

HOUSTON AREA HIV SERVICES RYAN WHITE PLANNING COUNCIL



We envision an educated community where the needs of all HIV/AIDS infected and/or affected individuals are met by accessible, effective, and culturally sensitive health and psychosocial services that are part of a fully coordinated system. The community will continue to intervene responsibly until the end of the epidemic.

The Houston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) Ryan White Planning Council will improve the quality of life and advocate for those infected and/or affected with HIV/AIDS by taking a leadership role in the planning and assessment of HIV resources.

MINUTES

12 noon, Thursday, October 13, 2016
2223 W. Loop South, Room 532; Houston, Texas 77027

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT
Steven Vargas, Chair	Allen Murray	<i>Ryan White Grant Administration</i>
Tracy Gorden, Vice Chair	Robert Noble	Carin Martin
Carol Suazo, Secretary	Tana Pradia	Heather Keizman
Ted Artiaga	Teresa Pruitt	Tasha Traylor
Connie Barnes	Gloria Sierra	
Curtis Bellard	Larry Woods	<i>The Resource Group</i>
David Benson	Isis Torrente	Sha'Terra Johnson-Fairley
Ardry Skeet Boyle	David Watson	Erin Going, Intern
Ella Collins-Nelson		
Amber David	MEMBERS ABSENT	<i>Office of Support</i>
Denny Delgado	Melody Barr	Tori Williams
Herman Finley	Bianca Burley	Amber Harbolt
Paul Grunenwald	Evelio Salinas Escamilla	Diane Beck
Angela F. Hawkins	J. Hoxi Jones, excused	
Arlene Johnson	Shital Patel, excused	
John Lazo	Leslie Raneri, excused	
Peta-gay Ledbetter	Cecilia Ross, excused	
Nancy Miertschin	C. Bruce Turner, excused	
Rodney Mills		

Call to Order: Steven Vargas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

During the welcoming remarks, Vargas said that in the last week, the Council members had lost two good friends and former Council members, Ruben Rosas and Michael Miller. Staff will let us know when/if there are local services for either Michael or Ruben. Staff have been especially busy in the last couple of weeks working on two important projects: the Houston Area HIV Comprehensive Plan for 2017 – 2021 and the HRSA grant application. Vargas thanked Amber for her hard work and leadership in the development of the Plan. When C. Martin submitted the Comprehensive Plan to Frances Hodge, the Houston EMA Project Officer, her response was:

“Please tell the folks who participated in the development of the Plan how much HRSA/HAB appreciates their work and how much I personally appreciate it. I think this work and the Plan itself initiates a new approach and a new tool for identifying and meeting the needs of PLWH in the Ryan White system of care and across America. Thanks again, Frances”

Vargas thanked C. Martin for her hard work in coordinating the staff in the development of the FY 2017 HRSA grant application. Under her leadership last year, the EMA received a score of 98 out of 100 on the grant application and funds in the amount of \$23 million dollars which meant that the Ryan White Part A Program could provide services to 12,000 people living with HIV in the community. Vargas continued by reminding the Council that they will soon be electing officers for 2017. The cut off for nominating someone to run for an office is before the end of the November 3rd Steering Committee meeting. Please contact the Director of the Office of Support to submit a nomination. There will be one final opportunity to submit a nomination the day of the election.

Adoption of the Agenda: ***Motion #1:** it was moved and seconded (Johnson, Pruitt) to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.*

Approval of the Minutes: ***Motion #2:** it was moved and seconded (Pruitt, Torrente) to approve the September 8, 2016 minutes. Motion carried. Abstentions: Gorden, Johnson, Ledbetter.*

Training – Working with Transgender Communities: Lou Weaver presented information pertaining to working with transgender individuals. See attached.

EIIHA Update: Harbolt gave an update on the FY 2017 EIIHA strategy.

Public Comment and Announcements: See attached.

