

S.C. HIV Planning Council
Meeting Minutes – February 26, 2013
Brookland Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Opening: The meeting was called to order by Gary Rhett at 10:15 a.m.

The new HPC members were introduced and each provided some information about their interest in HIV. All other HPC members, DHEC staff and guests were given the opportunity to introduce themselves to the group. Each attendee provided their name, affiliation and the committee on which they serve.

HPC Members present: Kabra' Benford, Vera Bishop-Wright, Aaron Bryan, K. Allen Campbell, Susan Fulmer, Monetha Gaskin, Adrena Harrison, Keisha Hightower, LaVonda Johnson, Alex Karydi, Virginia King, Michael Luciano, Wilhelmenia Mathis, Lottie McClorin, David Pable, Angel Payton-Harmon, Tricia Phaup, Harry Prim III, Gary Rhett, Amanda Rosado, Glenda Schleich, Pamela Shephard-McKnight, Tyrone Small, Larry Walton, Romie Washington, Shehan Welihindha, and Mary Wright-Golden.

Absent: Veronica Brisco, Carlos Harris, Stacey Jennings, Deadra Malloy, Edena Meetze, Ashley Redmond,

DHEC: Lewis Hicks, Roshan McDaniel, Leigh Oden, Jeffrey Pagan, Tony Price, Kirk Shull, Janet Tapp and Caroline Carman.

Ex-Officio Members: Melody Maddox and Ryan Wilson

Guests: Monica Adamian, Erica Carter, Ashley Crary, Elizabeth McLendon, Raterfan Marley, Ashley Meador, Sheila Plowden, Lateefah Mosley and Vivian Clark-Armstead.

Staff: Donald Wood

Minutes: The minutes from the December 11, 2012 meeting were reviewed.

Action Item: A motion to approve the minutes as distributed was made by Angel Payton Harmon and properly seconded by LaVonda Johnson. The motion passed.

Agenda: The agenda was amended to add the HPC website, a review of the Council's Ground Rules, and to schedule future meeting dates.

Presentations

SC HIV/AIDS Epidemiologic Update: Kirk A. Shull, DHEC Epi Capacity Coordinator, provided the annual update on the state's Epi data as of 2012 as it relates to HIV/AIDS.

African American MSM Workgroup: Lewis Hicks, DHEC Program Consultant, provided the group with an overview of activities being conducted by the workgroup. He reported the annual AAMSM Prevention Institute will be held on June 21. The theme is "The Line Starts Here!" Phill Wilson from the Black AIDS Institute has been invited to speak.

Adjourn to Committees: The meeting was adjourned to the committee meetings.

Lunch

Call to Order: The meeting was called back to order at 1:25 p.m. by Gary Rhett.

HIV/STD Division Update: Janet Tapp provided an update on the DHEC Region realignments from eight to four (Upstate, Midlands, Pee Dee, and Low Country) that will take effect March 2. Once all of the staff positions have been finalized a copy of the approved list will be given to all Council members for their records.

Currently, there are two (2) STD/HIV Division positions in Central Office that are posted and two (2) more that will be posted in the near future.

Janet also noted that an additional layer of approval has been added for processing letters of support for grants and proposals. All letters in the future must be approved by upper management. This new process may take up to two weeks to get through the system so please plan accordingly.

Care and Support Services Programs: Roshan McDaniel gave an update on the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) and other Ryan White funding. The key points from her report are:

- She reiterated that the agency does not anticipate a waitlist in the future.
- The program is now fully staffed

Leigh Oden reported that the agency is following the sequestration talks very closely in order to gauge the impact on our program funding. They have recently completed two (2) grant applications: Emerging Communities of Care and HOPWA.

Prevention Programs: Tony provided updates on DHEC's STD/HIV Prevention Program <http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/stdhiv/index.htm> activities.

- DHEC received its Notice of Award in late December for the three categories of the HIV Prevention grant. Those are: 1) comprehensive HIV prevention funds which support the bulk of HIV prevention services in the state including health department services, community-based contracts, HIV perinatal prevention, and the HPC. Those funds are slightly more than last year at about 4.5 million. The second component, HIV Expanded Testing, has a grant award that is for a bit more than one million dollars. The third component is the Linkage to Care demonstration project for approximately \$568,000.
- DHEC received its Notice of Award for STD prevention, starting January 2013. South Carolina is receiving a bit less than 1.6 million dollars, approximately level with this past year's funding.
- DHEC is in Year 1 of a three-year grant cycle for the Viral Hepatitis Prevention grant.
- DHEC issued a Request for Grant Applications (RFGA) in December to fund the next four-year cycle of HIV expanded testing and syphilis elimination in targeted community-based programs. Four CBOs were awarded funding for services that began in January.

