

112 Meeting Summary
April 16, 2009

Virginia HIV Community Planning Group Meeting Summary

Members Present: Odile Attiglah, Bill Briggs, Rosalyn Cousar, Hugo Delgado, Gregory Fordham, Caroline Fuller, Richard Hall, Robert Hewitt, Martha Lees, Elaine Martin, Nicholas Mattsson, Ruth Royster, Edward Strickler, Silvia Villacampa

Members Absent: Vontrida Custis, Rhonda Callaham (represented), Diane Gaillard, Bruce Taylor

Other Attendees: Carlos Velazquez of HMA Associates, Washington, DC; Colleen P. Barranger, Catholic Diocese of Richmond; Marquietta Alston, Kathleen Carter, Jennifer Flannagan, Ted Heck, Diana Jordan, Khalid Kheirallah, Rachel Rees, Shelley Taylor-Donahue and Chauntele Taylor of the Virginia Department of Health; Adam Thompson, guest; James Whitted (representing Rhonda Callaham)

Total of 27 attendees

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Elaine Martin at 9:00 AM.

Old Business

Ryan White All Grantee Meeting - The HIV Care Services (HCS) Unit collaborated with the Virginia Commonwealth University HIV/AIDS Center to convene the state's 2nd annual Ryan White All-Grantee Meeting on Friday, March 6th. One hundred seventy-three (a 33% increase over last year) grantees, consumers, and other HIV providers participated in the event. Among the attendees were representatives from each region of the state, as well as all Ryan White-funded programs (Parts A, B, C, D, F) in Virginia. In addition, the Health Resources and Services Administration Project Officer for Virginia's Part A and B programs attended and made a presentation at the day-long event. Special tracks for clinical services, case management and advocacy were implemented for the first time this year. Roundtables on 11 different topics were also available for participants to discuss topics from Adherence to Working with Latino Populations. Preliminary feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. HCS plans to hold this meeting annually. Any questions about the All Grantee Meeting can be sent to Shelley Taylor-Donahue at shelley.taylor-donahue@vdh.virginia.gov.

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New Business

- *HIV Prevention Cooperative Agreement-Bridge Grant* – Stan Phillip, CDC Project Officer, informed Elaine that VDH will receive a new cooperative agreement in the form of a two-year bridge grant. The next five-year cooperative agreement will begin in 2012. Elaine reported that this time around, CDC got a lot of input from the states and will provide training on the new indicators. VDH will receive new indicators this fall and will have 12 months to figure out the data sets and set the baselines. As of today's date, VDH has not received anything in writing about new funds from the stimulus package.
- *School Health and Education Partnership (SHEP)* – Caroline Fuller reported that registration is on-going for the three-day meeting at Longwood University on July 13-15, 2009. The deadline is May 30th. Registration information can be found at <http://community.learnnc.org/dpi/health/2009%20SHEP%20Brochure%20and%20registration%20page.pdf>.
- *Post-event prophylaxis for sexual assault victims* – Elaine's next project – Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund – Division of Injury and Violence Prevention? - Guidelines will be issued in the fall for medical practices and procedures for sexual assault victims. Meds must be started within 72 hours. Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners are available only at certain hospitals. Massachusetts already has a program in place and Elaine will research other states, as well.

Membership

- Heather Bronson has resigned, citing time needed to juggle the HIV Community Testing program at VDH and family obligations.

Tribute to Dan Alvarez

The group observed a moment of silence for Daniel Joseph Alvarez, who passed away on

March 5, 2009. Members shared memories of Dan, praising him for his enthusiasm and involvement even when he was not feeling well. In addition to serving on the CPG, Dan was a member of the Planning Council and recently served as a Vice Chair of the Policy and Procedures Committee. He will always be remembered for his unwavering commitment and sense of duty to the communities we service.

HIV Related Definitions: What to Ask for and What it Means - Khalid Kheirallah

Mr. Kheirallah explained how to pull data from the VDH web site. He began by defining terms, and noted that HIV and AIDS are reported as separate diseases. Data and statistics for HIV/AIDS, STD and TB may be downloaded on the VDH web site at

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<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/DiseasePrevention/DAta/>. To request data maintained by DDP but not found on the site, complete a non-routine data request form at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/DiseasePrevention/DAta/datarequest.htm> or send an e-mail to Khalid by clicking on "Feedback" at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/DiseasePrevention/DAta/>.

