



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



Visit us online: <http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

Get in touch: hivcomm@lachiv.org

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Consumer Caucus

Hybrid Meeting

-In Person & Virtual -

Thursday, April 13, 2023

1:30PM-3:00PM (PST)

**note new meeting time*

Agenda and meeting materials will be posted on

<http://hiv.lacounty.gov/Meetings>

under "Other Meetings"

REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED + SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION IN SPANISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES NOW AVAILABLE VIA CLOSED CAPTION FEATURE WHEN JOINING VIRTUALLY VIA WEBEX. CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE INFO.

If you are a person living with or at risk of HIV, we invite you to be a part of a unified effort to help improve HIV prevention & care service delivery in Los Angeles County

TO ATTEND IN PERSON:

510 S. Vermont Avenue, Terrace Conference Room, Los Angeles 90020

Validated parking is available at 523 Shatto Place, Los Angeles 90020

TO ATTEND VIRTUALLY:

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=mb539016e4cd03a8e18d90079e633f2cf>

MEETING PASSWORD: CAUCUS

TO JOIN BY PHONE: +1-213-306-3065 MEETING #/ACCESS CODE: 2593 178 2734

LIKE WHAT WE DO?

Apply to become a Commissioner at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023CommissiononHIVMemberApplication>

For application assistance call (213) 738-2816 or email hivcomm@lachiv.org



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VIA CLOSED CAPTION FEATURE WHEN JOINING VIRTUALLY VIA WEBEX. CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE INFO.

CONSUMER CAUCUS (CC)

HYBRID (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL) MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 13, 2023 @ 1:30PM-3PM

**or immediately following the COH Meeting*

510 S. Vermont Ave

Terrace Level Conference Room A (TK11), Los Angeles, CA 90020

**Validated parking available at 523 Shatto Place, Los Angeles CA 90020*

TO JOIN VIRTUALLY BY COMPUTER:

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=mb539016e4cd03a8e18d90079e633f2cf>

MEETING PASSWORD: CAUCUS

TO JOIN BY PHONE: +1-213-306-3065 **MEETING #/ACCESS CODE:** 2593 178 2734

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|--|-----------------|
| 1. CO-CHAIR WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS | 1:30PM – 1:35PM |
| 2. COH MEETING DEBRIEF | 1:35PM – 1:45PM |
| 3. ED/STAFF REPORT | 1:45PM – 1:50PM |
| a. County/Commission Operational Updates | |
| 4. CO CHAIR REPORT | 1:50PM – 2:05PM |
| a. 2023 Workplan & Meeting Schedule | |
| 5. MEMBER REPORTS (<i>Opportunity for COH Caucus members to provide updates from their assigned COH Committees and related conferences/events attended to better coordinate activities and harness feedback from a consumer perspective.</i>) | 2:05PM – 2:15PM |
| 6. DISCUSSION | 2:15PM – 2:50PM |
| a. Housing Opportunities for People Living with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) UPDATES | |
| b. February 16, 2023 HRSA Closed Listening Session | |
| • Next Steps | |
| c. Opportunities to Improve Consumer Engagement | |
| 7. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING | 2:50PM – 2:55PM |
| 8. PUBLIC COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS | 2:55PM – 3:00PM |
| 9. ADJOURNMENT | 3:00PM |



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV



510 S. Vermont Ave 14th Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90020 • TEL (213) 738-2816 • FAX (213) 637-6748

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

CODE OF CONDUCT

We welcome commissioners, guests, and the public into a space where people of all opinions and backgrounds are able to contribute. We create a safe environment that celebrates differences while striving for consensus and is characterized by consistent, professional, and respectful behavior. Our common enemies are HIV and STDs. We strive to be introspective and understand and clarify our assumptions, while appreciating the complex intersectionality of the lives we live. We challenge ourselves to be self-reflective and committed to an ongoing understanding. As a result, the Commission has adopted and is consistently committed to implementing the following guidelines for Commission, committee, and associated meetings.

