

**NASSAU-SUFFOLK HIV HEALTH SERVICES PLANNING COUNCIL
BOARD ROOM, UNITED WAY OF LONG ISLAND, DEER PARK, NY**

**July 11, 2018
9:30 am – 11:30 am**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Santella, PhD, Chair
Joseph Pirone, Vice-Chair
Wendy Abt
Ilvan Arroyo
Lisa Benz-Scott, PhD
Arthur Brown
James Colson
Clara Crawford
William Doepper
Nancy Duncan
Marci Egel
Margret Henry
Kevin McHugh
Anthony Marmo
Johnny Mora
Barbara Martens
Martine Michel-Toure
Victoria Osk, Esq.
Rev. Loring Pasmore
Erik Rios
Traci Shelton
Louise Square
Katelin Thomas
James Tomarken, MD
Jessica Totino

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gloria Allen
Tania Chiu
Lawrence Eisenstein, MD
Carlos Fuentes
Juli Grey-Owens
Felix Ruiz
Andrea Smith
Elizabeth Torres

GUESTS

Michael Collins
February D'Auria
June Tappan

UWLI STAFF

Georgette Beal
Myra Alston
Stephanie Moreau
Katie Ramirez
Victoria White

COUNTY STAFF

Tavora Buchman, PhD

I. Welcome and Remembrance

Anthony Santella PhD, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:44 am. He welcomed everyone and introductions were made. Mr. William Doepper was welcomed to the Planning Council as a new member. There was an announcement regarding recent committee changes. Ms. Darlene Rosch will now be co-chairing the QAM Committee along with Ms. Traci Shelton and Vicky Osk will be co-chairing the SAP Committee along with Ms. Angie Partap. There was a moment of silence to reflect on the work we are doing and to remember those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Santella made one correction to the agenda. There will be no QAM vote at this meeting, all members were asked to strike it off their agendas.

II. Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

III. Approval of May 10, 2018 Minutes

Ms. Thomas made a motion to accept the minutes as read, which was seconded by Ms. Shelton.

17 Approved 5 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

IV. Administrative Update

Ms. Beal announced that the region's full grant award came in and was a slight increase from the previous year. Last year's award had a carryover of \$4800 making the award total \$5,619,788. This year's total award is \$5,644,802, which is an increase of approximately \$25,014. The strengths and weaknesses document was received and the region scored a 98 on the grant application.

The region also received its site visit follow up letter from the HRSA site visit in March. The letter was sent with no corrective action template so that extended the time of UWLI's response to July 28, 2018. The feedback in the letter was in line with what was expected. A few areas to be addressed are as follows:

1. The TSA (United Way of Long Island) needs to act more timely in providing feedback letters to the Part A funded agencies following the annual site visits.
2. Nassau County needs to conduct more formal monitoring of the TSA.
3. Simplify the service standards and separate out the quality piece.
4. Quality Management Plan needs to be updated.

At this time, United Way of Long Island is working on our internal systems to address HRSA's feedback. We are looking at our monitoring tools and overhauling our compliance monitoring system. Ms. Moreau is overseeing the quality program and will continue working with the QAM Committee on the Service Standards, which are in the process of being updated, will be revamped. In order to be compliant, QM will be taken out of the Service Standards, resulting in a substantially shorter Service Standard to be presented to the Planning Council. A universal standard will be developed with the criteria of qualified eligibility.

Ms. Beal updated the Council on the contracting process with Nassau County. Since this was a year that the IGA needed to be renewed, along with amendments and other changes that took place at the County level, the process has been slowed up some. At this time, UWLI is contracting with providers and any agencies with cash flow issues have been given an option to apply for a cash advance provided by UWLI. With the increase in grant award, all agencies have received slight increases on their contracts to reflect this.

The Oral Health RFP will need to be reissued. The timeline for this will be in late fall along with other priorities that are up for re-bid. Revered Pasmore inquired as to whether or not Stony Brook's Dental Clinic has been considered for this funding. Dr. Santella explained that Suffolk County already has a dental provider in place with various locations throughout Suffolk and this funding is specific for Nassau County. He also explained that with the RFP process, UWLI cannot contact agencies to apply, as it is an open competitive process. Ms. Shelton inquired as to if any Nassau County agency had expressed interest. Ms. Beal stated that there was an agency in Nassau County who expressed interest, but that the process still has to be redone as the timeline was not met for the original RFP.

