

HIV PREVENTION PLANNING COUNCIL (HPPC)

Steering Committee

Action Minutes From Meeting:

February 23, 2006

Members Present: William Bland, Gayle Burns, Edward Byrom, Thomas Ganger, Isela Gonzalez, Emalie Huriaux, Tracey Packer, Perry Rhodes III, and Frank Strona.

Members Absent: None

Guests: Lisa Gotacase (FAP Intern), Willi McFarland (SFDPH), and Mike Shriver.

Professional Staff: Aimee Crisosotomo (Harder & Co), Vincent Fuqua (HPS), Ju Lei Kelly (HPS), Eileen Loughran (HPS), Israel Nieves-Rivera (HPS), Clare Nolan (Harder & Co), Lisa Reyes (HPS), Kevin Roe (Process Evaluation), and David Weinman (note taker).

1. Welcome and Announcements

Perry Rhodes III called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM. He welcomed attendees and explained that this is his month to facilitate meetings. The icebreaker question was, "*When HIV is over, how will you celebrate?*" He then asked attendees for announcements.

- Eileen Loughran announced that she will be present baseline findings of the Homebase Outcomes Project Evaluation (HOPE) study to the CARE Council on Monday 02/27/06.
- Emalie Huriaux announced the upcoming event, "*Hysteria 2006*" a benefit for the Women's Community Clinic and distributed flyers for the event 04/06/06.
 - ⇒ More information is available from her or at www.womenscommunityclinic.org.

2. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

3. Approval of minutes from 1/26/2006

Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the 01/26/06 meeting. No changes or objections were offered. The minutes were approved.

4. Review of February 9 HPPC Meeting

Perry asked for feedback and discussion ensued including the following, by topic.

The Quaker Meeting House

- Lisa Reyes noted that people at either end of the room have reported difficulty hearing what is being said at the opposite side and suggested investigating a Public Address system or microphones.
- Israel Nieves-Rivera said that the Council should be sure it wants to continue using this room before investing in things like microphones and tables.
- William Bland noted that people had expressed difficulty with the nearby parking facilities.
 - ⇒ Frank Strona said that the parking across the street is closer than what is available at City Hall
- Kevin Roe noted that the room might get hot in the summer.
 - ⇒ Discussion followed about getting fans.

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- Ed Byrom and Perry observed that the seating arrangements were better than at the 01/26/06 meeting, particularly the addition of cushions for the chairs.

The Agenda

- Emalie highlighted comments made on the evaluation forms including one specific comment that members would like to be better prepared for the presentations.
- It was also mentioned that there wasn't enough background provided on why presentations were made, and it was suggested that background be part of the speaker's introduction.
- Israel said that Kevin Gogin from the SF Unified School District told him that he was nervous at first, but relaxed after his presentation, and that he appreciated the feedback.
 - ⇒ Israel added that he believes Kevin will remain connected to the Council's work.
 - ⇒ He pointed out that such an outcome accords with the Youth Committee's objectives.
- Emalie observed that there were several members requested more information about the Out of School Youth presentation, and suggested the topic be addressed at another Council meeting.
 - ⇒ Perry suggested that this be brought up in "New Business" at the April Council meeting.

Meeting's Process

- Ed highlighted Recommendation #11 from the "*Process Evaluation Memorandum*," which had previously been distributed to all members, '*Develop a voting script for the Co-Chairs and maybe a voting guide for members.*'
- Tracey Packer noted that Council votes must be part of the public record.
- She added that the procedure was a bit jumbled at the 02/09/06 meeting

5. Approval of Community Members to Committees

This agenda item was moved to the March agenda by consensus. However, preliminary comments included the following.

- Tracey clarified that this year the Points of Integration (POI) Committee is a joint Committee with the CARE Council, which is expected to vote on making this a "Home Committee" at their 02/27/06 meeting.
 - ⇒ Assuming approval, members from the CARE Council wouldn't need to be approved by the HPPC as Community Members to have voting rights.

Perry asked if this was the sense of the committee, and it was accepted as such.

- Kevin Roe asked if CARE Council members would be subject to HPPC's Attendance Policy.
 - ⇒ Tracey said that the CARE Council has its own policy.
- Ed asked if discussion about proposed Community Members would include Parity, Inclusion, and Representation (PIR) implications.
 - ⇒ Discussion followed concluding that this would need to be part of the discussion.

