

Minnesota Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention (MCHACP) Meeting

May 14, 2024

9 – 11:00 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting: MS Teams and HSB Room 110

Committee Members Present:	
Lesla Nelson	Nikki LeClaire
Terri Wilder	Megan Higdon
Shea Grutemaro	Carol Labine
Kevin Sitter (council co-chair, PAC co-chair)	Moua Xiong
Joe Amrhein (council co-chair)	Jennifer Schoenberg
Tyrie Stanley	Quay Catalpa
Alejandro Aguilera (NA&E, CVC co-chair)	John Vener, MD
Dongwook Kim	Deon Kirby (M&T co-chair)
Stephen Jensen	Annalise Jackson
Patrick Ingram (DEC co-chair)	JT Stewart
Sarah Schiele	
Committee Members Absent:	
Jay Orne	Derek Martin
Teresa Jones	Ellen Ryan
James Velek	Mark Jenkins
Cynthia Denise Elmore	
Guests:	
Carissa Weisdorf, Hennepin County	Tim Presley, DHS
Cody Raasch, Hennepin County	Bob Wickoren, Merck
Pat Reymann, Parliamentarian	Connie Jorstad, Community member
Mary McCarthy, PAC community member	Jonathan Hanft, Hennepin County
Scott Bilodeau, Hennepin County	James McMurray, CVC member
Emma Sherman, Indigenous People’s Task Force	Allison LaPoint, MDH
Ndelka Sakala, MDH	DeCarlo Braddy, DHS
Darin Rowles, DHS	
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	DHS (Part B) Representative:
Eriika Etshokin	Thomas Blissett
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	MDH (Surveillance) Representative:
None	Hannah Giles
MCHACP Staff:	
Audra Gaikowski, Council Coordinator	Jeremy Stadelman, Admin Specialist

Quorum Present? **Yes**

I. Call to order, Welcome & Introductions

- Kevin Sitter called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- The guiding principles were read.
- A candle was lit in honor of those recently lost.
- The agenda was reviewed and approved as written.
- The minutes from the April 9 meeting were reviewed and approved with one change noted below.
 - i. Alejandro corrected the name of the Zamyra Theater.

II. Recipient report

- Part A: *Eriika Etshokin, Hennepin County Ryan White Program*
 - See written report.
- Part B: *Thomas Blissett, Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) HIV Supports*
 - See written report.
- Prevention: *Peggy Darrett-Brewer, Minnesota Department of Health*

- See written report.

III. Committee reports (see also written reports)

- Executive and Co-Chair Update
 - **ACTION ITEM: June & July MCHACP meeting extension**
 - **MOTION:** The Executive Committee forwards the recommendation that the council extend the June 11 and July 9, 2024, council meeting to accommodate items on the workplan.
 - **DEBATE:** None.
 - **VOTE:** With 14 ayes and 1 no, the motion carries.
- Community Voices Committee
 - Provided feedback on Centralized Eligibility.
 - Planned for the committee's July meeting at Loring Park.
 - Began planning for World AIDS Day Event.
 - Received an update on the Quality Management Advisory Committee.
- Disparities Elimination Committee
 - **ACTION ITEM: Committee co-chair election**
 - **MOTION:** The Disparities Eliminations Committee forwards the recommendation that Mark Jenkins is elected to serve as co-chair of the Disparities Eliminations Committee.
 - **DEBATE:** None.
 - **VOTE:** Members voted virtually and in person. Results will be provided in unfinished business.
- Membership and Training Committee
 - Reviewed attendance and selected committee members to contact council members who had missed meetings.
 - Reviewed new applications and scheduled interviews with applicants.
 - Reviewed recent exit interviews and discuss retention.
 - We are seeking applications from people who fill the following vacancies:
 - Unaligned consumer, Black women
 - People who work in the HIV field or who are passionate about ending the epidemic who are Black or African American
 - Young person (18-25) at risk or living with HIV
- Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committee
 - Reviewed and approved stratified survey samples of 815 survey respondents at \$30 gift cards for 2025 Needs Assessment Survey (NA2025).
 - Reviewed council & committee operations evaluation results.
 - Reviewed recommended Needs Assessment questions from the Criminally Justice Involved Ad-Hoc Committee.
- Planning and Allocations Committee (PAC)
 - **ACTION ITEM: Allocations retreat**
 - **MOTION:** The Planning and Allocations Committee forwards the recommendation that the council move forward with a 2-day allocations retreat, with meetings on August 6, 2024, from 9am-12pm, and August 13, 2024, from 9am-12pm.
 - **DEBATE:**
 - i. Joe noted that the full council voted for a one-day retreat and he will be voting no because PAC has circumvented the council's preference.
 - ii. Tyrie explained that the committee agreed that two-days would be better for the allocations process. Some members who originally voted for a one-day retreat changed their mind after discussions within the committee.
 1. Megan noted that once she understood how much data needs to be reviewed, it would be better to have some time to think about allocations decisions.
 - iii. The retreat has been two-days in recent years.

