

Minnesota Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention (MCHACP) Meeting

November 12, 2024

9 – 11:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting: MS Teams and HSB Room 110

Committee Members Present:	
Kevin Sitter (Council Co-Chair, PAC Co-Chair)	Alejandro Aguilera (NAE and CVC Co-Chair)
Mark Jenkins (DEC Co-Chair)	Tyrie Stanley (M&T Co-Chair, Council Co-chair)
Dongwook Kim	Gari Jaleta
Annalise Jackson	Jay Orne
Jennifer Schoenberg	John Vener
Carol Labine	Lesa Nelson
Patrick Ingram (DEC Co-Chair)	Ellen Ryan
Shea Grutemaro	Mary McCarthy
Raquelle Lenoir	Sarah Schiele
Teri Wilder	Moua Xiong
Quay Catalpa	Deon Kirby (M&T Co-Chair)
Committee Members Absent:	
Cynthia Denise Elmore	Stephen Jensen
Nikki LeClaire	JT Stewart (PAC Co-Chair)
James Velek	
Guests:	
Bethel Adiele (Hennepin County Intern)	Carissa Weisdorf (Hennepin County)
Darin Rowles (DHS)	Cody Raasch (Hennepin County)
Alissa Fountain (Hennepin County)	Scott Bilodeau (Hennepin County)
Bob (Merck Pharmaceuticals)	Pat Reymann (Parliamentarian)
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	
Eriika Etshokin (minutes)	Thomas Blissett
	Dennis London
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	
Jose Ramirez	Hannah Giles
MCHACP Staff:	
Jeremy Stadelman, Admin Specialist	

Quorum Present? **Yes**

I. Call to order, Welcome & Introductions

- Kevin Sitter called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- Introductions and ice-breakers were done and the guiding principles were reviewed.
- The candle was lit in recognition of the HIV/AIDS related death and disparities.
- The agenda was reviewed and approved as written.
- The minutes from the October 8th meeting were reviewed and approved with the corrections outlined by Alejandro.

II. Recipient Report

- Part A Eriika Etshokin, Hennepin County Ryan White
 - i. The Planning Council Coordinator position was posted on 10/25/24 for two weeks. Interviews are being scheduled.
 - ii. Public Health Leadership is still pending for a Program Officer position.
 - iii. Positively Hennepin: Whole Person/Status Neutral project implementation is underway with clients actively signing up for services. The project community advisory board is being developed with recruitment beginning soon.

- iv. Positively Hennepin: Rapid StART provider assessment survey has been sent to metro area providers. Efforts towards identifying minimum standard for Rapid Start implementation are underway including minimum standards for HIV confirmatory testing policies.
- v. No updated HIV Outbreak numbers for Hennepin/Ramsey Counties noted on the MDH website since September 3rd.
- vi. Patrick asked how many Black men are engaging in the Whole Person project – Cody shared that 9 eligible and interested individuals have completed the initial intake for Status Neutral. Brenda will be invited to a future MCHACP meeting to give more nuance and narrative around project progress.
- **Part B** *Thomas Blissett, Minnesota Department of Human Services HIV Supports*
 - i. No major budget/resource updates.
 - ii. DHS has applied for ADAP fund and will update MCHACP early next year.
 - iii. FY25 Non-competing Continuation was submitted for Part B funding beginning 4/1.
 - iv. Program HH has hired a new Eligibility Specialist to process MNCE applications.
 - v. FY2025 Open Enrollment is underway with communications to program participants in process. Any consumers/clients with questions should get in contact with a Benefits Navigator at Aliveness or HCMC ASAP. The goal is to have a 98% insured population next year.
 - vi. Processing of OAHS claims are now being processed through a third-party vendor with a more modern system. Communication has been shared to all Program HH clients and Ryan White Providers.
 - vii. Contract services beginning November 2024 includes NextGen to handle the EFA and food vouchers programs. Instead of receiving store-specific gift cards, clients will now be sent a reloadable visa card to be used at any grocery store.
 - viii. Integrated Plan Report is being developed for presentation at a November MCHACP meeting.
 - ix. Tyrie asked who is processing requests for EFA – Thomas clarified that the application process with The Aliveness Project is not changing.
 - x. Jay asked how cards are replaced – Thomas replied that any individual who loses their card should let their case worker know so that a new one can be issued.
 - xi. Alejandro asked if there was an update on the application for the X09 funds – Thomas noted that these funds to the amount of ~\$5m were received with notification given to the amount of ~\$5.2m to MCHACP at a previous meeting.
 - xii. Alejandro asked for more information about working with Magellen for OAHS claims – Thomas noted that they are still in the learning process and will know more by January/February.

III. Committee reports

- **Executive and Co-Chair Update**

- i. Reviewed proposed bylaw changes with input from recipient staff and representatives – a word document of the current bylaws will be sent out for review. Council members are asked to give their input on the bylaws changes either by sending tracked changes back or working with Eriika and/or Kevin to create tracked changes.
- ii. **MOTION:** Kevin assumed the motion of the co-chair election from the Executive Committee to move forward with a co-chair election to fill Joe Amrhein's unexpired term. Tyrie objected to Kevin making this motion. Kevin took a vote on moving forward with the assumed motion – with 12 votes in favor and 1 opposed, the assumed motion proceeds. Kevin shared the Council Co-Chair Position Description and noted that Tyrie Stanley has been nominated and is on the current ballot. While originally proposed for the role, Patrick Ingram is not yet eligible to act as Council Co-Chair.
- iii. **DEBATE:** None.
- iv. **VOTE:** A ballot was sent out to council members to be read during Unfinished Business.
- v. **MOTION:** The Executive Committee moved that the council hold a second BIPOC Luncheon funded by the council operating budget to improve the experience and retention of BIPOC members on the council with Council Staff facilitating as needed.