V. Committee Reports

Executive Committee-

Dr. Santella reported on the Executive Committee which met on Friday, June 29, 2018. This call was rescheduled due to the Fourth of July holiday. The Planning Council agenda was reviewed and approved. The

bulk of the Planning Council meeting will be on the Priority Setting and Resource Allocation process and voting to approve the rankings and funding recommended by the SAP and Finance Committees.

The Executive Committee members discussed the HRSA Strengths and Weaknesses document for the FY2018-19 grant application. Feedback from various sections will be taken into account when writing the FY19-20 grant application. Regarding the findings of the HRSA site visit in March, the EMA will have 30 days to respond once a formal corrective action template is received. One of the recommendations was to request Technical Assistance (TA) which was done. A conference call was conducted regarding the Service Standards and how best to separate compliance and Quality Improvement components. The recommendations for updating grievance policy are not major. The old policy still cites Title 1.

Strategic Assessment & Planning Committee-

Ms. Osk reported that there have been three Strategic Assessment and Planning Committee PSRA meetings since the last Planning Council meeting in May. All three meetings centered around completion of the PSRA process for fiscal year 2019. A Data session was held for SAP and Finance Committee members. Most of the priorities were ranked the same however, Home and Community Based Health Services priority was ranked at 18, previously ranked at 22, citing the need for durable medical equipment.

After a discussion of the SAP and Finance recommendations a vote was taken and the rankings and allocations were approved. This information will be presented at today's Planning Council meeting.

Consumer Involvement Committee-

Ms. Duncan reported the Consumer Involvement Committee met on Friday, June 8, 2018. Mr. Greg Noone, from Thursday's Child, spoke to the committee about the creation of a Long Term Survivor group, for those individuals who have lived with the disease for at least 15 years. The idea of this type of LTS group was favorably received as many consumers began to sign up for the event at the meeting.

World AIDS Day is December 1, 2018. Our event is scheduled for Friday evening, November 30, 2018 at The Heritage, formerly Carlyle on the Green. Planning for the event is underway.

Quality Assurance and Membership Committee

Ms. Shelton reported the Quality Assurance & Membership Committee met on Thursday, June 28, 2018. Ms. Darlene Rosch, Esq. was elected as new Co-Chair replacing Ms. Ramirez. A report was provided on the results of the 2018 QM site visits. Ms. Moreau presented the Quality Management Plan Overview and update. The overall mission of the Nassau-Suffolk CQM Program is to continuously improve health outcomes and the quality of care for persons living with HIV receiving care from the RW Part A program.

VI. Priority Setting and Resource Allocation

Ms. Beal thanked Ms. Alston for her hard work preparing the data and charts to be presented during this section of the meeting.

Ms. Beal explained the PSRA process. She stated that the process takes place over the course of multiple meetings held by the SAP and Finance Subcommittee. These meetings are open to the public. The first session conducted by SAP, focused on all of the data being looked at and reviewed when determining the rankings for the region's services priorities. This meeting is also attended by members of the Finance subcommittee so that all understand the committee's decision. This meeting began with the Nassau-Suffolk Data session including all EPI data, review of community forums, provider survey and discussion of new data. It was mentioned that next year, there will be updated data to look at with regards to the Consumer and Provider Surveys.

Chart 1:

Ms. Beal pointed out that the committee looked at HIV prevalence (the number of people living with HIV/AIDS) and the number of unaware. There are currently 5,185 HIV+ people in care in our EMA. She explained the cap put on the EMA in terms of what we could ask for as a region. With this cap in place, the region cannot ask for more than the cap allows.

Mr. Doepper inquired as to why the total number of clients on Chart 1 showed a large increase for the 2018 number. Ms. Beal responded that the 2018 number listed here is a projection.

Chart 2:

This chart focused on the spending and utilization for 2017-18. Column C and D showed the difference in what reallocated and final spending for each priority. Substance Abuse was mentioned here as an example to show how it went underspent (about 7K) for the entire year even after it returned money at the half way point. The committee looked at this priority over the last few years for trends to see if there was an explanation why this had happened.

Chart 3:

This chart focused on other public funding and the importance of knowing where other funding streams were coming from and whether or not this impacted our priority services. For example, the committee reviewed funding from Ryan White Part C, Part D and State funding.

