



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



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HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG • <http://hiv.lacounty.gov> ORG • VIRTUAL WEBEX MEETING

*Presence at virtual meetings is recorded based on the attendance roll call. Only members of the Commission on HIV are accorded voting privileges and must verbally acknowledge their attendance in order to vote.
Approved meeting minutes are available on the Commission's website; meeting recordings are available upon request.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

April 22, 2021

COMMITTEE MEMBERS			
P = Present A = Absent			
Bridget Gordon, Co-Chair	P	Carlos Moreno	P
David Lee, MPH, LCSW, Co-Chair	P	Katja Nelson, MPP	P
Raquel Cataldo	P	Mario J. Pérez, MPH	P
Frankie Darling-Palacios	P	Juan Preciado	A
Erika Davies	P	Kevin Stalter	P
Lee Kochems, MA	A	Justin Valero, MA	P
COMMISSION STAFF AND CONSULTANTS			
Cheryl Barrit, Dawn Mc Clendon, Carolyn Echols-Watson, and Sonja Wright Catherine LaPointe, Academic Intern			
DHSP STAFF			
Julie Tolentino			

*Some participants may not have been captured electronically. Attendance can be corrected by emailing the Commission.

*Members of the public may confirm their attendance by contacting Commission staff at hivcomm@lachiv.org.

*Meeting minutes may be corrected up to one year from the date of Commission approval.

Meeting agenda and materials can be found on the Commission's website at

http://hiv.lacounty.gov/Portals/HIV/Commission%20Meetings/2021/Package/Pkt_EC_042221_final_1.pdf?ver=sqRldGxvNDUzxr5ftM5o-Q%3d%3d

CALL TO ORDER-INTRODUCTIONS-CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- Bridget Gordon and David Lee, Co-Chairs, called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. B. Gordon reviewed housekeeping reminders.
- Committee members introduced themselves and stated their HIV care and/or prevention conflicts of interest.
- B. Gordon requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Commission member Dr. William King's father who recently passed.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION #1: Approve the Agenda Order, as presented (✓**Passed by Consensus**)

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

MOTION #2: Approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, as presented (✓**Passed by Consensus**)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COMMISSION ON ITEMS OF INTEREST WITHIN COMMISSION JURISDICTION: There were no comments.

III. COMMITTEE NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMISSIONERS TO RECOMMEND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS, OR ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ACTION DUE TO AN EMERGENCY, OR IF NEED FOR ACTION AROSE AFTER POSTING AGENDA: There were no new items.

IV. REPORTS

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT

A. Commission/County Operational Updates

- Cheryl Barrit, Executive Director, reported that the County just approved its \$36.2 billion budget with focus on equity and safety net services.
- C. Barrit continues to work with the Executive Office in assessing its reconstitution plan to reopen offices via a phased-in and hybrid work structure approach ensuring the health and safety of its employees. Updates will be provided as they are communicated by the Executive Office.
- Commission office has been updated to include appropriate seat spacing in the lobby, plexiglass in high traffic areas, and a door to divide the public area from the staffing area.
- As reported previously, the County is currently looking into three legislative bills seeking to amend the Brown Act to create more equitable access to public meetings. The County is committed to identify hybrid models so that community members can attend public meetings virtually, telephonically and in person.

B. Commission and Committee Activities

- 2021 Work Plan
 - Refer to changes in dates for the NMAC Building Leaders of Color (BLOC) training as it has been rescheduled to September 2021. The Consumer Caucus will discuss logistics at its next meeting and confirm dates. The training will be held virtually over four consecutive days.

6. CO-CHAIR REPORT

A. "So You Want to Talk About Race?" Book Reading Activity. Excerpts from Chapters 2-3.

B. Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Plan and Commission Involvement

- B. Gordon reported that COH and DHSP leadership met to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the COH and the EHE Steering Committee to foster a more collaborative relationship.
- Clarification was provided regarding the role and responsibility of the COH and the EHE Steering Committee (SC): Commission is the planning body legally mandated to manage the Ryan White Program while the EHE SC is an action-oriented body who is charged to implement the activities

aligned with the pillars of the EHE plan and to further address the County's response to the HIV epidemic.

