

S.C. HIV Planning Council
Meeting Minutes – August 19, 2008
Brookland Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Opening: The meeting was called to order by Matt Jenkins, the Community Co-chair, at 10:15 a.m. Susan Fulmer brought greetings and asked everyone present to give their name and tell what agency or program they represented. She also welcomed Dr. Andre Rawls as the new STD/HIV Division Director.

HPC Members present: Karen Bates, Becky Carr, Troy Bowers, Aaron Creech, Teretha Fowler, Suzanne Freeman, Stuart Furtwangler, Mary Golden, Matt Jenkins, Virginia King, Mulamba Lunda, Wilhelmenia Mathias, Angel Payton-Harmon, Denise Rivera, Enid Santiago, Pamela Shephard-McKnight, Norlica Washington and Jason Williams.

Absent: Christa Guicherit, Mahogany Graham, Eli Branscome, Carlos Harris, Harry Prim III, Pat Kelly, Arlene Rustin, Karen Clinton, Larry Walton and Jo Jo Rhines

DHEC: Sonya Bayone, Jake Ramsey, Roshan McDaniel, Elona Rhame, Tony Price, James Harris, Noreen O'Donnell, Tessie Haywood, Dr. Andre Rawls.

Ex-Officio Members: Adrena Harrison

Guests: Robert Hussey, Dr. Jacob White, Dr. Bambi Gaddist, Vivian Clark-Armstead, Anna Moak, and Wesley ___?__.

Staff: Donald Wood

Minutes: Virginia King moved that the minutes be approved with four minor corrections. The motion was seconded and approved by the Council.

Presentation

“Mental Health & African American MSM”: Jacob White, MD, from the SC HIV/AIDS Council, gave a presentation entitled “What Love Got to Do With It.” The report gave an overview of the issues facing African American MSM and their mental health.

Administrative Report

Donald Wood, the HPC Administrator, gave the administrative report which included a snapshot of the Council's fiscal budget.

Expenses incurred since the last meeting: \$10,074.21

Year to Date Expenses: \$28,731.05

Council's budget balance: \$31,268.95 which includes \$10,000 of restricted MMP funds.

Susan noted that the meeting evaluations have been very helpful and that the Executive Committee does review them in order to make future meetings flow better and to address members' concerns.

Division Updates

STD/HIV Division Update: Dr. Rawls gave an update on the activities of the STD/HIV Division. She noted that her first few weeks in South Carolina have been heavily centered on completing the various grant applications that fund the Division's activities. Four major grants were due within weeks of her arrival in Columbia. She noted that the Division is currently working on finalizing the prevention grant, which is due to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) by August 29.

Dr. Rawls also gave a quick snapshot of the state's budget situation. The state's budget has been decreased by 5.8 percent since it was approved by the General Assembly. The state is also facing about a 2 percent decrease in federal funds. The Division will be working diligently to ensure that our current level of funding from the state for the ADAP program is maintained during these hard economic times.

The state will not be receiving any Syphilis Elimination monies in the upcoming funding cycle. She noted that the expanded testing grant is going well.

Dr. Rawls noted that NASTAD has released an updated version of the Southern Manifesto and that the CDC's newest incidence report is a step in the right direction in reversing the underreported cases of HIV infection in the U.S.

She is looking forward to a positive working relationship with all of the Division's contractors and community partners.

Noreen O'Donnell reported that the Ryan White Part B Request for Proposals (RFP) has been released for competitive bid. The RFP covers 7 regions of the state. She also noted that a series of meeting will be held in the near future for development of the S.C. Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need (SCSN).

Noreen reported that a survey is being conducted of all labor and delivery units in the state to determine what facilities are utilizing rapid testing for HIV infection. She will be attending the Ryan White All Grantees meeting in D.C. next week.

Tony Price provided updates on the following Prevention Program activities:

- The HIV Expanded Testing Project's Interim Progress Report (IPR) for 2007-2008 and grant application for 2008-2009 were submitted to CDC on May 30. Upon request, DHEC will share the IPR and application with individual HPC members. At the December HPC meeting, there will be time allotted for the sharing of the documents.
- DHEC submitted an HIV prevention supplemental grant to CDC that is targeted to MSM per CDC's required guidance. The major end goal of the funding (award amount yet to be determined) is to develop a statewide strategic plan for HIV prevention among MSM. A secondary goal is to expand AAMSM HIV prevention services using the Many Men, Many Voices (3MV) intervention in two additional (rural) areas of the state: Orangeburg and Florence.
- The 2009 HIV Prevention Program grant application for DHEC funding is due August 22 to CDC. SC and all other states are being given a one-year extension under the current funding cycle. This extension will mean that the application this fall will be for "continuation" funding and will not be competitive. As a result, the HPC will have more time (through the middle of next year) to finalize the new SC HIV Prevention Plan for CY2010 – CY2014. The HPC will be asked to review the application and vote on concurrence during this meeting today, August 19.
- Two STD/HIV Division positions have been filled. The Statistical and Research Analyst, formerly Roshan McDaniel's position, is now Jake Ramsey. The Financial Consultant to STD/HIV contractors, formerly John Middlebrook's position, is now Quentin Lee.
- STD/HIV Division staff conducted HIV prevention contractor site visits in August. Progress meetings for DHEC public health department STD/HIV staff will occur in September.
- Roshan made an excellent presentation to the HPC Prevention Committee on current DHEC HIV prevention funded programs by intervention type and population. She compared the numbers planned and reached with the HIV epi profiles for each area of the state. This may be a good presentation to the entire HPC for early next year.