Chart 4:

This chart focused on the estimated number of clients to be served in FY19 and the Continuum of Care (COC). The COC was reviewed to ensure that our service priorities are attached and operating within its guidelines. The committees reviewed how this impacted our EMA.

Chart 5:

This chart represents the main worksheet used by Finance to allocate resources. It explained all of the allocations by priority along with the grant ask at 5% above, 5% below and final ask.

Ms. Beal noted that under Column B, oral health care, the money set aside for the RFP was included and kept there in order to fund a program for next year with no issues.

The committee chose to take a small amount of money out of ADAP to help meet the required CAP for the final grant ask. It required minimal changes and the idea behind this decision was that funding is often reallocated to the ADAP priority throughout the year, so by pulling the money from here it was the best way to prevent a disruption of any other service priority. The money will most likely be returned at years' end.

Ms. Thomas pointed out that the committee also discussed the directive of mental health providers potentially offering supportive services to substance users. This would allow for the combined mental health and substance use piece and a place for consumers to disclose and address substance use concerns.

Ms. Beal mentioned that by mental health providers taking this on, it really aligned with the region's need of addressing long term support for substance users.

Chart 6:

This chart focused on the final FY19 grant asked and preceded the Council's vote.

Conflict of Interest statements were signed by all voting members.

The Council voted line by line as per Chart 6, followed by a vote on the core/support split and then lastly on the final grant ask.

VOTE

1. Mr. McHugh made a motion to accept, Outpatient Ambulatory Health Services at \$15,937 (.32%) which was seconded by Dr. Benz-Scott.

24 Approved 1 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

2. Ms. Henry made a motion to accept, Medical Case Management at \$1,897,490 ((37.66%) which was seconded by Ms. Abt.

19 Approved 6 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

3. Mr. McHugh made a motion to accept, Mental Health Services at \$923,973 (18.34%) which was seconded by Ms. Egel.

20 Approved 5 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

4. Ms. Shelton made a motion to accept, Medical Transportation Services at \$611,619 (12.13%) which was seconded by Ms. Crawford.

24 Approved 1 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

5. Ms. Duncan made a motion to accept, Other Professional Services- Legal Services at \$584,517 (11.60%) which was seconded by Mr. McHugh.

24 Approved 1 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

6. Reverend Pasmore made a motion to accept, Oral Health Care at \$278,175 (5.52%) which was seconded by Ms. Shelton.

25 Approved 0 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

7. Mr. Mora made a motion to accept, Early Intervention Services at \$310,719 (6.17%) which was seconded by Mr. McHugh.

23 Approved 2 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

8. Ms. Egel made a motion to accept, Medical Nutrition Therapy at \$220,514 (4.38%) which was seconded by Reverend Pasmore.

22 Approved 3 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

9. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept, Emergency Financial Assistance at \$24,163 (.48%) which was seconded by Ms. Abt.

20 Approved 5 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

10. Mr. McHugh made a motion to accept, ADAP at \$171,330 (3.4%) which was seconded by Reverend Pasmore.

25 Approved 0 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. McHugh to accept the total grant request at \$5,037,986 which was seconded by Ms. Shelton.

25 Approved 0 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

A motion was made by Ms. Osk to accept the core/support split at 75.79% core and 24.41% support which was seconded by Ms. Shelton.

25 Approved 0 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion Carried

VII. Public Comment

Mr. McHugh asked if Northwell can be considered for the Nassau County dental program. Dr. Santella replied that as UWLI cannot reach out to individual agencies, if he feels that Northwell should apply, as a consumer there, he should suggest it to them for when the RFP is release Ms. Shelton asked the same for NUMC.

A discussion was started around some news articles that surfaced recently suggesting that the Trump Administration was pulling money out of HIV funding to accommodate the costs for reunification and providing beds for immigrant children and families while they are detained. There is speculation that the cost is around 80 million dollars.

Ms. Duncan mentioned an article by SLATE that she read on social media the night before stating this. In response to this, AIDS United released a press statement with their overall disappointment in the government making such a rash and unfair decision.

The amount (80 million) was brought up. Ms. Osk suggested that the reunification costs are for a maximum of two to three thousand children and would not cost 80 million.

Ms. Beal indicated that for this year, the funding has already been allocated and that although she did not have sufficient time to look further into this as it was so newly brought to everyone's attention, she noticed some of the articles were pointing to FY19 being impacted. There were various Congress members also going on Twitter and stating their negative feelings regarding this news. She reminded the Council that at this time it is more important than ever before to remember that as a region moving towards the Ending the Epidemic goals, we need to ensure that people we serve will remain in uninterrupted care.

