



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



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TRANSGENDER CAUCUS Virtual Meeting

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

10:00AM -12:00PM (PST)

*Meeting Agenda + Packet will be available on our website at:
<http://hiv.lacounty.gov/Meetings>

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments will open at the time referenced on the meeting agenda. For those who wish to provide live public comment, you may do so by joining the WebEx meeting through your computer or smartphone and typing PUBLIC COMMENT in the Chat box. For those calling into the meeting via telephone, you will not be able to provide live public comment. However, you may provide written public comments or materials by email to hivcomm@lachiv.org. Please include the agenda item and meeting date in your correspondence. All correspondence and materials received shall become part of the official record.

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



TRANSGENDER CAUCUS

Virtual Meeting Agenda

May 25, 2021 | 10am-12pm

TO JOIN BY COMPUTER/SMART PHONE:

<https://tinyurl.com/brbfupv7>

TO JOIN BY PHONE: 1-415-655-0001

Event number (access code): 145 004 1662

1. Introductions
2. Co-Chairs Report
3. Legal Services Needs Assessment: Laurie Aronoff, LACBA AIDS Legal Services Project
4. BAAC (Black African American Community Task Force)
 - a. Overview of recommendations
5. Updates/ Discussion
 - a. SB 225 - the Bodily Autonomy, Dignity, and Choice Act
 - b. AB 2218 - Transgender Health Equity Fund
6. Executive Director/Staff Report
 - a. Commission on HIV Committee Updates
 - b. 2021 COH Master Work Plan – Updates
 - c. 2021 Transgender Caucus Work Plan - Updates
 - d. EHE Updates
7. Training |Commission Overview + COH vs. DHSP Roles
8. Meeting Confirmation and Agenda Development for Next Meeting
9. Announcements
10. Adjournment



VIRTUAL MEETING—TRANSGENDER CAUCUS
Tuesday, March 23, 2021 | 10:00am to 12:00noon
MEETING SUMMARY

In attendance:

Luckie Alexander (Co-Chair)	Frankie Darling-Palacios (Co-Chair)	Lashea Brown
Genevieve Clavreul	Kevin Donnelly	Ayana Elliott
Magdalena Victoria Leon-Bianchi	Lev Luna	Melissa Marquette
Kimberly Martinez	Zaya Mejia	Veronica Montenegro
Xelestial Moreno-Luz	Katja Nelson	Jennifer Osborn
Mallery Robinson	Devon Rose	Teyana Russ
Abdul-Malik Ogunlade (Intern)	Cheryl Barrit (COH Staff)	Dawn McClendon (COH Staff)
		Sonja Wright (COH Staff)

1. Introductions

Cheryl Barrit, COH Staff, welcomed participants and all attendees introduced themselves and their agency/organization affiliations.

2. Co-Chair Report

None.

3. Executive Director's Report

The following updates were provided:

Work Plan: consists of a draft of recommendations from the previous Transgender Caucus meeting; the draft is a living document and can be changed and/or updated as needed. It was recommended that time is allocated within the Transgender Caucus meetings for ongoing mini-trainings to allow the caucus to gain an understanding of what the Commission does, for example: how decisions are made, the priority setting resource allocation process, Ryan White versus Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and issues that typically come up in decision making.

The tracking of AB 2218 has been updated. The tracking is being done in collaboration with the Public Policy (PP) Committee. Note: AB 2218 and the Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund will be collapsed.

Ending the Epidemic (EHE): it was recommended that this should be added as a standing item on the work plan and agenda.