NASTAD Regional Forum on African American Women Update - Jennifer Flannagan and Marquetta Alston

Jennifer Flannagan and Marquetta Alston reported on their experiences at the recent NASTAD Regional Forum on African American Women. The regional forum was held March 23-25, 2009 in New Orleans. Jennifer provided background information on NASTAD and the purpose of the regional forum and reported that this is the third forum with the largest number of states represented. Forum objectives focused on examining the challenges and barriers health departments face in developing and administering effective programs targeting black women. The forum also provided a platform for participants to share strategies and lessons-learned around the implementation of effective HIV/AIDS programs targeting black women. Jennifer serves on the NASTAD African American Advisory Committee and the Research Subcommittee; Kathy Hafford sits on the Executive Committee. Marquetta Alston: Blacks are bearing the biggest part of the HIV burden – we hear this information so much that we become a little numb – but hearing at this forum brought it all home again and reignited commitment and focus on action but do things a little differently. A new national plan is needed, one that is bigger and better. CDC is convening "national experts" to review the current action plan which has a completion date in summer 2009. The results will provide foundation for plan for 2020 with more ambitious goals and have more measurable objectives to reduce the racial disparity. Jennifer and Marquetta shared that they would be convening their first region forum follow-up meeting on April 28th and would provide updated information as the process develops.

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act Overview

Shelley Taylor-Donahue presented an overview of the program initially passed in 1990 by Congress as the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act. The objective was to provide medications for the under-insured and those without the means for their medications and treatment services. The most recent reauthorization occurred in 2006, when the program was renamed the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act. The program is overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services (HRSA) and is comprised of the following:

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- Part A: Grants to Eligible Metro Areas (EMA)/Transitional Grant Areas (TGA)
- Part B: Grants to states and territories (ADAP is administered under Part B)
- Part C: Grants for HIV Early Intervention Services
- Part D: Grants for children, youth, women and families (WICY)
- Part F: Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS)
 - AIDS Education and Training Center Program (MCV and INOVA)
 - HIV/AIDS Dental Reimbursement Services

VDH has administered the Ryan White Title II funds for healthcare services to persons living with HIV/AIDS in Virginia since 1991. A major part of this funding is for the AIDS Drug Assistance program (ADAP) that provides AIDS medications to persons who are not on Medicaid or Medicare, have no health insurance, no other form of payment, and earn only up to 300% (333% in Northern Virginia) of the Federal poverty level. The other part of the funding provides health care services. Ryan White funding is the payor of last resort. The services are targeted to deliver medical care and support services prioritizing women children and infants with HIV/AIDS. All grantees receiving Ryan White funding are required to participate in the development of a [Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need \(SCSN\)](#) document.

The current legislation will expire in September 2009. More information may be found at

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/Epidemiology/DiseasePrevention/RyanWhite.htm>.

Popular Opinion Leader (POL) TOT Update

Ted Heck and Chauntele Taylor presented an overview of the training they attended in New Orleans last January. POL is a community-level HIV prevention intervention designed to identify, enlist, and train opinion leaders to encourage safer sexual norms and behaviors within their social networks of friends and acquaintances through risk reduction conversations. The mantra of this intervention is “friends influencing friends”. Ted explained the nine core elements of POL. Ethnographic tools are used to identify characteristics of a particular population and identify people in the community who are most popular, well-liked, and trusted to deliver the risk reduction message. POL is an effective community intervention because it views the community as a solution instead of the problem in the fight against HIV. This intervention can be used for various at-risk populations. Information about Popular Opinion Leader and other interventions can be found at www.effectiveinterventions.org.