6. Committee Updates

Co-Chairs: Federal, State and City provided by Tracey Packer

- The City continues to look at the SF model of dealing with HIV/AIDS

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- ⇒ Jimmy Loyce, Deputy Director of SFDPH called a preliminary planning meeting to review the SF model (as noted in minutes from 01/26/06).
- ⇒ Part of the motivation is the expectation that there will be a reduction in CARE Funding.
- ⇒ Discussion included the perception that the CARE service model hasn't adapted to the changes of the epidemic; whereas Prevention services have changed.
- ⇒ The review will look at the whole range of needs including Housing, Mental Health, Longevity, and the like.
- ⇒ Perry added that the review will also examine the Centers of Excellence (COE) concept.
 - Tracey suggested a presentation from the CARE Council on the idea of COE.
- Tracey suggested members read the article in the Bay Area Reporter about funding issues at St. Mary's and how it will affect people.
- Eileen announced that the Urban Coalition of HIV AIDS Prevention Services (UCHAPS) meeting would be the following weekend (02/25-26/06) in Houston.
 - She and Israel will make a presentation on Rapid Testing.
 - There will also be a Q & A session with CDC staff overlooking PEMS.
- ⇒ In response to William's question Israel said that the new CDC Divisional Director will not be present, as he was too recently appointed.
- ⇒ William then asked UCHAPS' role is to share information, or to do advocacy.
 - Tracey explained that UCHAPS primary role is to increase funding to the participating jurisdictions, but that it also shares technical information relating to working with both the CDC and the various State funding authorities.
 - Israel added that UCHAPS' governance requires participants be cities/counties that are directly funded by the CDC and must have a demonstrated Community-Government planning partnership.
 - He added that at present there are seven member cities, although there has been discussion of expansion to other jurisdictions.
 - He highlighted that 85% of the HIV epidemic is in the 25 biggest cities.
 - Mike Shriver explained that UCHAPS has a long history, including its creation by Congress as a means of providing funding directly to cities that are otherwise insufficiently funded by their respective State programs.
- ⇒ Kevin Roe suggested a report back about UCHAPS to the full Council at the April meeting.

Community Liaison/Membership Committee provided by Thomas Ganger

- The Committee discussed the March Teambuilding/communication workshop, keeping in mind the feedback from the December training.
- The group met with the facilitator, Simma Lieberman, and discussed the need to include more advanced exercises.
 - ⇒ Gayle Burns and Eileen added that the facilitator came up with some good ideas.
- Responding to Kevin's question, Eileen explained that evaluation was discussed and it was agreed to continue with the process evaluation team for this training session.
- The training will take place in lieu of the Council's 03/09/06 meeting.
- Committee Co-Chairs elected: Thomas Ganger and Chadwick Campbell.

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San Francisco Leadership Initiative (SFLI) Committee provided by Isela Gonzalez

- The Committee had an overview of the SFLI's history, including objectives visa vie the CDC.
 - ⇒ Frank added that the Committee will have a presentation on the development of leadership in SF from Kathleen Roe, but not at its next meeting.
- There was preliminary discussion of putting together a custom issue of a professional journal to review SFLI's accomplishments and how to replicate them elsewhere.
- The Committee also discussed that whatever is developed by the SFLI has to be flexible enough to adapt to future needs/situations.
- Committee Co-Chairs elected: Isela Gonzalez and Tom Kennedy.

Points of Integration between Prevention and Care (POI) Committee provided by Ed Byrom

- With the presumption of approval by the CARE Council, the POI Committee will be a Home Committee from members of the CARE Council, and Committee of both Councils.
- There was discussion about and agreement reached on: logistics, the recording of meetings, voting procedures, dealing with ensuring PIR, and other issues.
- Committee Co-Chairs elected: Bill Blum (CARE Council), and Ed Byrom.

Strategies & Interventions Committee provided by Emalie Huriaux

- The Committee agreed upon a lot of procedural issues, including their regular meeting time - the first Thursday of each month from 4:15 to 5:45.
- They reviewed PIR and discussed which populations weren't adequately represented.
- Vincent Fuqua did a review of the Strategies and Interventions Chapter of the 2004 Plan.
- Committee Co-Chairs elected: Emalie Huriaux and Abbie Zimmerman.