- Mario J. Pérez, MPH, Director, DHSP, shared that he and Julie Tolentino, MPH, EHE Program Coordinator, are developing a document that defines and describes the role and responsibility of both bodies and will share once finalized. It was emphasized that EHE SC is designed to complement the COH's planning work.
- Appreciation was expressed for Al Ballesteros' role as the EHE SC COH liaison and that a new liaison should be selected per A. Ballesteros' recommendation that a member of COH leadership team occupy that role.
- B. Gordon; Katja Nelson, Public Policy Committee Co-Chair; and Kevin Stalter, Standards and Best Practices Committee Co-Chair, were selected to serve as the COH's EHE SC liaison, creating a team effort in supporting that role.
- The COH liaison team will report back to the COH on an ongoing basis updates related to the EHE and will engage in information sharing between the COH and the EHE SC.

C. April 8, 2021, 2021 COH Meeting | FOLLOW UP + FEEDBACK

- Dawn Mc Clendon, COH staff, will follow up with County Counsel with an inquiry whether members' Conflicts of Interest (COI) must be verbally stated during the meeting versus referring to a COI list located in the meeting packet. She will keep the group apprised of County Counsel's response.
- Carlos Moreno, Commission member, recommended that COIs be stated during introductions at the start of each meeting versus before each motion.

D. May 13, 2021 (Draft) Commission Meeting Agenda | REVIEW + FEEDBACK. No feedback provided.

E. HealthHIV/COH Effectiveness Assessment Survey | UPDATE.

- The survey closed April 9, 2021 with an overall 80% response rate. HealthHIV staff will present on its findings at the May 13, 2021 COH meeting.

7. DIVISION OF HIV AND STD PROGRAMS (DHSP) REPORT

A. Fiscal, Programmatic, and Procurement Updates

- M. Pérez reported that according to DHSP's spending projections, funding will be fully expended, to include applicable funds rolled over from the prior year. He noted that the amount of funding resources is unprecedented as DHSP has never expended this amount of funding in a single program year yet there was a very small level of improvement in areas of retention in care and overall health outcomes. Andrea Kim, PHD, will walk the COH through the most recent HIV surveillance data and the impact of COVID-19 at the May 13, 2021 COH meeting.
- M. Pérez mentioned as COVID-19 begins to slow, invoicing for reimbursements of services from providers will begin to normalize and be submitted timely.
- DHSP continues to request return of its key staff from COVID-19 related work and is still operating with very limited staffing.
- DHSP is working with COH staff to coordinate bi-weekly small group meetings with the Black African American Community (BAAC) Task Force leadership to address key BAAC recommendations.
- U=U (Undetectable=Untransmittable) Tool Kits are now available and being distributed by DHSP to providers and will work with the COH to distribute among its membership.
- M. Pérez reported that the Kaiser Permanente, Romaine site, is now an ADAP approved pharmacy and thanked Kevin Stalter for bringing these issues forward.

(1) Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) Updates

- M. Pérez reported that 149 EFA applications have been received to date; 60% have been approved while 50 are still pending – of those 50, 60-70% are missing documents.
- M. Pérez noted that DHSP is seeing a positive trend in receiving more complete applications early in the process.
- M. Pérez also noted that DHSP has done a good job in tracking the referral source for EFA, however, agencies need to be better at referring EFA to their clients. DHSP will be following up with these agencies to ensure they are providing their clients with the appropriate EFA information.

B. Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Activities

- Julie Tolentino, MPH, EHE Program Coordinator, reminded the Committee of EHE activities that the community can get involved with and be active participants in promoting the EHE; refer to PPT slides, page 12, in meeting packet.

8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Operations Committee

(1) Membership Management

- **New Member Applications**
 - **MOTION #3** Approve recommendation for New Member Applicant, Mikhaela Cielo, MD, to occupy Part D Representative seat, and forward to May Commission meeting for approval, as presented or revised. (✓Passed by Majority Vote)
 - **MOTION #4** Approve recommendation for New Member Applicant, Mallery Robinson, to occupy Alternate #25 seat, and forward to May Commission meeting for approval, as presented or revised. (✓Passed by Majority Vote)
- **Membership Application Redevelopment.**
 - **MOTION #5** Approve revised membership application and forward to County Counsel for review. Thereafter, forward to full Commission for final approval. (✓Passed by Majority Vote)
 - M. Pérez recommended that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reference be deleted from #7 of the application as prevention services utilized would not be limited to the CDC. Staff agreed to delete the reference as suggested and upon approval by the Committee, will submit to the County Counsel's office for final review before presented to the full body for approval.