Reports from Committees:

Quality Improvement Committee: Robert Noble, Co-Chair, reported on the following:

Joint Committee Meeting: There will be a Joint Committee meeting to review current reports and consider ways to update and/or improve staff reports to the Council and committees in 2017. All are welcome to attend. The meeting is scheduled for 11 am on Thursday, November 17, 2016.

Report from the Administrative Agent – Part A/MAI: See the attached draft standards of care for Tax Preparation and Outreach service categories and the current standards of care and performance measures for other services. Recommendations regarding these documents will be voted on at the December Council meeting.

Report from the Administrative Agent – Part B/SS: See the attached Health Insurance Assistance Service Utilization Report, 09/01/15-07/31/16, dated 09/09/16.

Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee: John Lazo, Co-Chair, reported on the following:

2017 EIIHA Strategy: See the attached regarding the approved list of FY 2017 EIIHA Target Populations.

Speakers Bureau: Lazo said that there is one presentation scheduled for the Spring-Klein Chamber of Commerce breakfast on November 11, 2016; Januari Leo will present on ACA issues. The Cy-Fair Rotary Club would like someone to give general HIV information on

November 21st; he is hoping to confirm Vargas as a speaker for that one. The workgroup will meet for their last meeting of the year in November.

Priority and Allocations Committee: No report.

Affected Community Committee: Tana Pradia, Co-Chair, reported on the following:
Consumer-only Workgroup Meeting: Ryan White Grant Administration hosted a consumer-only workgroup to collect information for the proposed FY 2017 Standards of Care and Performance Measures.

2016 Monthly Meeting Schedule: See the attached list of 2016 committee meetings and training topics.

2016 Community Events: See the attached list of 2016 events at which there will be a Council presence.

Operations Committee: No report. Pruitt read the description from Members Eligible to Run for Chair.

Report from Office of Support: Tori Williams, Director, summarized the attached report.

Report from Ryan White Grant Administration: Carin Martin, Manager, summarized the attached report.

Report from The Resource Group: Sha'Terra Johnson-Fairley summarized the attached report.

New Business

Ryan White Part C Urban and Part D: Miertschin summarized the attached report.

Community Development Advisory Council: Gorden said that the group has not met.

Updates from Task Forces:

- **African American:** Johnson-Fairley said that they are meeting tomorrow at noon. Change Happens will be hosting a Block Party tomorrow from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm. The task force is planning a World AIDS Day gala; Collins-Nelson is the chair.
- **Latino:** Vargas said that they have been very busy with Latino HIV Awareness Day activities. They received a proclamation from the County Judge and from the Mayor. Saturday FLAS will be at Plaza Americas to do free HIV testing and education.
- **MPact:** Artiaga summarized the attached report.
- **Transgender:** Finley said that the LGBT health summit is still on but has been postponed until further notice.
- **Youth:** Lazo summarized the attached report.
- **Hepatitis C:** Vargas said that they are waiting to hear if Hep C will be part of the AETC physician training in January.

Positive Women's Network: Hawkins summarized the PWN event flyer.

HIV and Aging: Turner submitted the attached report.

Texas HIV Medication Advisory Committee: Miertschin said that the September meeting was cancelled and another meeting has not yet been scheduled.

SPNS Grant: HIV and the Homeless Program: Miertschin presented the attached report.

Announcements:

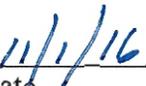
There is a benefit for Omega House and other organizations at RMCC on November 2, 2016. Murray called attention to the yellow slip with details for Ruben's memorial service, noting that the family would like for everyone to attend. Finley said that St. Hope Foundation in Conroe is now open 5 days a week (previously open 3 days a week).

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

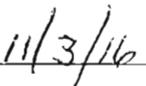


Victoria Williams, Director



Date

Draft Certified by
Council Chair:  _____

Date  _____

Final Approval by
Council Chair:  _____

Date  _____