- iv. Nikki would prefer that the meetings be a day apart rather than a week apart to better accommodate travel from Greater MN.
- v. **AMENDMENT:** Partick Ingram moved that the meetings be a day apart, rather than a week apart. Dates to be determined by PAC. Joe Amrhein seconded.
 - 1. Audra proposed August 12 and 13.
 - 2. Partick withdrew the amendment to the motion.
 - a. There were no objections to withdrawing the motion.
- vi. **AMENDMENT:** Patrick Ingram moved that the council retreat meetings occur on August 12 and 13, 9am – 12pm. Nikki LeClaire seconded.
- vii. **DEBATE:**
 - 1. Tyrie noted that the retreat will be hybrid, so members don't have to travel to the meeting. Tyrie also noted that the facilitator, Tenesha Lewis, may not be available on August 12.
 - 2. Patrick would like to encourage in person participation and meeting back-to-back days would make it easier for those that have to commute.
 - 3. Tyrie indicated that he is concerned about unaligned consumers having enough time to consider allocations decisions. A week would allow more time to process the data.
 - 4. Alejandro agreed that a week would allow members to process the data and have discussions with other members about allocations decisions.

viii. **VOTE:** With 4 ayes and 14 noes, the amendment to the motion fails.

o **VOTE:** With 14 ayes and 0 noes, the motion carries.

- Criminal Justice Involved Ad Hoc Committee
 - Finalized survey to providers to determine which case managers should be interviewed for the service impact evaluation that will be conducted this summer.
 - Forwarded a recommendation to the Needs Assessment & Evaluation Committee to include several questions about criminal justice involved individuals on the 2025 needs assessment survey.

IV. Council staff report

- Due to time, this item was tabled.

V. Service utilization data: Home & Community Based Health Services & Housing

Carol Labine, NAE Committee Member

- Due to time, this item was tabled.

VI. HIV epidemiology update

Hannah Giles, Minnesota Department of Health

- Hannah presented a PowerPoint presentation titled, **Highlights from Minnesota HIV Surveillance Report 2023** (Audra emailed the presentation to the council on May 14).
- Questions/comments:
 - o Tyrie asked for clarification about the different stages of AIDS.
 - A confirmed case can be classified in one of five HIV infection stages (0, 1, 2, 3, or unknown); early infection, recognized by a negative HIV test within 6 months of HIV diagnosis, is classified as stage 0, and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) is classified as stage 3. [[Revised Surveillance Case Definition for HIV Infection — United States, 2014 \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/2014surveillance/cdc-revised-surveillance-case-definition-for-hiv-infection-united-states-2014)]
 - o Partick asked if there are any other states/jurisdictions collecting any information regarding AFAB (assigned female at birth) folks having sex with gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men. During Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) interactions is this something that is coming up in initial interviews, re-interviews, and cluster interviews? If not, do DIS have any

themes that are reoccurring in AFAB individuals diagnosed with HIV who have unknown exposure/behaviors?

- Hannah responded that they try to gather this information, but it's not always able to be collected. DIS staff try to balance data collection with privacy/sensitivity.
- MDH is not able to assign specific risk category for majority of AFAB cases because they follow CDC guidelines around collecting this data.
- Are DIS asking AFAB if they are having sex with men who are having sex with men? Hannah responded that she would need to look into this further.
 - Stigma plays a role in people's exposure- bi men of color are often reluctant to share this information.
- Jonathan wondered if the increase in HIV in the LatinX community is majority MSM (men who have sex with men).
 - Hannah indicated that this is correct; 76% of new cases are among MSM, while among all incidence the rate is 60%.
- A member noted that the CDC collects sexuality information now and if MDH is able to report this data to the council.
 - Hannah responded that this data is not always complete, but MDH is hoping this is improved on and can be reported on later.

VII. Bi-annual Integrated Plan update

Tim Presley, Minnesota Department of Human Services

- Tim presented a PowerPoint presentation titled **2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan** (Audra emailed the presentation to the council on May 14).
- [Minnesota and Minneapolis-St. Paul TGA Integrated Plan for 2022-2026.](#)
- Questions/comments:
 - What efforts are underway to hire and retain individuals who have skin in the game, like LatinX and Indigenous people. How will they be supported?
 - Darin responded that DHS has onboarding activities and is working to create more structure. There are leadership development opportunities like Emerging Leaders Institute and NASTAD Minority Leadership Program that DHS supports their staff participating in. There are also employee resource groups and informal opportunities to develop leadership.

VIII. Unfinished business / new business

- Reading of the Teller's Report
 - VOTING RESULTS:
 - Disparities Elimination Committee co-chair election
 - Numbers of ballots cast: 20
 - Number needed for election (a majority): 11
 - Number of illegal ballots (if any): 0
 - Number of affirmative votes:
 - Mark Jenkins: 20
- Joe asked for an update from DHS about the cap on Every Penny Counts.
 - Thomas indicated that he would connect with Joe to provide an update.
- Patrick raised concerns about conflict of interest rules around the newly created Prescription Drug Advisory Board that prevent consumers from participating on the board. He would like to have further discussions about this with the community and government agencies. There is also a concern about prices being set too low, which can affect the amount of rebate dollars for Ryan White.

IX. Open Forum

- None.

X. Announcements

- Tyrie gave kudos for DHS being selected present at the National Ryan White Conference, "Centralized Eligibility: A Statewide effort to improve access to Ryan White services."

XI. Adjourn

- Kevin Sitter adjourned the meeting at 10:54 a.m.

JS/ag