

Minnesota Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention (MCHACP) Meeting
Tuesday, October 10, 2023
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Hybrid Meeting

Microsoft Teams meeting

Committee Members Present:	
Jay Orne (DEC co-chair)	Nikki LeClaire
Quay Catalpa	Stephen Jensen (M&T co-chair)
Moua Xiong	Megan Higdon
Ellen Ryan	Terri Wilder
Calvin Hillary Hylton (council co-chair)	Lesa Nelson
Kevin Sitter	Tristian Sparks (CVC co-chair)
Tyrie Stanley (council co-chair, PAC co-chair)	Shea Grutemaro
James Velek	Danielle Brantley (CVC co-chair)
Alejandro Aguilera (NA&E co-chair)	Doug Peterson
Gage Urvina	John Vener, MD
Annalise Jackson	Deon Kirby
Alissa Fountain	
Committee Members Absent:	
Julian Hines	Carol Labine
Joe Amrhein (council co-chair, NA&E co-chair)	Angela Reed
Guests:	
Carissa Weisdorf, Hennepin County	Verneice Acevedo, Community Member
Cody Raasch, Hennepin County	Genny Grilli, MDH
Bob Wickoren, Merck	Melanie Proctor, Ryan White Pharmacist
Angela North, Clare Housing	
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	DHS (Part B) Representative:
Eriika Etshokin	Darin Rowles
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	MDH (Surveillance) Representative:
Peggy Darrett-Brewer	Allison LaPoint
MCHACP Staff:	
Audra Gaikowski, Council Coordinator	Jeremy Stadelman, Admin Specialist (minutes)

Quorum Present? **Yes**

I. Welcome and introductions

- Tyrie Stanley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Introductions were made.
- The agenda was reviewed and approved as written.
- The minutes from the September 12 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

II. Get to know you activity

III. Recipient Report

- Part A: *Eriika Etshokin, Hennepin County Ryan White Program* (see written report)

- Part A reports to HRSA/HAB
 - i. FY 2023 Part A Carryover (from FY 22) approved, contract amendments in process.
 - ii. Non-competing Continuation Progress Report and Core Medical Services Expenditure Waiver for FY 2024 funding was submitted 9/29/23.
- Centralized Eligibility
 - 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.
 - 1. A member asked if the jurisdictions are going to be working together.
 - a. Jurisdictions will be working independently but coordinating best practices.
- 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](#).
- Part B: *Darin Rowles, Minnesota Department of Human Services HIV Supports* (see written report)
 - 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 services 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.
 - DHS is conducting a rapid engagement process to gather input from the community to help inform decisions about how flexible funding will be used. One-time services investments will be aimed at eliminating barriers and preparing for future fiscal limitations.
 - DHS is hosting several events to gather input and would like to bring this engagement to the council at its November 14 meeting.
 - There are three engagement options for the council to consider:
 - i. Condensed engagement process during a regular meeting.
 - 1. To end the meeting on time, this engagement would be shorter than other options.
 - ii. Full engagement process during an extended meeting.

- iii. Full engagement process after the meeting, starting at 11:30am.
 1. A member recommended the second option so that we can capture more member input.
 2. A member was concerned about the number of meetings during that week in November. Will people be disengaged?
 3. The full engagement process would be about an hour.
 4. When is DHS expecting to have this engagement completed by?
 - a. A final report will be provided by December 15, 2023.

- **MOTION:** Alejandro Aguilera moved that the November 14, 2023, council meeting be extended by one hour, meeting 9:00am-12:00pm, for full engagement with the Minnesota Department of Health to inform flexible funding decisions. Tristian Sparks seconded.
- **DEBATE:** none
- **VOTE:** with 20 ayes and 0 noes, the motion passes.

- Prevention: *Peggy Darrett-Brewer, Minnesota Department of Health HIV/STD/TB*
 - Grant managers are currently completing site visits.
 - MPOX Request for Proposals (RFP) closed on October 2; seven applications were received.
 - A PrEP RFP is in progress, with more information to come.
 - A Syringe Services Program (SSP) RFP is in progress, with more information to come.
 - [Your Lives Matter Poster](#) is available for distribution.
 - SSP legislative changes:
 - Pharmacists can sell limitless number of syringes.
 - Paraphernalia has been decriminalized.
 - Drug testing strips have been decriminalized.
 - Officers and schools are now required to have Naloxone on hand.
 - [Anna Bosch](#) is available to answer more questions for the council about these changes.
 - The second round of interviews for a harm reduction coordinator are ongoing.
 - Syphilis guidelines for pregnant people will be changed and communicated by the end of the year.

IV. Committee reports (see written reports)

- Executive and Co-chair Update
 - Heard reports from each standing committee, council co-chairs, recipients, and council staff.
- Community Voices Committee (CVC)
 - Met virtually an in-person at the Aliveness Project on September 11, from 4pm-6pm.