All participants and stakeholders should adhere to the following:

- 1) We strive for consensus and compassion in all our interactions.**
- 2) We respect others' time by starting and ending meetings on time, being punctual, and staying present.**
- 3) We listen, don't repeat what has already been stated, avoid interrupting others, and allow others to be heard.**
- 4) We encourage all to bring forth ideas for discussion, community planning, and consensus.**
- 5) We focus on the issue, not the person raising the issue.**
- 6) We give and accept respectful and constructive feedback.**
- 7) We keep all issues on the table (no "hidden agendas"), avoid monopolizing discussions and minimize side conversations.**
- 8) We have no place in our deliberations for homophobic, racist, sexist, and other discriminatory statements and "-isms" (including misogyny, transphobia, ableism, and ageism).**
- 9) We give ourselves permission to learn from our mistakes.**

Approved (11/12/1998); Revised (2/10/2005; 9/6/2005); **Revised (4/11/19; 3/3/22)**



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(PROPOSED) CODE OF CONDUCT

The Commission on HIV welcomes commissioners, guests, and the public into a space where people of all opinions and backgrounds are able to contribute. In this space, we challenge ourselves to be self-reflective and committed to an ongoing understanding of each other and the complex intersectionality of the lives we live. We create a safe environment where we celebrate differences while striving for consensus in the fights against our common enemies: HIV and STDs. We build trust in each other by having honest, respectful, and productive conversations. As a result, the Commission has adopted and is consistently committed to implementing the following guidelines for Commission, committee, and associated meetings.

All participants and stakeholders should adhere to the following:

- 1) We approach all our interactions with compassion, respect, and transparency.**
- 2) We respect others' time by starting and ending meetings on time, being punctual, and staying present.**
- 3) We listen with intent, avoid interrupting others, and elevate each other's voices.**
- 4) We encourage all to bring forth ideas for discussion, community planning, and consensus.**
- 5) We focus on the issue, not the person raising the issue.**
- 6) We give and accept respectful and constructive feedback.**
- 7) We keep all issues on the table (no "hidden agendas"), avoid monopolizing discussions and minimize side conversations.**
- 8) We have no place in our deliberations for racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, and other discriminatory statements, and "-isms" including misogyny, ableism, and ageism.**
- 9) We give ourselves permission to learn from our mistakes.**

[Click here to view the current Code of Conduct.](#)

Approved (11/12/1998); Revised (2/10/2005; 9/6/2005); **Revised (4/11/19; 3/3/22, 3/23/23)**



****For Commission Member 30-Day Comment Period
3/23/23-4/21/23****

(PROPOSED) VISION

An equitable system of HIV prevention and care that is comprehensive, sustainable, and accessible empowering and educating all communities to make informed decisions about their sexual health needs to maximize life expectancy and optimize quality of life.

(PROPOSED) MISSION

To plan, promote, and advocate for equitable policies, programs, and services that address the HIV epidemic in Los Angeles County. The Commission works to ensure that Los Angeles residents have access to quality sexual healthcare, including HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and support services.

The Commission strives to eliminate stigma and discrimination associated with all sexually-transmitted diseases and to promote sexual health awareness and education to the public, particularly in underserved communities. Utilizing an approach that addresses both the mental and physical health of the whole person as well as social determinants of health, the Commission collaborates with and seeks input from people with lived experience, planners, and stakeholders to coordinate efforts and leverage resources to ensure that its work is responsive to the needs of those impacted by the epidemic, regardless of socioeconomic status.



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CONSUMER CAUCUS

Thursday, March 9, 2023 | 3:00pm to 4:30pm

VIRTUAL MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting packet is available at: <https://hiv.lacounty.gov/meetings/>

**Contact staff for verification of attendance*

1. WELCOME + INTRODUCTIONS + CHECK IN

Co-Chair Alasdair Burton welcomed attendees and led introductions.

2. COH MEETING DEBRIEF

The Caucus expressed their overall excitement and appreciation for resuming meetings in person at the Vermont Corridor.

In response to the Commission's HOPWA update report by Chuy Orozco, the Caucus shared its ongoing concerns regarding housing insecurities and accessible housing for people living with HIV (PLWH), especially aging PLWH. They emphasized the need for more consistent updates by HOPWA. During the Commission meeting, C. Orozco indicated that he could not provide the Caucus a progress report for today's meeting but promised to attend the April 13th Caucus meeting and provide a report.

3. ED/STAFF REPORT

County/Commission Operational Updates.

Cheryl Barrit, Executive Director, informed Caucus that the Executive Committee has been discussing "reimagining meetings" via changes to the meeting schedule, topical presentations, and frequency for 2023; discussions are still underway with hopes to reach consensus on how they would like to plan for the remainder of 2023. C. Barrit noted that should the Committee recommend that specific COH meetings be cancelled, that does not mean the work will not move forward during those months; rather, cancellation of certain meetings can provide the capacity to operationalize many of the Commission's planning efforts in a more geographical coordinated manner and address key topics in a more meaningful way, such as housing.