The meeting was adjourned for Committee Breakouts.

Lunch

Call to Order: The meeting resumed after lunch, called back to order by Matt Jenkins.

Executive Committee Report: Susan gave an overview of the Executive Committee's conference call which was held on August 8. She noted that the committee spent time thoroughly reviewing the last meeting's evaluations in preparation for today's meeting and the meeting in December.

Standing Committee Reports

Care and Support Services: Angel Payton-Harmon reported that the committee is continuing its review of the proposed survey questions for the case manager survey. They also discussed the statewide checklist that they are developing for all case managers. The group will be soliciting sample checklists from partners across the state to review and get a better understanding of what is currently being used by case managers.

Anna Moak, RN., the regional medical director for the S.C. Department of Corrections, provided the committee with an overview of the HIV medical care system within SCDC.

Consumer Advisory: Troy Bowers reported that the next meeting will be held on Sept. 8 at 11 a.m. The Committee's input is being sought for assistance with the planning and implementation of the Consumer Town Hall Forum, which is supported by the Council and held in conjunction with the STD/HIV Conference in October.

Membership: Matt reported that Gypsy Teague has tendered her resignation from the Council. He also reported that he is resigning from the position of Community Co-chair because he has accepted a position with DHEC Region 3. He will remain on the Council. A brief discussion was held regarding HPC attendance and absences.

Needs Assessment: Virginia King reported that the results of the pilot of the transgender survey have been given to Dr. Duffus's student intern to compile. The committee also discussed the upcoming Consumer Town Hall Forum and questions that may need to be included. Aaron Bryan gave the committee an update on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey results. They also reviewed the updated statewide epi profile.

Prevention: Mulamba Lunda reported that Elona Rhame will do a presentation on Viral Hep C on Nov. 6 to the full committee.

- A. Rapid Testing:** The committee reviewed and gave input on the draft rapid testing recommendation that was submitted by Mulamba and Teretha Fowler. It is the committee's goal to have a final draft by the end of September.
- B. Internet Intervention:** Stuart Furtwangler gave the committee an update on the draft recommendations for Internet Interventions.
- C. AAMSM Workgroup:** Matt reported that the AAMSM workgroup is currently finalizing the professional 3MV retreat. He also stated that there has been an overwhelming response to this training. Currently there is a waiting list with 15 people. Stacy Smallwood has collected all data from the AAMSM focus groups and previous meetings and a report will be presented at the December meeting.

Old Business

Adolescent Sexual Health Workgroup Update: Aaron Bryan gave an update on the workgroup. The State Alliance for Adolescent Sexual Health (SAASH) is convening a small cohort of statewide partners for a strategic planning session on Aug. 26 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. The meeting is made possible through grant support from the national partners.

SC HIV/AIDS Care Crisis Task Force Update: Sonya Bayone gave a brief report on the task force meeting in Charleston on Aug. 5. She noted that a request has been made to Kathy Hiers from Alabama for a two day training Sept. 29-30. The group will begin to draft a long-term strategic plan, which would include a monitoring mechanism to accurately reflect the impact of the state's ADAP program.

SC STD/HIV Division Training Update: James Harris provided an update on upcoming trainings.

Statewide Strategy Roundtable on Latinos/Hispanics and HIV in S.C.: Denise Rivera reviewed the draft recommendations from the roundtable. She made a formal request to the Council to accept the recommendations as a working document.

HPLS Update: Those Council members who attended the HPLS in June gave brief reports on the conference.

New Business

CDC Interim Progress Report: Tony Price gave an overview of DHEC's interim progress report and answered questions from Council members concerning the report. Following his report, all voting members of the Council were given a ballot to vote on concurrence. All ballots were to be returned to Donald Wood by Friday, Aug. 22.

Meeting Attendance: The Council briefly discussed the need for members to be present at all meeting. After the discussion, it was resolved that letters will be sent to members with excessive absences advising them of their standing with the Council and reiterating the Council's attendance policy.

Membership Application for 2009-2010 Term: Susan reported that members whose HPC terms expire at the end of this calendar year will be sent an application to reapply for the Council. Applications will also be available for potential new members at the S.C. STD/HIV Conference in October and widely distributed throughout the state.

Community Co-Chair Election: Troy Bowers was elected to the position of Community Co-chair by acclamation.

Formation of new Latino/Hispanic Workgroup: Susan Fulmer offered a motion from the Executive Committee to form the new workgroup, which will be cross-cutting across all committees. The motion was approved by the Council. Denise Rivera agreed to chair the newly formed workgroup on Latino/Hispanic issues related to HIV prevention and care.

Announcements: Matt announced the upcoming World AIDS Day Concert with Deborah Cox that is being sponsored by the SC HIV/AIDS Council on Nov. 22. Tickets are on sale now.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 2, 2008 in the Fellowship Hall at Brookland Baptist Church, 1066 Sunset Boulevard, in West Columbia, S.C. 29169.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Donald Wood
HPC Administrator**