- (2) Outreach, Retention and Community Engagement Strategies and Efforts.** Carlos Moreno, Co Chair, encouraged members to participate in community events, advisory boards, and other public facing opportunities to bring awareness of the Commission and its work. Commission staff is available to assist in providing outreach and presentation materials.

B. Planning, Priorities, and Allocations (PP&A) Committee

(1) Multi-Year Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA) Review

- Frankie Darling Palacios and Raquel Cataldo, Co-Chairs, reported that the Committee agreed to modify the readability of Paradigm and Operating Values used in the planning, priority, and allocation decision-making process.
- Committee agreed to increase Consumer Caucus participation in the planning process by obtaining Consumer Caucus ongoing feedback on Paradigms and Operating Values, service prioritizations, multi-year allocations and DHSP Directives. The Committee agreed to also engage the Caucus in ongoing planning, priority, and allocation training efforts

(2) Prevention Planning Workgroup (PPW) Activities

- DHSP will present fiscal and programmatic prevention data at the next PPW meeting on April 28, 2021.

C. Standards and Best Practices (SBP) Committee

(1) Child Care and Language Services Provider Survey | UPDATE

- Erika Davies, Co-Chair, reported that the Committee will approve the Child Care Services standards at its May 4, 2021.

(2) 2021 Service Standards | REVIEW

- SBP Co-Chairs have scheduled a call with consultant and HRSA technical assistance provider, Emily Gantz McKay, to discuss developing a refresher training on service standards and discuss how to use standards to engage non-RWP providers in providing quality care for people living with HIV.
- E. Davies reported the Committee will continue to review Home Based Case Management, Benefit Specialty, and Substance Use Residential Treatment service standards as a part of their 2021 service standard review process.
- Committee will review a Committee-only membership application from Dr. Mark Mintline, DDS, and will approve at its next meeting on Tuesday, May 4, 2021.
- Committee reviewed its 2021 work plan and agreed to incorporate input from the BAAC and Aging Task Force, as well as include efforts to engage non-RWP/private healthcare providers in discussion around the EHE.

D. Public Policy Committee

(1) County, State, and Federal Policy and Legislation

- Katja Nelson, Co-Chair, reported that the Committee is still developing its 2021 Legislative Docket and it is slated for approval at the May 3, 2021 Committee meeting. K. Nelson welcomed all interested to attend the May 3rd meeting and participate in the discussions as the Committee finalizes the docket.
- CDC released its 2019 STD surveillance report. The National Coalition of STD Directors (NCSDD) will conduct a webinar on April 23, 2021 to walk through the findings.
- Committee will revisit the STD letter to the Department of Public Health and/or Board of Supervisors at its next meeting.
- HUD released a [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) for a \$41 million HOPWA Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) grant to provide stable housing to low income persons living with HIV and their families. States, units of general local government, and

nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply. Maribel Ulloa @ HOPWA and her team will be applying.

- Committee awaiting report from The Wall Las Memorias Act Now Against Meth campaign for purposes of identifying ideas on how it can move forward in supporting policy initiatives.

(2) County, State and Federal Budget

- Committee is still watching budget requests around EHE, STIs and sexual health, HCV test kits, ADAP and the AB 2218 Trans Wellness Equity Fund.
- The End the Epidemic (ETE) Coalition is having a Week of Action taking place May 3-7, 2021 where advocates from across California will mobilize to urge legislators to address the HIV, STI, viral hepatitis and overdose epidemics in our state. If interested in participating, send email to K. Nelson at knelson@apla.org.
- K. Nelson reported that Governor Gavin Newsome's May Revise budget is expected soon and that she will provide updates at an upcoming meeting.
- President Biden released his "skinny" budget as a preview of priorities for appropriation. K. Nelson noted that the Health and Human Services (HHS) overall budget has a \$25 billion increase from last year with \$276 million allocated for EHE.