Foto-Novella Presentation – J. Carlos Velazquez

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Mr. Velazquez, Project Director at HMA Associates, Inc., reported that the Foto-novella will be ready for distribution at the end of April. Developed in conjunction with Imagine Design in Charlottesville, the Foto-novella is a graphic novel aimed at reducing HIV stigma in the Latino community, increasing awareness of the importance of early treatment among newly diagnosed cases, and creating awareness among Latinos who do not know their HIV status. The message is a call to action to get tested and seek early treatment. The target audiences are newly arrived Latino immigrants, MSM and Latinas who are unaware of their HIV status. Stigma associated with HIV/AIDS is well documented as a major barrier to HIV prevention and enrollment in early testing and treatment. Mr. Velazquez explained that HMA's specialty is producing novellas, but it also does health communications, community outreach, graphic productions, media relations, and multi-lingual translations. For more information about HMA, please visit <http://www.hmaassociates.com/>.

Sharing Your CPG Experience: A Creative Activity in Preparation for the New Members and New Process

Members were asked to write their thoughts about their experiences as CPG members on a large sheet of paper that will be posted at the May meeting for new members to peruse. The objective is to both welcome new members and give them an idea of what the CPG experience will be like.

MSM Advisory Committee Update – Jennifer Flannagan

The next monthly conference call will be at 2 PM on April 21st (calls are scheduled the third Tuesday of every month except for the months when face-to-face meetings are held). Christopher Lane, Advisory Committee Coordinator, is putting together survey questions and will attend the May CPG meeting to report on progress. Bill Briggs requested that he be notified when the survey is ready so it can be added to NOVAM's internet outreach. The first face-to-face meeting is scheduled for June 9th at 11 AM at Fan Free Clinic in Richmond. A list of the advisory committee members follows:

Name	Agency
Funmi Adesanya	K.I Services
Walter Backus	Virginia Department of Health
Cindy Bray	Gay Community Center of Richmond
Seth Croft	Richmond Organization for Sexual Minority Youth (ROSMY)
Jerome Cuffee	Tidewater AIDS Community Taskforce (TACT)
Jennifer Flannagan HIV Prevention Community Planner	Virginia Department of Health

Augustus Harper	AIDS/HIV Services Group
Bernard Jackson	Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry
Carl Jones	Council of Community Services
Anthony Kellam	AIDS Care for Education and Support Services (ACCESS)
Christopher Lane Program Coordinator	Virginia Department of Health
Shawn McNulty	Fan Free Clinic
Ruth Royster	AIDS Care for Education and Support Services (ACCESS)
Edward Strickler	University of Virginia
Chauntele Taylor	Virginia Department of Health
Tim Welborn	Tidewater AIDS Community Taskforce (TACT)
Yvonne Williams	K.I Services

Co-Chair Qualifications Report Out - Jennifer Flannagan

Jennifer distributed a draft of qualifications that were identified at the last meeting. There was a lot of crossover between care and prevention co-chairs, so she asked members to re-examine their responses and many were combined for clarification. A finalized list will be distributed at the next meeting to help members make their selection of the Prevention Co-Chair.

Orientation Planning for the May Meeting

The committee split into small groups to discuss whether or not distinctions exist between care and prevention and to outline the objectives of the merger. One member pointed out that the CPG is product-driven and wanted to know what the CPG's joint products will be once care and prevention is merged. Elaine responded that the newly merged group will look at joint products such as a joint resource inventory and the work the CPG has already done with Shelley Taylor-Donahue on the Statewide Comprehensive Statement of Need and the resulting Statewide Comprehensive Plan. Another suggestion was made by Diana Jordan concerning the proposed partnership with Field Services at VDH, which is looking at what high-risk negatives need from their local health departments.

Review of the February meeting summary

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written.

Additional Planning for the May meeting

The agenda for the May meeting will focus on orientation of new members. Jennifer Flannagan and Shelley Taylor-Donahue will meet in the coming weeks to finalize the May agenda.

The main meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Membership Committee Meeting (closed meeting)

Elaine Martin, Rosalyn Cousar, Bill Briggs, Ruth Royster and Jennifer Flannagan assisted.

Membership Meeting Adjournment

The membership meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Elaine Martin, Health Department Co-Chair Date

Kathleen Carter, Recording Secretary Date