A suggestion for additional goals to add to the work plan centered around billboards, publications or media advertisement that will address the trans' and nonbinary genders' diverse experiences as a way for these populations and communities to see representations of themselves. This can be pivotal in connecting with additional trans and nonbinary community members who may not have access to health care. Executive Director Cheryl Barrit informed the caucus this was one of the key recommendations that came out of the Black African American Community (BAAC) Task Force in terms of looking at and targeting, as well as overall community level interventions, to increase the visibility of the trans community. She added there is the opportunity of tying this recommendation to the larger efforts of BAAC and to support their work, in addition to making sure that the Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) is putting funds into maintaining and supporting the billboards. Clarification was given that the work plan is for the caucus's work within the scope of the larger work of the Commission; therefore the Transgender Caucus can tie it's work into the different initiatives and efforts that are happening from other subcommittees and groups. Due to the Commission not having funding specifically for the trans community billboard, the next best option is BAAC as Mario Perez (Director, DHSP) stated that it is an open consideration for the BAAC Task Force. Linking some of the suggestions under larger initiatives to ensure there are actual investments set forth to bring it to fruition is something that should be considered. Note: C. Barrit will formalize the wording of this to ensure the specificity of the message is not lost.

- Request made to have the BAAC Co-Chairs provide a brief presentation at one of the upcoming Transgender Caucus meetings; this will provide an opportunity for the caucus to tie into what they are doing.

4. Project Fierce / WeCanStopSTDsLA

Veronica Montenegro (Project Manager) explained Project Fierce (the actual Community Advisory Board-CAB) is a CDC funded project that provides an opportunity to expand the work that WeCanStopSTDsLA has been doing.

Project Fierce upholds the values of standing for justice, compassion, prevention, treatment, and open communication. They stand in opposition to bias of any person based on age, race, gender, social orientation, beliefs, income, or faith, in addition to high rates of STDs among young women and men. Note: Project Fierce specifically focuses on women.

Lashea Brown (Project Coordinator) highlighted the following: the target population of the Project Fierce CAB is young women of color, ages 18 to 24, who reside within LA County. Their vision is to identify the social determinants of health most impacting young women of color and to help design interventions that address those social determinants of health in addition to providing recommendations to larger bodies and collaborating with clinics, organizations, and stakeholders to increase linkage to resources and care.

The CAB currently consists of a group of nine women whose purpose is to help Project Fierce meet their vision. The project is funded for three years with the following proposed deliverables for 2021:

- Increase the number of young women of color (YWOC) CAB members who actively participate from 5 to 10
- Increase the number of social determinants of health prioritized by the CAB, from 0 to 3
- Increase the number of CAB-designed STD interventions for YWOC, from 0 to 3
- Increase the number of clinical resources identified by the CAB from 0 to 5
- Increase awareness of STD disparities among YWOC
- Increase awareness of personal health issues affecting YWOC and community resources
- Increase the number of new stable partnerships to address community needs from 0 to 6

Project Fierce looks forward to bridging and connecting with the following project partners to create and facilitate common causes: Community Health Council (CHC); Coachman, Moore, & Associates, Inc.; Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine; Public Health, Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP); Center for Health Equity; Commission on HIV (COH); and Essential Access Health.

Supporting partners have agreed to support in the following ways:

- CAB development/evolution and training
- Recruitment
- Development of an Assessment of Community Strengths and Needs, including identification of key Social Determinants of Health (SCH)
- Development of CAB-designed interventions
- Identifying appropriate partners across the County
Continuing to support the evolution of WeCanStopSTDsLA 2.0
- Assist with information dissemination information about successful project strategies and “lessons learned.”

Project Fierce will assess their relationship with the Transgender Caucus and look for networking opportunities, data sharing between both groups, and more importantly accountability in that the needs of this community are being heard.

Discussion

It was asked if Project Fierce leaves room for trans men to be in this space because many things the project deals with in terms of cisgender women, girls, and those who identify as female are the things that trans men deal with also. The answer provided indicated there is room for growth in this area and if the group decides that this population needs to be included then they will move forward in this. It was pointed out that the project is a pilot project and will be modified and adjusted as needed.

The topic of reproductive justice in the framework of Project Fierce was mentioned. The discussion pointed to the need for having competent language for transgender men and nonbinary individuals that carry children due to the language in medical settings centering

around women. It was acknowledged by Project Fierce that this is a topic that is not being addressed and it is something they will explore.