Administrative Report: Donald Wood reviewed the evaluations from the June meeting. He also provided a brief financial update and reviewed the Council's expenses from the last reporting cycle.

Executive Committee Report: Gary Rhett provided the Council with a brief recap of the Executive Committee conference call that was held on February 11. The committee reviewed and approved today's meeting agenda as well as the recommendations from the Membership Committee. They also approved the name change recommendation submitted by the Consumer Advisory Committee.

Standing Committee Reports

Membership: Gary Rhett reported that the committee conducted a New Member Orientation yesterday. All new members were provided an overview of the planning process by Tony Price and an introduction to the HPC by co-chairs Susan Fulmer and Gary Rhett.

Care and Support Services: Angel Payton-Harmon reported that committee discussed their roles and responsibilities. She asked for an update on the status of posting the Resource Checklist onto the website and noted that it will be reviewed annually by the committee.

The Peer Institute sub-committee will meet on March 8 at 10:30 a.m.

Consumer Advisory: Vera Bishop-Wright reported that the committee has submitted a formal recommendation to change its name from the Consumer Advisory Committee to the Positive Advocacy Committee. The consumer members have also agreed to have their names posted on the HPC website. Members will be provided an opt-out provision.

Needs Assessment: Harry Prim reported that the committee is still working on the following tasks:

- ✓ Reviewing the final edits to the Hispanic/Latino survey
- ✓ Reviewed the goals of the committee
- ✓ Reviewed the Peer Health Advocate Survey and will suggest some minor changes
- ✓ Began to formulate a plan of action for the White MSM survey.

Prevention: Larry Walton reported that the committee is working to finalize its 2013 timeline. They also discussed the following:

- ✓ The Epi profile presentation by Kirk A. Shull
- ✓ The roles and responsibilities of the committee
- ✓ High Impact Prevention
- ✓ Looking at creating a sub-committee to discuss priority populations and communities with special considerations.

Workgroup Updates

Adolescent Sexual Health Workgroup Update: Aaron Bryan gave a brief update from the committee's plan of work. They are still seeking volunteers to help implement their program and to advocate for the committee's goals and objectives.

They will be working with local school districts to build capacity as it relates to implementing the Comprehensive Sex Education Act. A bill is concurrently being considered in the General Assembly that will modify how the law is currently administered.

Corrections Workgroup: Susan Fulmer reported the committee will meet again in March. They will also planning a presentation at the Cooperative Ministries.

Hispanic/Latino Workgroup: Laura Cahue reported that the committee is working with the Needs Assessment Committee to reevaluate the data in the Hispanic/Latino report. They are currently on a strategy to share the information with the community.

Upcoming events:

- ✓ Webinar on HIV Prevention in the Hispanic Community – March 26
- ✓ Cultural Competency Education and Training Session
- ✓ SC Hispanic/Latino Roundtable - June 7
- ✓

SC HIV/AIDS Care Crisis Task Force Update: Vivian Clark-Armstead reported that the group has established at \$5 membership fee. They are in the process of conducting several town hall focus groups around the state. The groups are scheduled for Greenville/Spartanburg, Rock Hill, Myrtle Beach, Florence and Charleston.

Unfinished Business

Community Services Assessment Resource Checklist: The group reviewed the updated list of community HIV/AIDS programs and STI services.

Action Item: A motion was made by Harry Prim and seconded by Gary Rhett to approve the update list and to have it included in the current plan. The motion was adopted by the Council.

New Business

Proposed Change to the HPC Bylaws: The Council formally approved the name change of the Consumer Advisory Committee to the Positive Advocacy Committee.

Website: Susan Fulmer noted that the website has been updated; however, they are still a few items that need to be tweaked.

Ground Rules: The Ground Rules were reviewed and adopted for the current fiscal year by the Council.

Remaining Meeting Dates: The Council will meet on the following days:

- April 16
- June 18
- August 6
- December 10

Announcements

Troy Bowers reported that PALSS is working on plans for a memorial service in honor of Laney Blackmon, a former employee and CPG member. She recently lost her battle with cancer. Memorials made be made to PALSS in her memory.

It was also reported that Peter Lee, the first DHEC Co-chair of the CPG and the first AIDS educator in SC, recently passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Wood