

Continuum of Care Committee

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, December 12, 2019, at 10AM - 12PM
 Willing Heart Community Center
 555 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102

Present	Excused Absences	Unexcused Absences
1. Ann Bagchi, Ph.D. (Secretary) 2. Cezar Dumago 3. Imad Ibrahim 4. Aliya Onque (Non-Voting) 5. Dominga Padilla 6. Mario Portilla 7. Lauro Rocha 8. Nancy Scangarello	9. Maisel Guzman	10. Richlyn Burnham (Vice-Chair) 11. Wanda Figueroa 12. Kendall Clark 13. Pat Moore 14. Vieshia Morales

Guests: War Talley, Karen Ehiri, Martha Downey, Jen Grimsich, Laura Knightly
Support Staff: Tania Guaman, Vicky Saguy

1. Welcome and Moment of Silence

Mario Portilla (COC Chair) called this meeting to order at 10:03 AM. Portilla welcomed all in attendance and called for a moment of silence to be observed for all those living with, those who have passed and those affected by HIV/AIDS.

2. Roll Call

Ann Bagchi, Ph.D. (Secretary) conducted the roll call. Quorum was established later during the meeting.

Bagchi, Ph.D. asked if Kasny Damas was still a member of the COC. Karen Ehiri stated that Damas is only part of the REC. Mario Portilla (COC Chair) asked for a motion to remove Kasny Damas from the COC roster. Ann Bagchi, Ph.D. motioned to approve. No abstentions. None opposed.

3. Public Testimony

There was no public testimony at this meeting.

4. Approval of Meeting Summary from October 10, 2019

The October 10th meeting summary was reviewed. No edits were recommended. Mario Portilla, COC Chair, asked for a motion to approve the meeting summary. Imad Ibrahim motioned to approve. Ann Bagchi, Ph.D., seconded the motion. There were no abstentions. The meeting summary was approved.

5. Standing Committee Updates

- **CPC:** Tania Guaman, Support Staff, provided the CPC report: The last Comprehensive Planning Committee meeting was held on Friday, November 8, 2019. The following occurred at the meeting:
 - The committee reviewed the Integrated HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Plan Progress Report from 2016 to 2018. The committee identified areas that need improvement to meet set goals.
 - The CPC conducted an in-depth review Updated the 2017-2021 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan and identified new goals/objectives. At the next meeting, the CPC will be identifying the responsible parties, when the objective needs to be done, and how to measure the new goals.

The next CPC meeting will be held on December 13, 2019 at the Willing Heart Community Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102. All are encouraged to attend.

- **REC:** Ann Bagchi, REC Chair, provided the REC Report. The last Research and Evaluation Committee Meeting was held on November 18. The following occurred at the meeting:
 - There was a presentation on the Community-Based Participatory Research. Based on presentation, the committee held discussions about the ways the Newark EMA engages, gives back and disseminates information to clients.
 - Sharon Postel (Consultant) presented the Behavioral Health Cascade. This was the final component of the Needs Assessment.
 - The REC also reviewed the committee's Workplan Calendar

The next REC meeting will be held on December 16, 2019 at 10AM at the Willing Heart Community Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102. All are encouraged to attend.

- **CIA/CC:** Tania Guaman provided the CIA report. The last CIA meeting was held on Wednesday, November 18, 2019. The following occurred at the meeting:
 - There was a presentation on the End the Epidemic Initiative and its goals, objectives, challenges, and barriers to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Consumers provided their input on some of the challenges and recommendation on how to address those based on the consumer perspective.

The next CIA meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 20, 2019 at 5PM.

Mario Portilla, COC Chair, asked for a motion for Support Staff to provide the full CIA report. Ann Bagchi, Ph.D. (Secretary) motioned to not to get the full report since it can be read at a later time. Lauro Rocha seconded the motion. Support Staff will share the CIA Meeting Summary via email.

6. Old Business

- Review of Psychosocial Support Standards of Care:
Not discussed at this meeting.

7. New Business:

- Dr. Finkel from Rutgers University provided a presentation on Trans Health - An Update on Transgender Medical Care in Newark. Her presentation included:
 - Cultural humility and competence which is a life-long commitment to self-evaluation and self-critique and the development of beneficial and non-paternalistic relationships.

- Cultural Humility and Competence which is also a continuous process to help improve care.
- Stigma and the different types of stigma including enacted stigma, anticipated stigma, normative stigma, and internalized stigma were discussed. The concept of health disparities was defined as the differences in health outcomes linked to social, environmental, or economic disadvantages that lead to barriers to health including stigma, racism, discrimination, poverty and other social or political disadvantages.
- The intersection of stigma and illness: There is Stigma associated with HIV/AIDS, sex workers, sexuality, drug use and gender. Many of the people most vulnerable to HIV face Stigma, which can lead to harassment/abuse, discrimination, violence, risky situations and behaviors, poverty, marginalization, poor social or emotional wellbeing, and poor health services access and uptake. This pushes them to not accessing the health care they need, which can bear sickness.
- Provider Basics in Cultural Humility and Self-Awareness: It was emphasized that providers should see others as individuals with multicultural identities without allowing any personal, or cultural values or beliefs to influence their patients are treated.
- Terminology about the Trans population was discussed including gender pronouns, as well as the difference between gender identity, gender expression/presentation, sex assigned at birth, sexual attraction and romantically/emotionally attraction.
- The presenter provided some data on Queer Youth of Color and Immigration status among the Transgender population.
- The presentation also provided a brief overview of the transgender service providers in the Essex County area which included: New Jersey Community Research Initiative (NJCRI), Rutgers University Transgender Health Program and the Transgender Primary Care youth Program at Rutgers Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine (DAYAM). The services offered by each of this provider agency were identified.
- The Trans Student Educational Resources (TSER) was mentioned as a resource

- Introduction of new format for Standards of Care

The COC Committee reviewed the new format for the Standards of Care as proposed by the Recipient. The new format separated the content of the Standards of Care into Universal Service Standards (to include general guidance on eligibility, intake, etc. that applies to all service categories) and Category Specific Service Standards (that would capture the unique guidance for each service category).

Additional Program Guidance from HRSA program guidance as well as the Recipient's funding limitations. (i.e. The imposition on Client Charges helps to track the Ryan White Program Clients' maximum out of pocket expense, so that they are not charged for the rest of the calendar year after they have reached their cap. This will be used for the providers that charge for services since some providers do not charge for services. The amount that will go towards their cap will be what they are being charged and not necessary what they pay. This part of the Standards will have to be updated annually.)

Mario Portilla (COC Chair) asked for a motion to approve the new format for the Service Standards. Imad Ibrahim motioned to approve the new format. Cezar Dumago seconded the motion. The new format was approved.

Starting with the Housing Standards of Care, Support Staff will transfer the information from the previous Standards to the new format. The COC will review the Standards in the new format and

make the necessary edits at the next meeting. The Recipient will send the information about the "Imposition on Client Charges" section to be added on the new format.

8. Administrative Issues— PC Support Staff

There are no administrative issues at this time

9. Announcements

Tania Guaman (Support Staff) shared some flyers with information about the new website Ready, Set, PrEP. This website allows individuals and providers to register to receive free PrEP medication.

10. Next Meeting

The next COC meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 10AM at the Willing Heart Community Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102.

11. Adjournment

Mario Portilla, COC Chair, asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Imad Ibrahim motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ann Bagchi, Ph.D. seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25AM.