Reverend Pasmore questioned where there were any legal services in place in agencies lose funding due to this. Ms. Osk replied that in order for legal action to take place, the question is whether or not what was happening was unlawful. She stated that something could be wrong but not unlawful. If it were unlawful, then yes there would be a legal plan developed if needed.

Mr. Arroyo informed the Council that the AIDS Education & Training Center program at Stony Brook, where he is employed is funded under Ryan White Part F, and they have been hearing for a while that they are vulnerable since they train providers and do not offer direct services to patients. Reverend Pasmore

inquired as to whether there should be a letter written from the Suffolk Agencies and Nassau Agencies in response to this situation.

Mr. Marmo stated that at this time we do not have enough information to act on. Dr. Santella stated that moving forward as more information becomes available he would not be opposed to sending a letter on behalf of the Planning Council.

VIII. Other Business/Announcements.

Mr. Doepper announced that he recently lost a very good friend, Marie Pirone, who attended many meetings and events with him. She was an advocate and will be missed.

Mr. McHugh invited all to the “Nassau Intergroup Picnic” event happening this Sunday, July 15, 2018 at Eisenhower Park, Field 6A “The Cedars”, between 8-4pm. The picnic is an event being hosted for AA, Alanon and Friends to attend. There will be free water and soda and donated foods. People can feel free to bring their own food as well.

Ms. Shelton thanked Northwell Health for the wonderful job they did on the Consumer Picnic last month.

Ms. Egel made three announcements:

1. The Suffolk ETE HIV testing events ended up testing 103 people over the 4 day events held throughout June.
2. Thursday’s Child will be hosting its first Long Term Survivors support group this Friday night at Painting with a Twist in Selden.
3. The WAD Planning Committee was set to meet today after the Council but many people cannot attend so it will be rescheduled. The Council was asked to consider and make suggestions on people who can possibly be honored at this year’s event.

Mr. Arroyo asked for assistance in recruiting for Stony Brook’s upcoming community focus groups. The forums will be: 7/16 Men who identify as bisexual or gay, 7/18 Latina women who identify as heterosexual, 7/23 Latino men who identify as bisexual or gay and 7/25 Transgender women.

Ms. Thomas announced the Chronic Disease Self-Management class will be starting on 7/14 for 6 weeks. This class will be taught in Spanish, so those who attend must be fluent. The Leader Training class will be held in the Fall on October 15-16th and 22-23rd from 10am-5pm at Stony Brook University.

Ms. Totino announced she has received questions regarding the nutritional program previously run by LIAAC and wanted to let everyone know that the program went to EAC Network where it is currently available for consumers. The program is similarly set up as it was at LIAAC; however, the home visit portion is not as readily available as it once was. EAC Network is now partnering with HRHCare and will be stationed at the various sites throughout Suffolk County one day per month, on Genesis days, to educate and enroll clients as needed. Any questions can go to Brittany Brockner at 631-822-3300 ext. 213.

Ms. Martens announced that Northwell Health had a very successful National HIV Testing Event recently hosted at Family and Children’s Association in Hempstead. There were many agencies in attendance for tabling, testing and outreach. A special thank you to Family and Children’s Association, Nassau County Department of Health, NUMC, Hispanic Counseling Center, Circulo and Planned Parenthood of Nassau County. There were about 7 teams of outreach workers on foot, tabling food and giveaways. The event was well attended.

Ms. Ramirez announced that the annual Consumer Survey would be conducted this year by United Way staff along with the assistance of interns from Stony Brook and Hofstra. Ms. Ramirez originally contacted agencies

with an initial startup date of mid-July, but with the grant application and other deadlines it was decided to start the process up in late September. The survey will be available at Part A agencies, online and the possibility of calling in and speaking with a staff member to assist. Staff is looking to get the survey translated in Spanish. Consumers who participate will receive a food card as a thank you. The amount is yet to be determined. Those who complete the survey onsite will receive the food card immediately upon completion, those who participate online or via the phone will have the food card mailed out to them.

IX. Adjournment

Motion was made by Ms. Shelton and seconded by Mr. McHugh to adjourn the July 11, 2018 Planning Council meeting.

25 Approved 0 Abstentions 0 Opposed - Motion carried.