# **Disparities Elimination Committee Meeting**

# **Thursday, January 19, 2023**

**9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**Microsoft Teams meeting or in-person at Aliveness Project**

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| **Committee Members Present:** |  |
| Charlotte Detournay | Jay Orne (co-chair) |
| Megan Higdon | Sarah Schiele (co-chair) |
| Océane Lune |  |
| **Committee Members Absent:** |  |
| Antwon Davis | Meg Mueller |
| **Guests:** |  |
| Calvin Hillary Hylton |  |
| **Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:** | **DHS (Part B) Representative:** |
| Jonathan Hanft | Shea Amaro |
| **MDH (Prevention) Representative:** | **MDH (Surveillance) Representative:** |
| McKinzie Woelfel | Hannah Kass-Aten, MDH – Epi |
| **MCHACP Staff:** |  |
| Audra Gaikowski, coordinator | Angela McGregor, minutes |

Quorum Present? **Yes**

# **Welcome and introductions**

* Jay Orne called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Introductions were made.

# **Review, approval of minutes from November 17 and December 15 meeting and proposed agenda.**

# The minutes from the November 17meeting were reviewed and approved.

# The minutes from the December 15 meeting were reviewed and approved.

# The agenda for the meeting was approved as printed.

1. **Moving the conversation beyond the table: planning for mental health and psychosocial support services forum**
   * + - The committee discussed finalizing the organization of the event and a title for the event.
         * The committee decided to organize the event as a panel provider discussion and titled the meeting as follows: “Panel discussion: Disparities and mental health services for people living with HIV/AIDS”
       - The committee discussed topics to ask providers in the provider forum. Each committee member shared topics that they want to have discussed in the provider forum. Topics discussed include:
         * What is lacking? What barriers/challenges come up with trying to serve clients?
         * Billing? Outreach? Not enough providers?
       - Share success stories. Lived experience always carries a lot of weight.
       - What are administrators seeing behind the scenes in regard to barriers?
       - Do rural organizations face different challenges? What disparities exist between Greater MN vs Metro area?
       - How is equity promoted around substance use disorders?
       - How do providers engage in cultural responsiveness?
       - Data from the Needs Assessment shows that mental health and substance abuse is leading to missed medication and appointment issues.
         * Substance abuse may impact ability to receive mental health care (i.e. organizational policies, such as Hennepin Healthcare’s, require clients to be sober to receive services).
         * Are there organizations that provide access to resources if clients are using?
         * How do organizational policies impact access?
         * How has telehealth increased access? What are the struggles in using telehealth?
     + The committee discuss which organizations to invite to the provider panel. The committee would like to have a small panel (6-8 people) representing 3-4 organizations. The committee discussed that to best capture all mental health services that people living with HIV utilize, there should be a mix of Ryan White funded and non-Ryan White funded organizations, and small and large mental health services/healthcare organizations. Additionally, the committee would like 1 administrator and 1 direct service provider from each organization present, so organizations can address systematic issues and disparities from a service level perspective and an administrative perspective.
       - Ryan White funded organizations to invite:
         * Sub-Saharan African Youth and Family Services (SAYFSM)
         * Hennepin Healthcare
       - Non-Ryan White funded organizations to invite:
         * Youth and AIDS Project (YAP)
         * Rural AIDS Action Network (RAAN)
         * Aliveness Project
         * Océane will reach out to some other providers
       - Audra will update and send out the invitation to Jay and Océane to share with their networks.
2. **Co-chair succession planning**

* Committees will vote for the next fiscal year’s co-chairs during their March committee meeting.
* Anyone can let Audra know if they are interested in being co-chair by sending her an email. Committee and community members can also nominate themselves or another person in the March meeting.
* There is one new rule based on the updated bylaws that one co-chair of each committee must be a voting member on the council. If both committee co-chairs are voting members of the council, they may rotate attendance at the Executive Committee meeting. If only one committee co-chair is a voting member of the council, that person much attend Executive Committee meetings.

1. **New business / Unfinished Business**

* **MOTION:** Jay Orne moved to delay having in-person meetings until the new co-chairs are elected. Sarah Schiele seconded.
* **DEBATE:** Jay Orne called for debate. There was none.
* **VOTE:** The motion was approved with a verbal vote.

1. **Set agenda for next meeting** Audra displayed ***FY 2022 DEC workplan***.

* Brenda Senyana at Positively Hennepin will present the Part A Capacity Building Grant update.
* Audra will reach out to Cody to provide a data update on mental health disparities in the Needs Assessment 2020 data and the CAREWare Data.
* The committee will continue planning for the upcoming mental health and psychosocial support services forum. The committee will schedule a meeting for ad hoc group after the February DEC meeting to work on a script and panel questions. The committee will have a script and questions prepared for the committee to review in the March meeting.

1. **Announcements**

* There were no announcements.

1. **Adjourn**

* Jay Orne adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

**Meeting Summary:**

* The committee continued planning for the mental health provider panel discussion.
* The committee discussed questions to ask providers and organizations to invite to the panel discussion.

**Documents distributed before the meeting:**

* Proposed agenda for January 19, 2023, meeting
* December 15, 2022, DEC minutes
* FY 2022 DEC workplan

**Documents displayed during the meeting:**

* Disparities Elimination Committee Co-Chair Position Description

**AM/ag**