- Hosted a self-advocacy training from Abloom Wellness. Discussed themes of power and power sharing, self-advocacy and peer advocacy.
 - Next meeting to take place virtually only, from 4pm-6pm, via Microsoft Teams, on November 13, 2023. The committee will be discussing where to hold future meetings and if the time it meets should change.
 - The committee continues its planning for the World AIDS Day breakfast it will be hosting on December 1, 2023. More details to come.
- Membership and Training Committee
 - Reviewed attendance and selected committee members to contact council members who had missed meetings.
 - Reviewed applications and compared applications against current vacancies.
 - Discussed recruitment for the upcoming fiscal year.
 - We are seeking applications from people who fill the following vacancies:
 - a. Unaligned consumer, woman
 - b. Greater MN
 - c. People who work in the HIV field or who are passionate about ending the epidemic who are Black or African American
 - d. Representative of individuals who formerly were federal, state or local prisoners, were released from the custody of the penal system during the preceding three years, and had HIV/AIDS as of the date on which the individuals were released
 - e. Young person (18-25) at risk or living with HIV
 - f. Religious leaders or representatives from faith communities
 - g. Representative from the Department of Corrections
 - h. Representative from the Department of Education
- Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committee
 - Did not meet in September.
 - The next meeting will take place during the combined PAC, DEC, and NAE Integrated Plan Monitoring Table meeting. The meeting will be held during the regularly scheduled PAC meeting on Wednesday, October 25, 9:30am-11:30am.
- Disparities Elimination Committee (DEC)
 - Received a presentation from the NYC Planning Council on the Integrated Behavioral Health model/directive that was created and approved by the council.
 - Received a presentation on the ESCALATE training report back from attendees, Aurin Roy and Joe Amrhein.
 - The next meeting will take place during the combined PAC, DEC, and NAE Integrated Plan Monitoring Table meeting. The meeting will be held during the regularly scheduled PAC meeting on Wednesday, October 25, 9:30am-11:30am.
- Planning and Allocation Committee
 - Did not meet in September.
 - The next meeting will take place during the combined PAC, DEC, and NAE Integrated Plan Monitoring Table meeting. The meeting will be held

during the regularly scheduled PAC meeting on Wednesday, October 25, 9:30am-11:30am.

V. Council Staff Report

- Audra thanked council members for completing the Knowledge Assessment Tool.
 - Key findings include:
 - It can be difficult to find MDH data. Links to this data have now been added to the [council website](#).
 - The council would like to have more interactive trainings.
 - The council would like more training around completing the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism.
- Home and Community Based Health services is the next service standard consumer input meeting, which will be held on November 13, 3:00-4:00pm.
- As a reminder, the January council meeting will be extended by one hour, meeting from 9:00am-12:00pm, for a racial equity training.
 - 40 participants will be able to attend the training. All council members will attend this training, but non-council members will need to register to participate.
- Open spots on the council are listed on the council's website. Please direct applicants to the [online application](#).
- There will be a combined Planning & Allocations, Disparities Elimination, and Needs Assessment & Evaluation committee meeting on October 25, 9:30-11:30am, to review updates to the integrated monitoring plan table.

VI. HIV/HCV Care Continuum Presentation

Allison LaPointe & Genny Grilli, Minnesota Department of Health

- PowerPoint: **Demographic Breakdowns** (Audra emailed the PowerPoint to council members on October 10, 2023).
 - Questions/comments:
 - a. A member would like to better explore why those not enrolled in the Ryan White program don't receive as good as care as those who participate in the program. "What can we do to utilize community case management to find those not virally suppressed but still in care?"
 - b. A member noted that receiving care without stigma, particularly for active drug users, would make a big impact.
- PowerPoint: **State of HCV (hepatitis C) in Minnesota** (Audra emailed the PowerPoint to council members on October 10, 2023).
 - Questions:
 - a. Why are disparities in age within the Native American community different from the overall population?
 - i. Anecdotal, but the difference is likely found in risk factors:
 1. For older individuals risk factors include military service, infected blood product, hemodialysis, unsafe medical practices, and casual drug use.

2. For younger people, it is primarily injection drug use and lack of access to SSPs.

VII. Unfinished Business/New Business

- None.

VIII. Open Forum

- None.

IX. Announcements

- None.

X. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 10:47am.

Meeting Summary:

- Part A, Part B, and MDH updates were provided.
- Committee updates were reported to the council.
- The council approved a motion to extend the November 14, 2023 council meeting by one hour (9:00am-12:00pm) to inform flexible funding decisions with MDH.
- The council received a HIV and HCV Care Continuum presentation from MDH.

Documents distributed before the meeting:

- Proposed agenda
- September 12 meeting minutes
- Committee summary reports
- Part A update

Documents distributed after the meeting:

- HIV/HCV Care Continuum presentations: Demographic updates and State of HCV (hepatitis C) in Minnesota
- Part B council update
- DHS and MCHACP- Rapid Engagement Options

JS/ag