Hillary Hylton (Council Co-Chair)	Tristian Sparks (Community Voices)
Stephen Jensen (Membership and Training)	Kevin Sitter (Planning and Allocations)
Joe Amrhein (Council Co-Chair, Needs Assessment and Evaluation)	Shea Grutemaro (Membership & Training)
Alejandro Aguilera (Needs Assessment and Evaluation)	
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	DHS (Part B) Representative:
Jonathan Hanft	Thomas Blissett
Eriika Etshokin	
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	MCHACP Parliamentarian:
Peggy Darrett-Brewer	Pat Reymann, Parliamentarian
Council Staff:	
Audra Gaikowski, Council Coordinator	

Quorum Present? **Yes**

Proposed Agenda

I. Welcome and introductions

- Joe Amrhein called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Introductions were made.

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

- The proposed agenda for the meeting was approved as written.
- The minutes from the September 5 meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. Council co-chair update

- The co-chairs participated in a meeting with government partners to review any changes made to the HIV care and prevention integrated plan.
- Tyrie reminded members that there will be a combined Planning & Allocations, Disparities Elimination, and Needs Assessment & Evaluation Committee meeting on October 25, 9:30-11:30am to review the integrated plan monitoring table.
- Council co-chair elections will be held in February.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Planning and Allocations Committee
 - The committee did not meet.
- B. Membership and Training Committee

- Reviewed attendance.
 - Received an application but voted to not to interview the individual at this time.
 - i. The applicant was not interviewed because there is currently not a spot for them.
 - ii. Tyrie suggested that the committee reconsider interviewing the individual.
 1. Stephen agreed to discuss this with the committee at the next meeting.
 2. Shea noted that there were other considerations in making the decision to not interview the applicant.
 - Will discuss exit interviews at the next meeting.
- C. Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committee
- The committee did not meet.
- D. Disparities Elimination Committee
- The committee received a presentation from the New York City Planning Council to discuss a directive about behavioral health.
 - The committee received a presentation from Aurin Roy and Joe Amrhein to discuss the ESCALTE training.
- E. Community Voices Committee
- Received a training on self-advocacy for HIV/AIDS clients.
 - World AIDS Day breakfast planning continues. More information to come.
 - Tyrie noted that some members of the community feel left out of the conversation because they do not interact with The Aliveness Project, where meetings are currently held. Tyrie suggested that the committee should interact with Clare Housing to seek input from residents living there.
 - i. Tristian noted that all members of the community are invited to participate in CVC meetings, but he will take Tyrie's concerns under advisement.
 - ii. Kevin emphasized that community concerns should be taken seriously and should be listened to regardless of who brings them to the table.
 - iii. Jay noted that they are willing to listen to any concerns about The Aliveness Project.

V. Recipient Reports

- A. Part A: *Eriika Etshokin and Jonathan Hanft, Hennepin County Ryan White Program*
- Part A reports to HRSA/HAB
 - i. FY 2023 Part A Carryover (from FY 2022) approved, contract amendments in process.
 - ii. Non-Competing Continuation Progress Report and Core Medical Services Expenditure Waiver for FY 2024 funding was submitted 9/29/2023.
 - Centralized Eligibility (CE)
 - i. Hennepin County is meeting regularly with colleagues at DHS and MDH to discuss successes and challenges with provider and consumer level implementation of CE processes.
 - ii. A formal process for gathering provider and consumer feedback and workshopping is being planned for this winter.
 - Status Neutral Approach Grant Implementation

- i. Coordinating recurring check-ins with subrecipients for implementation support.
 - ii. Coordinating technical assistance for program evaluation to ensure proper program evaluation plans are in place throughout the three-year grant.
 - iii. Other jurisdictions who received this grant are Las Vegas, San Diego, and San Antonio.
 - iv. The grant is prioritizing young (15-34) African American men who are at risk of HIV.
 - State of HIV in Hennepin County and MSP-TGA
 - i. Hennepin County and TGA Epidemiological Update, Trends and Disparities Presentation including Community Discussion will take place on December 4, 2023.
 - HIV outbreak update from [MDH Website](#).
 - i. Tyrie asked how we know if a new diagnosis is a part of the outbreak.
 - 1. Two ways: through matching DNA molecular clusters and via disease intervention investigations.
- B. Part B: *Thomas Blissett, Minnesota Department of Human Services HIV Supports*
- Part B is currently working to address the HIV outbreak in Greater MN, including in the Duluth area.
 - DHS was successful in receiving a one-time increase in state funding for HIV services from the Minnesota Legislature in the last session. DHS was also successful in receiving additional competitive federal funding for specific HIV work. These funds were needed due to changes in resource availability for HIV programs. Much of this funding is being used to fund ongoing HIV service at current levels through June 30, 2025.
 - After dedicating funds to these crucial services, DHS will have some flexible program resources for HIV services to use through June 30, 2025.
 - i. DHS is engaging the community for input to inform use of these remaining one-time funds available for HIV services. More information is to come regarding these sessions.
 - ii. Collective input across the engagement sessions will be synthesized and a summary will be presented on December 15, from 1pm-2:30pm on Zoom for your reaction and final recommendations.
 - Open enrollment will begin on November 1.
 - Finished interviews for the End HIV coordinator position and DHS hopes to make an offer soon.
- C. Prevention: *Peggy-Darrett Brewer, Minnesota Department of Health HIV/STD/TB*
- MDH hosts meetings called the Hope Group with providers, grantees, and medical providers to discuss the ongoing outbreak.
 - [PrEP Institute](#) will begin on October 10 at the Amherst Wilder Foundation.
 - i. Attendees must register in advance.
 - Grant managers are completing site visits.

- [Your Lives Matter Poster](#) is available for distribution.
- Second round of interviews for harm reduction coordinator are ongoing.
- MPOX Request for Proposals (RFP) closed on October 2; MDH received seven applicants.
- PrEP RFP is in progress.
 - i. Focusing on Greater MN.
- SSR RFP is in progress.

VI. Council staff update and review council meeting agenda

- Audra displayed and reviewed the ***agenda for the October 10 council meeting***.
 - i. [Care continuum presentation from MDH](#).
- Data training group has met to discuss results of Knowledge Assessment Tool.
 - i. Council staff have added [MDH data to council website](#).
 - ii. More training on the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism will be available next year.
- Home and Community-Based Health Services standards consumer input meeting will take place on November 13, 3:00-4:00pm.
- The council voted to extend the January meeting until 12:00pm to host the racial equity training.
 - i. Non-council members can RSVP to attend the training. More information to come.
- Recruitment for new members has begun.
 - i. Open spots:
 - Unaligned consumers who are women
 - Greater MN
 - Black/African American people who work in HIV/AIDS
 - Representatives of formerly incarcerated people
 - Young people living with HIV or are at risk
 - ii. Please send potential applications to the [council website to apply](#).

VII. Unfinished Business / New Business

- Are there alternatives to using Teams?
 - i. Jonathan noted in the chat that Hennepin County only supports Teams meetings.
 - ii. Council members can request a Hennepin County issued iPad, which may help with access to Teams meetings.

VIII. Announcements

- None.

IX. Adjourn

- Joe Amrhein adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Meeting summary:

- The committee heard standing reports from committee co-chairs and government representatives.

Documents distributed before the meeting:

- 2023.10.03 Executive Agenda
- 2023.09.05 Executive Minutes

Documents distributed during and after the meeting:

- Agenda for the October 10 council meeting

JS/ag