The Caucus expressed concern with cancelling its meetings and will continue discussions on how it can best leverage its meetings to ensure broad impact to address critical needs of PLWH.

4. CO-CHAIR REPORT:

Meeting Schedule & Frequency. The Caucus agreed to revise its meeting time to 1:30PM-3PM so that the meeting begins immediately following the Commission meeting and agreed to continue with a hybrid format.

2023 Workplan Review. The Caucus reviewed its workplan and adopted the highlighted updates; see workplan in meeting packet.

The Caucus noted that they were happy with the [2023 training schedule](#) and applauded Commission staff for creating an accessible format for folx to register. The Caucus expressed its appreciation for the inclusion of the non-required trainings, i.e., health literacy & public awareness. Ilish Pérez (DHSP) shared that DHSP also offers public health-related trainings and can be a resource for trainings. Staff reminded the Caucus that HRSA requires the four mandatory trainings which are distinguished by an asterisk on the training schedule; the remainder are not mandatory but were recommended by the Caucus via prior discussions. Staff shared that for those members who are not able to attend the live version of the trainings, may view the recordings which will be posted on the Commission's website. Staff will provide a Certificate of Completion to all those who complete the training modules, whether by attending the live session or viewing the recording. Ongoing reminders were requested to remind folx of training sessions to which staff agreed.

2023 United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA). The Caucus was reminded that the 2023 USCHA will be held in September 2023, and to submit scholarship applications if interested in attending. Staff will send the Caucus additional information regarding the conference and Commission sponsorship. Information for the USCHA can be found here <https://uscha.life/>.

5. MEMBER REPORTS (Opportunity for COH Caucus members to provide updates from their assigned COH Committees and related conferences/events attended to better coordinate activities and harness feedback from a consumer perspective.)

Kevin Donnelly reported that the Planning, Priorities & Allocations (PP&A) Committee is current discussing status neutral implementation for HIV prevention and care services and programming and encouraged all Caucus members to attend and participate in the discussion.

Lee Kochems reported that the Public Policy Committee is currently developing their 2023-2024 legislative docket and encouraged all Caucus members to attend and participate in the discussion.

6. DISCUSSION

HOPWA Updates. C. Orozco announced at the Commission meeting that he will not be able to attend the Caucus meeting but will attend the April 13 Caucus meeting to provide a HOPWA report; see "COH Meeting Debrief" for additional comments.

February 16, 2023 HRSA Closed Listening Session: Follow Up & Next Steps

A. Burton provided background information regarding the February 16, 2023 HRSA closed listening session with the Caucus and noted that four HRSA staff and 11 Caucus members were in attendance. Participants were requested by A. Burton to send their meetings summaries to him with the understanding that he will compile all the summaries into a comprehensive document for Caucus review and to determine next steps in working with HRSA to address the Caucus' concerns. A. Burton requested HRSA staff, Monique Hitch's (Deputy Director, HRSA) email address so that he can forward the Caucus' concerns as indicated during the listening session; staff to follow up with the Commission's HRSA Project Officer to request the email address.

7. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING

- 2023 Workplan (standing)
- HOPWA Updates
- HRSA Closed Listening Session Debrief (pending M. Hitch's contact info)
- Opportunities to Improve Consumer Engagement (standing)

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

9. ADJOURNMENT

Consumer Caucus Workplan 2023

Adopted 1/12/23

Updates Highlighted for 4/13/23 Meeting

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT: To identify activities and priorities the Consumer Caucus will lead and advance throughout 2023.

CRITERIA: Select activities that 1) represent the core functions of the COH and Caucus, 2) advance the goals of the 2023 Comprehensive HIV Plan (CHP), and 3) align with COH staff and member capacities and time commitment.

CAUCUS RESPONSIBILITIES: 1) Facilitate dialogue among caucus members, 2) develop caucus voice at the Commission and in the community, 3) provide the caucus perspective on various Commission issues, and 4) cultivate leadership within the caucus membership and consumer community.

