

Disparities Elimination Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 20, 2024
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Committee Members Present:	
Patrick Ingram (co-chair)	Jay Orne
Mark Jenkins (co-chair)	Nikki LeClaire
Alejandro Aguilera	Sarah Schiele
James Velek	
Committee Members Absent:	
Calvin Hillary Hylton	Oceane Lune
Guests:	
Cody Raasch, Hennepin County	Thomas Blissett, DHS
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	
Jonathan Hanft	Amy Miller
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	
McKinzie Woelfel	Hannah Giles (MDH – Epi)
MCHACP Staff:	
Audra Gaikowski, Council Coordinator	Jeremy Stadelman, Admin Specialist (minutes)

Quorum Present? Yes

I. Welcome and introductions

- Patrick Ingram called the meeting to order at 9:32am.

II. Review, approval of minutes from May 16 meeting and proposed agenda

- The meeting minutes from the May 16 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.
- The agenda for today's meeting was reviewed and approved as written.

III. FY25 Part A Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Allocations Proposal

Jonathan Hanft, Hennepin County Public Health

- Jonathan presented the **FY25 Part A MAI Carryover Proposal** to the committee (Audra emailed the proposal to the committee on 6/20).
- Part is A is assuming flat funding for FY25. Part A is not recommending any changes to the FY25 MAI funding proposal.
 - \$395,342 total for MAI funding, which is 6% of the Part A award.
 - \$32,049 for administration
 - \$12,113 for quality management
 - \$260,983 for medical case management (MCM)
 - \$90,197 for outpatient/ambulatory health services
 - Given epidemiological trends, MCM is vital in linking and retaining individuals to care.
- Questions/comments:
 - Audra shared the **Part A MAI Service Area Priorities** noting that MCM and outpatient/ambulatory care have been prioritized by the committee.
 - The committee will vote on the FY25 MAI proposal at next month's meeting.

IV. Mental health, psychosocial support, and outpatient substance use services utilization data review

Audra Gaikowski, Council Coordinator

- Audra presented a PowerPoint presentation titled, **Mental health, psychosocial support, and outpatient substance use services allocations history** (Audra emailed the presentation to the committee on 6/20).
 - Jonathan noted that Part B allocates some funding to mental health through Program HH. Thomas clarified that the quarter 4 expenditure report includes the mental health expenses for Program HH. This information will go to the Planning and Allocations Committee and then to the council.
- Cody presented a data from the 2020 needs assessment on service utilization data for mental health, psychosocial support, and outpatient substance use services.
 - Patrick wondered if there have been attempts to collect data on why a service is “not needed”? For example, is stigma a barrier to receiving mental health services?
 - Dr. Jari Geleta from SAYFSM noted at last year’s mental health forum that in the African-born community, there is a stigma around seeking mental health care services.
 - Another barrier may be that providers are not providing culturally competent care.
 - The 2020 needs assessment survey did not specifically ask why someone does not need mental health services.
 - Members suggested that this might be something to include on the 2025 needs assessment survey.
 - Jay suggested that this could also be discussed with providers who attend the upcoming psychosocial support services provider standards input meeting.
- Audra reviewed the [data dashboard](#).
 - Cody clarified that client counts are based on the calendar year and expenditure data is based on the fiscal years for the funding source.
 - Jay suggested that the dashboard could be updated to include overall prevalence data by race/ethnicity so that service utilization by race/ethnicity could be more easily interpreted. Is the service area reaching target populations proportionally?
 - Cody noted that for any count under 5, the data is redacted and will show on the dashboard as 0. This is common for Asian and Native American populations.
 - Nikki noted that she attended a training provided by the Native American Community Clinic (NACC) with Dr. Kari Rabie and they explored data interpretation specifically for Native Americans. The training, titled "Innovative Approaches to HIV Care and Prevention in MN Tribal Communities," can be found [here](#).
 - Jonathan suggested adding a question about the usefulness of the data dashboard to an evaluation of the PSRA process once it is complete.
 - If members have any suggested edits for the data dashboard, please share them with Cody or Audra.

V. Review meeting format survey

- Audra displayed **the results of the meeting format survey**.
- Audra displayed **In Person vs. Virtual Attendance at DEC meetings**.
- Sarah suggested that, quarterly, members could be encouraged to attend in person. She would like the committee to remain hybrid.
 - Jay noted that in person meetings should be structured with discussion elements.

- Audra noted that travel costs are eligible for reimbursement. Those travelling from Greater MN can have hotel accommodations made for them.
- Patrick wondered if a meeting could be held in Duluth and if travel costs could be reimbursed for members to attend that. Audra indicated that she would have to inquire about this possibility and will report back to the committee next month.
- Mark would be open to having quarterly in person meetings, with other meetings being virtual.
- Patrick noted that he is often in person at HSB and can host in person meetings.
- Members agreed to hold virtual meetings going forward, with an in-person option quarterly.

VI. Review FY24 religious holidays calendar

- There were no conflicts identified.

VII. New business / Unfinished Business

- None.

VIII. Set agenda for next meeting

- FY 25 MAI allocations vote
- Update on travelling to Duluth for a committee meeting
- Discussion around increase in LatinX HIV diagnoses, if possible
 - Hannah noted that MDH is working on quarterly releases on this data. Hannah is available to present on this information in July.
- Mpox update on numbers and vaccinations, if possible
 - Jay noted that updated data/information may not be available in July.
- Jay suggested that looking at changes in landscape to culturally specific testing services would be good to discuss at a future meeting.

IX. Announcements

- There is a community listening session for status neutral grant tonight, 6-7pm.
- [July 8 CVC meeting at Loring Park](#). There will be a BBQ and networking opportunities. All are encouraged to attend, including providers.

X. Adjourn

- Patrick Ingram adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

Meeting Summary

- The committee reviewed the FY25 Part A Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Allocations Proposal.
- The committee reviewed service utilization data for mental health, psychosocial support, and outpatient substance use services.
- Members agreed to hold virtual meetings going forward, with an in-person option quarterly.

Documents shared before the meeting:

- 2024.06.20 DEC Agenda
- 2024.05.16 DEC Minutes
- FY24 meeting format results
- FY2024 Religious Holidays List

Documents shared during the meeting:

- FY25 Part A MAI Carryover Proposal
- Part A MAI Service Area Priorities
- PowerPoint presentation titled, Mental health, psychosocial support, and outpatient substance use services
- In Person vs. Virtual Attendance at DEC meetings

JS/ag