Follow Up Items provided by Lisa Reyes

- Lisa explained that she is working on a plan to follow-up with the issues raised, including using the matrix adopted by the HPPC, which shows who should address each issue: HPS, HPPC, or individuals/community members.
- She distributed the document entitled, "*2006 HPPC Parking Lot.*"
 - ⇒ At Frank's suggestion, the first item was changed to be, "*Explore and develop a conference to work on technological outreach...*"

7. Request for Letter of Support

Draft copies of a proposed Letter of Support regarding the Male to Female (MTF) Transgender Behavioral Surveillance & Partner Study. Perry and Tracey explained the process when a project requests a Letter of Support. Israel noted the criteria are outlined in the 2004 Plan.

- In response to William's question, it was noted that the Steering Committee/Council could always make specific recommendations relative to a request for a Letter of Support.
- Frank noted the absence of epidemiological data on the Female to Male (FTM) Transgender population and asked if this study could include at least preliminary data on this group.
 - ⇒ Tracey observed that they are very different populations that may not be suitably combined into a single study, but that she would support adding a separate study.
- Ed expressed concern that an FTM study should not have to wait for the conclusion of this study before commencing.

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- Frank suggested adding some research about the FTM population to the Parking Lot.
- Mike Shriver suggested that SF-specific data be included in the results for the whole Bay Area.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Letter of Support. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved without objection or abstention.

8. Willi McFarland: Consensus Update and Discussion

Willi McFarland explained the Consensus process. He highlighted that the work for 2006 isn't done, that his presentation was a draft, and includes estimates. Findings included the following.

Overview of Draft Data

BRP	MSM	MSM-IDU	TG	TG-IDU	MSF-IDU	Other*
Incidence (Number)	772	79	40	17	31	34
Incidence (Rate)	1.75%	2.58%	3.68%	6.47%	.51%	0.22%
Change Incidence Rate	-20.0%	-43.9%	-38.7%	-58.8%	-8.9%	--
Population Size	48,343	5,234	1,434	449	7,066	15,518
Living With HIV (LWH)	14,205	2,196	327	194	954	803
Prevalence (Rate)	24.3%	42.0%	22.8%	43.2%	13.5%	5.17%

* Note: Includes at-risk FSM-IDU, MSF, FSM/M

- ⇒ Data for FSM/M includes 8,999 at-risk population (of 325K total adult Females)
- ⇒ Data for MSF includes 2,489 at-risk population estimate (of 266k adult Males)
- ⇒ There were two Children reported LWH.
- Total 975 down from 1,084 estimated in 2001
- Incidence Numbers (down 10.1%) were more modest than interim expectations.
- Incidence Rates are down in all groups (except MSF and Children).
- Among MSM there was a significant decrease in the Incidence Rate although the Incidence Number has increased. The suspected causes of this anomaly include:
 - The MSM population has grown at a faster rate than the whole population;
 - The MSM population was underestimated in 2001; and/or
 - The MSM Incidence rate was overestimated in 2001.
- ⇒ It is believed that primarily there more MSM at risk.
- MSM LWH at 14,205 is an increase from 12,786 estimated in 2001.
- In general, the rest of the country is seeing a peak similar to what SF saw a few years ago.
- Transgender population was estimated at 2,160 in 2001 and 1,434 in 2005.
- Transgender Incidence Number was estimated at 101 in 2001 and 40 in 2005.
- Transgender-IDU with Incidence Number of 17 and a Rate of 6.47% most likely is a peak.
 - ⇒ A population cannot sustain a +4% Incidence Rate because Prevalence would reach 100%.

Philosophy, Warnings, and Methodology

- All data has some bias, but some data are better than no data.
- Consensus data selects the convergence of estimates to determine median.
- Data chooses "plausibility bounds" in which there is little or no confidence.