#	GOAL/ACTIVITY	ACTION STEPS/TASKS	TIMELINE/ DUE DATE	STATUS/COMMENTS
1	Create a safe environment for consumers (<i>people in need of HIV care and prevention services</i>)	Motivate members to challenge their environment Increase awareness of the caucus in the community	Ongoing	Develop a meeting schedule for 2023 inclusive of community engagement activities, evaluating HIV-related programs and services, educational presentations, and capacity building activities; refer to Co-Chairs for recommendations.
2	Advocacy: <i>Work with the Public Policy Committee to identify opportunities for consumer involvement to support HIV-related legislation</i>	Advocate for items the Caucus prioritizes	Ongoing	<u>Suggestion:</u> In response to DHSP's request to reassess COH activities to be more responsive and action oriented in meeting the needs of the community, coordinate a series of listening sessions as part of the CC meetings to evaluate and provide feedback on RWP services. Invite topical SMEs to present. Draft letter to HRSA based on closed listening session outcome?
3	Comprehensive HIV Plan (CHP): <i>Participate in advancing the goals of the CHP to ensure the consumer voice is prioritized</i>	Participation in CHP implementation	Ongoing	
4	Leadership and Capacity Building Training: <i>Identify training opportunities that foster and nurture (PLWH & HIV-neg) consumer leadership and empowerment in COH and community.</i>	Continue soliciting ideas from consumers for training topics	Ongoing	CC was invited to participate in the January 23 OPS Committee meeting discussion re: the development of the 2023 training plan. The plan will be finalized for presentation at the February 23 OPS meeting and will be made available to the CC and entire membership. The 2023 Training Schedule has been finalized and is now available on the COH's website; click here to access.

5	<p>Consumer Recruitment & Participation in COH: <i>Identify activities to increase consumer participation at Consumer Caucus/COH meetings, especially individuals from the Black/African American, Latinx, youth, and indigenous communities.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identify mechanism for retaining Caucus members -Recruit members that are not part of Ryan White contracted agencies or consumers of Ryan White services -Recruit members that need HIV care and prevention services -Develop an award ceremony to recognize individuals that volunteer their time to serve/participate in the Caucus 	Ongoing	<p>Question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Why would anyone come to Caucus meetings? -Why won't providers recruit? -How can we get providers to encourage their clients/patients to attend? -What is the incentive for unaffiliated consumers to attend meetings?
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Los Angeles County HOPWA Program

Housing Opportunities For Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) is a federally-funded program that provides assistance with housing and supportive services for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. The program goals are to maintain stable housing, reduce the risk of homelessness, and increase access to care. Services are provided countywide.

Housing Information and Referral – Locates vacant units within the County of Los Angeles and maintains a user-friendly website that includes rental listings, housing resources, and additional community resources.

Housing Specialist/Crisis Housing – Performs comprehensive assessments and housing plan to address barriers to finding and sustain stable housing. Emergency and transitional housing for clients homeless or at-risk of homelessness.

Short Term Financial Assistance – Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) program provide short term financial assistance to maintain housing and Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) provides move-in grant to help households with first month's rent, security deposits and utility switch on fees.

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) – Funded through four housing authorities, operates similarly to a Section-8 voucher program. Households who remain eligible after 12 months may convert to the Section-8 program.

Scattered Site Master Leasing – Households living in units leased by a non-profit agency scattered throughout multiple buildings and receive supportive services.

Residential Service Coordination – Households living in affordable permanent housing (PH) receive supportive services and linkages to other community resources.

Legal Services – Assists with evictions, issues related to eligibility for public benefits, and informs tenants of rights regarding fair housing laws.

Animal Advocacy – Teaches tenants' rights regarding service animals for emotional support as well as supportive services for animals.



HOUSING SPECIALIST, CRISIS HOUSING OR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Antelope Valley (SPA 1) – Tarzana Treatment Center (661) 948-8559
- San Fernando Valley (SPA 2) – Tarzana Treatment Center (818) 342-5897
- San Gabriel Valley/Pasadena (SPA 3) – Foothill AIDS Project (909) 482-2066
- Hollywood/ Metro/Westside (SPA 4/5) – Alliance for Housing and Healing (323) 656-1107
- Downtown Los Angeles (SPA 4) – JWCH Institute Inc. (Wesley Health Centers) (213) 285-4260
- South Los Angeles Area (SPA 6) – APLA Health (213) 201-1637
- East LA/Great Whittier Area (SPA 7) – Foothill AIDS Project (909) 482-2066
- Greater Long Beach area (SPA 8) – Alliance for Housing and Healing (562) 294-5500

LEGAL SERVICES

- Inner City Law Center (213) 891-2880

ANIMAL ADVOCACY & SUPPORT

- PAWS/LA (213) 741-1950

For more information please contact, **CHIRPLA** at **(877) 724-4775** or visit their website at www.chirpla.org.

You may also contact the **HOPWA Hotline** at **(213) 808-8805** or via e-mail at lahd-hopwa@lacity.org.