- vi. **DEBATE:** Eriika Etshokin asked if there is a committee in which this initiative lives. Tyrie clarified that this lives with the Executive Committee. Patrick noted that without a commitment from Kareem as the facilitator, we would need at least a written acknowledgement or report from Kareem.
- vii. **VOTE:** With 14 ayes and 0 noes, the motion carries as written.

- **Community Voices Committee**

- i. Last meeting was held on November 4th with 21 attendees, an overview of Ryan White services and access information, an ADAP/Program HH overview, and a presentation on HIV Stigma.
- ii. An update was given on the World AIDS Day event – December 6th from 9-11 at The Aliveness Project.
- iii. The next CVC meeting will be held on January 13th at the Minneapolis library.
- iv. Tyrie noted that he's seen a decline in CVC attendance lately and recommended changes to the CVC food/gift card process to boost attendance.
- v. Presentation on stigma by Gilead

- **Disparities Elimination Committee**

- i. Written update provided.

- **Membership and Training Committee**

- i. There are currently 14 open spots for the term beginning March 2025 for unaligned consumers from all demographic groups. Prioritizing recruitment of Greater MN consumers, young people (18-25), a religious leader, a representative from the DOC, a representative from the DOE, a current or former injection drug user, a healthcare planning agency, those co-infected with Hep B/C, and/or a representative from a Federally Qualified Health Center.

- **Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committee**

- i. Written update provided.
- ii. Comprehensive Needs Assessment planning is moving forward.

- **Planning and Allocations Committee (PAC)**

- i. Written update provided.

- **Criminal Justice Involved Ad Hoc Committee**

- i. Anticipating selecting co-chairs at the next meeting to present to MCHACP next month.

IV. **Council Staff Update**

- Megan Higdon and Derek Martin have both not returned from their LOA and are no longer MCHACP members.
- 5 applications for the 14 open spots have been received, MCHACP members are reminded that they have a role in the recruitment process and should be sharing openings with other community members.

V. **Part A Quality Management Update**

Scott Bilodeau, Hennepin County Ryan White Program Clinical Quality Management Coordinator

- Scott presented the **Hennepin County Ryan White Program Part A Quality Management Update**.
- Questions, concerns, comments, thoughts and ideas may be sent to Scott.Bilodeau@Hennepin.us.
- No questions/follow-up discussion.

VI. **Part B Quality Management Update**

Dennis London, DHS Federal Reporting Specialist/Quality Improvement Coordinator

- Dennis presented the **RWHAP Part B Clinical Quality Management Program** slides.
- Questions/comments may be sent to Dennis.London@state.mn.us

- Kevin asked about the decrease in denominators for African Americans in Case Management – Dennis noted that the data comes from Minnesota CAREWare and may change as client engagement changes.
- Alejandro notes that some disengagement may be coming from the recent local agency closure.

VII. Unfinished/New Business

- Deon read the Teller's Report from the Council Co-Chair election to note that with 18 ballots cast, 10 needed for majority, and 16 votes in favor of Tyrie Stanley, the motion passes to make Tyrie Stanley Council Co-Chair for the remainder of Joe Amrhein's term.
- Alejandro asked for a correction to the October MCHACP minutes to note that Alejandro asked for Latinx individuals to be called out specifically in the EIIHA data. It is incorrect in the minutes noting that Scott requested this. With no opposition, the minutes will be amended and approved.

VIII. Open Forum

- Tyrie thanked Jeremy and Council Staff for updating all PSRA materials on the MCHACP website.
- Kevin noted the importance of MCHACP members continuing to be patient, kind, and respectful with Council Staff who are understaffed and have multiple competing priorities.
- Alejandro gave a reminder about the upcoming World AIDS Day Breakfast (December 6th, 9-11, Aliveness Project) and CVC (January 13th 4-6, Central Library) and asked that Council Members continue to promote MCHACP meetings/events.

IX. Announcements

- Tyrie noted that Hennepin County planned a World AIDS Day event but did not offer parking/mileage reimbursement for MCHACP members.

X. Adjourn

- Kevin adjourned the meeting at 11:59.

Meeting Summary:

- Council heard reports from Committees, Recipients, and Council Staff
- Council heard Clinical Quality Management updates from Part A and Part B.
- Council held a Co-Chair Election for the remainder of a current unexpired term.

Documents distributed before the meeting:

- Proposed agenda
- 08.13.2024 minutes
- FY 2025 PSRA Allocations
- October Committee Report Summaries
- Part A update
- Part B update
- MDH update
- FY 2023 Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism results

Documents distributed during and/or after the meeting:

- Annual EIIHA presentation slides
- 2023 Care Continuum update slides
- Whole Person Care flier

EE/JS