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- Consensus (also called "Modified Delphi") process, involves:
 - ⇒ Gathering all known data;
 - ⇒ Calculate population size;
 - ⇒ Choose median estimate with plausibility bounds;
 - ⇒ Confer with panels of experts -- which includes reviewing data with HPPC;
 - ⇒ Revise estimates; and
 - ⇒ Present to public.
- There is no "Gold Standard," or specific study answering all questions or to compare data to.
- The data pieces are inter-linked, not independent, and must fit together like *Sudoku*.
- There is a certain need for expediency, as there is a need for data to be used.
- Try to get at least three estimates.
- Consider what was overshot and / or undershot last time.
- Select median of all methods.
- Upper and lower plausible may be discarded when there are sufficient estimates.
- Examples of methods used include:
 - ⇒ Population-based survey example: American Communities Survey;
 - ⇒ Roll forward method; and
 - ⇒ Multiplier method: National Behavioral Surveillance & ATS clients.
- Components: AIDS + New HIV (non-AIDS) diagnosis + Non-reported cases.
- HIV Incidence indicators include: Rectal GC, HIV, STDs among people with AIDS, Repeat Testers, Syphilis, STARHS, and Incidence of BSS.
 - ⇒ Overall these balance to a decrease in Incidence
- Population size of MTF-IDU is a result of several studies and although there was a wide range of estimates, the data is better than in 2001.
- Population size of MTF comes from four studies, in 2001 it was based on a single study.
- HIV Incidence indicators have no upward signs, several level, and a few downward signs

Next steps

- Willi will send the spreadsheet with raw numbers to Committee members
- Can't break up by ethnic populations until there is some agreement on Incidence and Prevalence, but some of the numbers that jump out to Willi include:
 - ⇒ African-American Incidence is higher than previously expected;
 - ⇒ White ethnicity among MSM is higher than in the total SF population; and
 - ⇒ Asia-Pacific Islander Incidence is increasing.

Comments and Questions

- Frank asked about the FTM Transgender population's number noting the identification issues that have made it difficult to gather data on this group.
 - ⇒ Willi observed that the most accurate, comprehensive data is gathered about people with AIDS and that there has been only one FTM who has progressed to AIDS.
- In response to Emalie's question Willi said there are no BRPs in which there are more deaths from AIDS than sero-conversions.

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- Responding to William's question, Willi said that he is working on teasing out data by race and ethnicity.
- In response to Israel's question, Willi indicated that there is an overall move from the use of Heroin to Meth, and that Meth use is up among MSM.
- Emalie asked in the data takes into consideration mortality from causes other than AIDS.
 - ⇒ Willi said that it does, also noting that there has been success in reducing mortality from IDU injection.
- Responding to Tracey's question, Willi said that the data shows a prevention success story.
- Mike asked if the decrease in Incidence Rate has been steady over the past several years.
 - ⇒ Willi said that 2000 - 2001 saw a peak, but since then it has been a steady decrease.
- In response to Israel's question, the Incidence Numbers are of people that will sero-convert, whether they know it or not.
- In response to Mike's question Willi said that the estimated growth in the MSM-IDU was gathered from a number of studies of the IDU population.
- Lisa questioned if the Transgender population has decreased because it is so expensive to live in SF, or if it were overestimated 2001.
- William asked if there would be a Consensus meeting, as in the past.
 - ⇒ Willi explained that it was nearly impossible to find a date for the entire panel of experts to meet, so meetings have been broken up by expertise into ad hoc panels.
 - ⇒ Israel noted that the 2005 Co-Chairs approved Willi's process.
- Israel asked if Willi is comfortable with the estimate of 22% of HIV (+) people being unaware of their status.
 - ⇒ Willi said that this is much less than the rest of the nation where estimates range from 30-60% (58% in Baltimore).
 - ⇒ He added that it is not the same for all BRPs.
- One finding that Willi wasn't able to get sufficient data on was the Native American population. Gayle offered to get some to him.
- Responding to Lisa's question, Willi said that there is a gap in data on Latino immigrants.
- Emalie suggested putting the Urban Health Study on the Parking Lot
- Responding to Israel's question Willi indicated that he had not gotten data from Rafael Diaz of the César E. Chávez Institute (CCI), & SFSU.
 - ⇒ Israel indicated that he would contact Dr. Diaz requesting data.
- Willi will do a brown-bag lunch on "Epidemiology 101" Tuesday 2/28/06 from 11:30-1:30. People can email comments to Willi at Willi_McFarland@hotmail.com.

9. Evaluation Closing

The meeting's closure was extended by consensus of the members. Perry reminded to complete the Zoomerang evaluation. He also reminded members that for future meetings attendees should be seated and ready to go at 3:00 PM. The meeting adjourned at 5:17 PM.

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The minutes were prepared by David Weinman and reviewed by Eileen Loughran, Vincent Fuqua and Gayle Burns.

***THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY 03/23/06
FROM 3:00 PM TO 5:00 PM - 25 VAN NESS AVE., SUITE 330B.***