

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

May 7 2020

1:00pm-2:00pm

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Felix Ruiz
Lawrence Eisenstein, MD
Victoria Osk, Esq.
Kevin McHugh
Angie Partap
Joseph Pirone
Katelin Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gregson Pigott, MD
James Colson
Clara Crawford
Traci Shelton

STAFF

Georgette Beal, UWLI
JoAnn Henn, UWLI

STAFF ABSENT

Tavora Buchman PhD. NCDOH
Nina Sculco, NCDOH

I. Welcome & Introductions

Mr. Ruiz began the March 3, 2020 Executive Committee conference call at 1:05pm with introductions.

II. Approval of January 6, 2020 Executive Committee Minutes

James Colson's name was listed as present and absent. The error was corrected. A motion was made by Ms. Thomas and seconded by Mr. McHugh to accept the minutes as corrected.

2 Abstentions 0 Opposed 5 Approved

III. Administrative Update

- The SAP Committee approved increasing income eligibility for Ryan White Part A to 500% of the Federal Poverty Level, in order to be consistent with NYC and NYS. Traditionally the region has been consistent with the state. The executive committee agreed and a full vote will be taken at the May Planning Council meeting.
- Two agencies had to shut down due to positive COVID-19 diagnosis and move staff to remote work. As a result, an extension for the FY 19 closeout was requested since it was difficult to receive back up information and documentation from agencies. A 30 day extension was granted by HRSA.
- The FY 20-21 award was received with a 3.3% decrease. Tough choices will have to be made moving forward if this trend continues. We will have to look closely at the service delivery system and what we fund.

Discussion and Vote on Special COVID-19 Funding:

The CARES ACT FY 2020 (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act) provides one-time funding for eligible health care providers, including current Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) recipients to prevent,

prepare for, and respond to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). All activities and purchases supported with RWHAP COVID-19 awards must be used for services, activities, and supplies needed to prevent or minimize the impact of COVID-19 on RWHAP clients. There is a methodology for determining the use of funds and a COVID-19 Data Report (CDR) must be completed. There is also a new grant # to monitor COVID-19 funds.

Upon notification of award, United Way staff immediately reached out to funded providers to gather information about specific client needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Based upon provider responses, a proposed use of funds was generated. United Way proposes that the majority of funds be used on EFA related activities (primarily on food cards, grocery deliveries, PPE such as masks and gloves, and to a smaller extent on rent and utilities) and on Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals related activities (such as home delivery of meals, and cleaning supplies). Staff is seeking guidance to see if the transportation restriction may be loosened to assist consumers in picking up food. As per the CARES Act guidance, UW is also proposing that a small portion of the funds be set aside for modifications that will enable agencies to serve clients safely face to face moving forward and for IT/equipment needs (considered administrative) that enable providers to serve clients remotely during the shutdown. Tablets will be purchased for Planning Council consumers to facilitate participation in virtual meetings. Also noted that unused funds that are set aside for modifications and IT/Equipment needs can may be moved to direct services.

This information including a breakdown of funds, in addition to the proposed CDR was sent to Executive committee prior to the meeting The Executive approved the proposed use of COVID-19 funds. This information will also be presented to the Planning Council.

IV. Approval of May 13, 2020 Planning Council Agenda

The Planning Council agenda was approved which includes an update on Ryan White Service Delivery during COVID-19, presentations on ADAP/health insurance and legal changes due to COVID-19 that may affect clients.

V. Membership Update-

Currently, there are 33 Planning Council members, with three cycling off at the end of September. The ballot which would've been voted on at the March Planning Council meeting contains six names, two of whom would be replacing members who retired or were promoted, three were second term nominations. On the ballot will also be a vote to remove a member who has missed more than three meetings and has not responded to any correspondence regarding the matter. Two of the applicants are scheduled for virtual interviews and will be added to the ballot, pending membership committee approval. One of the candidates would fill the vacant Prevention Provider category. Substance Abuse Provider remains the only vacant category.

Many agencies and employees are still working remotely. Consequently, the majority of our meetings will be virtual or conference calls. Solutions are being sought on how best to vote on the ballot in a confidential manner during a virtual meeting.

VI. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Ms. Partap and seconded by Mr. McHugh to adjourn the May 7, 2020 executive committee conference call. All in favor-motion carried.

VII. Next Executive Committee conference call TBA.