9. CAUCUS, TASK FORCE, AND WORK GROUP REPORTS

A. Aging Task Force – May 4, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

- C. Barrit reported that the ATF met on April 6, 2021 and welcomed a presentation from Dr. Michael Green, DHSP, in response to the ATF's set of recommendations submitted to DHSP in late 2020.
- ATF will continue to review the Golden Compass model based in San Francisco which is a model for geriatric HIV care. The ATF agreed to identify desired health outcomes, including quality of life indicators, and propose to the Commission for future planning activities.
- ATF is hosting a virtual training on age sensitivity – Trading Ages – in collaboration with SCAN Community Health on May 6, 2021. All Commission and community members are encouraged to attend.

B. Black/African American Community (BAAC) Task Force - 4/26/2021, 3:00-5:00pm

- Greg Wilson, Co-Chair, reported that the BAAC met with DHSP leadership on March 22, 2020 where an overview of DHSP efforts and activities addressing the BAAC recommendation was provided. Key efforts/activities include but are not limited to:
 - Incorporating a mandatory training curriculum addressing implicit bias and other topics rooted in racial and social equity in new and renewing DHSP awarded contracts.
 - DHSP developed a comprehensive Implicit Bias web and training and shared the PPT slides for the task force's review. The training slides will be finalized at the next task force meeting.
 - Utilizing existing funding to develop culturally appropriate promotional marketing for PrEP in the Black/AA communities to encourage uptick in access
 - Creating and developing a RFP for PreP Centers of Excellence for Women
 - Technical Assistance for Minority Based CBOs
- DHSP and BAAC Task Force leadership will meet bi-monthly to move these items forward until June 2021.

- Co-Chairs will make rounds to the Committees, Caucuses and Task Forces to provide guidance on how to incorporate the recommendations into its planning activities.
- The next meeting will be Monday, April 26 @ 3-5pm; note change in time for this meeting only.

C. Consumer Caucus - 5/13/2021, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

- Alasdair Burton and Jayda Arrington, Co-Chairs, reported that the NMAC Building Leaders of Color (BLOC) training for consumers has been postponed to September 2021; dates to be confirmed by COH staff and the Caucus at its next meeting.
- A. Burton reminded the group that the Caucus is recruiting a third Co-Chair.
- Caucus continues to welcome parliamentarian training from Jim Stewart as its values having Roberts Rules of Order as a guide to ensure the consumer voice is heard.
- A. Burton and J. Arrington thanked COH staff for their continued assistance and support.

D. Prevention Planning Workgroup – 4/26/2021, 5:30pm-7:00pm

- Carolyn Echols-Watson, COH staff, reported that DHSP will present on all things HIV prevention data at its meeting on Wednesday, April 26th. Additionally, the PPW will begin its planning to revise the Prevention Standards.

E. Transgender Caucus – 5/25/2021, 10am-12:00pm

- No updates
- Caucus meets bi-monthly

F. Women's Caucus – 5/17/21, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

- D. Mc Clendon reported that the Caucus met Monday, April 19 and was well attended; over 26 attendees
- Paulina Zamudio (DHSP) presented on the results of the Child Care and Language Services provider survey; the PPT is in your meeting packet.
- Caucus also welcomed an abridged presentation by Danielle Campbell on Cis-gender women and PrEP from her full presentations at the recent NMAC Biomedical Summit and annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI).
- Caucus is planning a virtual lunch & learn event for May around self-care, coping with stress + support groups; stay tuned for event date and time.

V. NEXT STEPS

10. TASK/ASSIGNMENTS RECAP:

- New member applications – Mikhaela Cielo, MD and Mallery Robinson – will move forward to the full Commission body at the May 13, 2021 meeting
- Revised member application will be submitted for County Counsel review and then elevated to full Commission for final approval
- COH staff will assist the newly selected COH EHE liaisons in scheduling and coordinating discussions with the COH around the EHE
- COH staff will refine COH meeting agenda for May 13, 2021 appropriately to ensure requested presentations and information sharing is accommodated.

- 11. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING:** Justin Valero, Commission member, shared that the Operations Committee, at its earlier meeting, discussed how to better engage consumers and would like for that conversation to be held at the Executive Committee level also.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 12. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS:** J. Arrington announced that the Consumer Caucus is still seeking a third Co-Chair.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- 13. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:27pm in memory of Dr. William King's father.