

**HIV Prevention Planning Council (HPPC)
Substance Use Work Group**

**AIDS Office
25 Van Ness Avenue, Room 610
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Members Present: Mike Discepola, Paul Harkin, Kate Monico Klein, Aja Monet, , Chip Supanich, Laura Thomas, David Gonzalez, Channing Wayne, , Michael Siever (Community member), Gabriel Ortega (Community member)

Members Absent: Jack Bowman, Nan O'Connor, Jessie Murphy

Staff Present: Hanna Hjord, Eileen Loughran, Valerie Rose (Consultant)

1. Welcome, Announcement, Approval of 9/9 Minutes (Discussion Item/Vote)

Laura Thomas called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

- **Announcements**

Michael Discepola announced that there is a job opening and Stonewall: Director of Clinical Operations. Anyone who is interested and qualified can apply via the SFAF website.

- **Review Meeting Evaluation Results**

Michael gave an overview of the evaluation results. The results of the meeting evaluation were favorable.

- 9 surveys were completed (10 members were present).

Words used to describe the meeting included: hopeful, informative, invigorating, encouraging, thoughtful, forward, and thoughtful

Comments included:

- Some great recommendations
- Wonderful facilitation
- Need more time for discussion

Co-chairs, consultant, and planning staff communicated via email to debrief the September 9th meeting and plan the September 9th meeting. We took into account all of the feedback from the evaluations.

- **Review/Approve Meeting Minutes**

The September 9th, 2014 Substance Use Committee meeting minutes were approved by consensus.

- **Brief Recap September 9th Meeting**

Valerie gave a brief recap of the last meeting. She highlighted the discussion on Interventions and System of Care. Valerie reminded the group that we approved the recommendations for four of our priority areas. The group also brainstormed recommendations for Criminalization that we will vote on today. In the process of reviewing the documents, areas of overlap were identified and streamlined.

2. General Public Comment

None

3. Meeting Objectives

Valerie reminded the group of the goal of the work group. This is the final meeting of this work group. The timeline of our work plan is to present our work for vote and approval at the October 9th HPPC meeting.

Today the meeting objectives are as follows:

- *To approve Recommendations for criminalization effects on substance users*
- *To review revised combined recommendations*
- *To discuss HPPC meeting presentation*

4. Discuss Approve Recommendations

- **Criminalization**

Laura gave an update on a pending bill and a pending proposition:

SB1010 is on Governor Brown’s Desk: This law would eliminate remaining disparities and equalize sentences for crack cocaine possession, bringing them in line with sentencing for possession of powder cocaine.

Prop 47 Reduced Penalties for Some Crimes Initiative. The initiative, if it is approved by the state's voters, would reduce the classification of most "nonserious and nonviolent property and drug crimes" from a felony to a misdemeanor. This will be on the ballot in November; and SB1010 which would eliminate disparities in sentencing in regards to powder cocaine and crack cocaine is currently on the Governor’s desk.

- A member questioned the group, “What does a public health approach look like?”
- Instead of mandated treatment and drug courts the money should go to services.

A motion was made by Chip and seconded by Aja to approve the Criminalization recommendations with the inclusion of the points discussed today. The recommendations were approved by roll call vote.

Member	System of Care Recommendations
Aja Monet	Yes
JackBowman	Absent
Michael Discepola	Yes
David Gonzalez	Yes
Paul Harkin	Yes
Kate Monico-Klein	Yes
Jessie Murphy	Absent
Nan O’Connor	Absent
Gabriel Ortega	Yes
Gwen Smith	Absent

Chip Supanich	Yes
Michael Siever	Yes
Laura Thomas	Yes
Channing Wayne	Yes
CHEP Staff	Yes

5. Discuss HPPC Meeting Presentation

The group agreed that to have the most effective presentation, they must focus on high level themes with a few key examples rather than trying to cover everything in the document.

- More inclusive messages in more neighborhoods in the city – dissemination about harm reduction is not getting to people who need it the most
- More languages – a multi-cultural approach to disseminating information
- Public health approach – can DPH train the public (conflict resolution, de-escalation)?
- Restorative Justice-solution
- Health determinants – work on the whole continuum of social determinants of health
- Mentoring program-help people back into community
- Have programs articulate how community will be involved-job training or skill development
- Co-chairs of this work group to participate as community voice on the internal Substance use work group.
- Accountability-how can we ensure programs are accountable?
- DPH is best suited for ensuring accountability
- Program liaison or branch rep should be included in monitoring process
- Add treatment on Demand and Harm Reduction policy as addendums
- Acknowledging humanity of everyone – set the stage, we are all human beings and respect and dignity need to be part of everything that the DPH and city do
- Look at current examples of what works: Switzerland and Portugal, make recommendations based on these models

6. Finalize content and presenters for HPPC meeting

It was recommended that Laura and Mike D. present. The work group was in support of this. The group identified one or two of the lettered items (from full document) to highlight during presentation.

Priority Area 1: Harm Reduction

- (B) Recommit, restate, and embrace the principles of harm reduction
- Update harm reduction policy
- Emphasize training & accountability-re-engage with health Department and providers to step-up accountability
- Nudge to Health Department to do community education

Priority Area 2: HIV Prevention, treatment and Substance Use (Programs)

- (B)Explore how substance use programs and policies are (or could be) integrated into HIV prevention and treatment programs/services
- Realize that we have gaps with our continuum-identified areas lacked some capacity-meet needs of different groups.
- Recommit to existing Treatment on Demand policy.
- More outreach and reduction of barriers-continuum of care that accepts people where they are at along the continuum
- Emphasize jail as last resort

Priority Area 3: Interventions

- Keep broad
- Recognize the importance of evidence based interventions but we want to have conversations to include new, interesting, innovative research that may demonstrate effectiveness. Room for innovation and new ideas that are reality-based.
- Allow for outreach

Priority Area 4: System of Care

- Recognize that people can get caught up in competing systems
- Scale up system on demand across the system of care-include something about gender based services.
- Emphasize collaborating with partners.
- Community engagement.

Priority Area 5: Criminalization of Persons who use drugs

- Public Health approach
- More humane approach to substance uses: care versus punishment
- Collaborate with other City Systems/agencies to have conversation about changing current practices

7. Summary, Evaluation, and Closure of Meeting

Valerie summarized next steps. Valerie will develop draft presentation based on the ideas discussed today. The draft presentation will initially be sent to Co-chairs and planning staff for review and edits. Once feedback from the planning group is incorporated the presentation will be sent to all work group members. The presentation and recommendations document will be sent to Council members on October 6th so materials can be reviewed before the Council meeting. Members were asked to complete the evaluation form and return it to Eileen or Hanna.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM

No Additional meetings scheduled for this work group.

Minutes prepared by Eileen Loughran and reviewed by Hanna Hjord.