You may access the Project Fierce slide presentation on the COH website by clicking on this link: <http://hiv.lacounty.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=FvnXuZNM3k%3d&portalid=22>

5. Public Policy Items – Discussion

The Co-Chairs indicated that the Transgender Caucus should discuss how to move the community towards an organized effort in understanding how they can impact SB 225 and AB2218 along with other issues that might come up throughout the year; not just at the state level but also on a national level.

Public Policy Co-Chair Katja Nelson provided an overview of the bills as follows:

- SB 225 will delay specified medically unnecessary surgeries on children born with variations in their physical genitalia characteristics; this bill does not affect areas that are required to address an immediate risk of physical harm and it does not remove parents or doctors from the medical decision-making process that builds on Senator Scott Wiener's SCR 110 which called on health professionals to foster the well-being and individuality of children born with variations in their physical genitalia characteristics and to heed international human rights guidelines and health authorities in the United States that caution against medically unnecessary surgical procedures that carry both a meaningful risk of harm and can be safely deferred. The bill is currently in the Senate Committee on Business Professions and Economic Development. K. Nelson thought SCR-110 is a bill they would recommend a support position on.
- K. Nelson pointed out the summary, on the first page towards the end of the second paragraph, of what the bill intends to do: SB 225 will allow families to support their children's bodily characteristics prior to making irreversible lifelong surgical decisions, which is also reiterated towards the last paragraph of the back sheet provided in the packet.
- AB 2218 is a bill that the governor signed last year in 2020. The bill establishes the Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund within the State Department of Public Health, thereby creating and allocating resources for TGI serving organizations across the state. The resources would be used for things such as medical health programs, mental health programs, arts-based programming, and support housing, specifically for TGI people. The important aspect of the bill is during the advocacy last year (letter of support, included in packet) there was a \$15 million ask attached to the bill. Due to the impact of COVID the budget was totally decimated, however the bill was passed, and the governor signed it to show support in the spirit of the bill. No funding was available at the time so there will be a big push for funding this year.

6. Meeting Confirmation and Agenda Development for Next Meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 25th, 2021 from 10am -12pm. *Note: the caucus agreed to change its meetings to bimonthly, same meeting time of 10am – 12pm.

- Agendize 2021 work plan
- Add the following items to the work plan:
 - Trainings
 - EHE
 - Collapse AB 2218 and the Transgender Health and Wellness bill
 - BAAC Task Force Co-Chair presentation

Clarification was provided regarding the COH work plan versus caucus work plan

The master work plan, which is the full commission's work plan, is the process by which a committee, task force, or subgroup develops a work plan. This development happens during their respective meetings in which the groups discuss and determine what their priorities are for the year that falls within the purview of the Commission. The Commission was formed to elevate the voices of key priority populations and strengthen their visibility in the representation and decision-making of this group. The work plan for the caucus is not an outside or community effort to bring back to the group. The caucus collectively decides within the meeting space what should be incorporated into the work plan; what the draft work plan currently reflects is indicative of what has been discussed. As discussions evolve, the work plan will be modified accordingly.

7. Announcements

- Trans Day of Recognition (TDOV): March 31st, 2021
- Zaya from the Long Beach LGBTQ Center informed the caucus they are still working on video submissions for the TDOV video; anyone interested can contact the center. The center also hired a new executive director, Carlos Torres from an LGBTQ Center in Pennsylvania.
- Melissa from APLA announced that APLA is holding an event for TDOV.
- An online virtual screening of the Transvaginal Diaries, with a cast Q&A, will be held on March 27-28. Transgender Caucus Co-Chair Luckie Fuller is in the cast.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:56 am.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV (COH) 2021 MASTER WORK PLAN (Updated 4.23.21)

Co-Chairs: Bridget Gordon & David Lee		Revision Dates: 1/5/21; 3/31/31; 4/23/21
<p>Purpose of Work Plan: To focus and prioritize key activities for COH Committees and subgroups for 2021.</p> <p>Prioritization Criteria: Select activities that 1) represent the core functions of the COH; 2) advance the goals of the local Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Plan; and 3) align with COH staff and member capacities and time commitment; 4) ongoing COVID public health emergency response and recovery priorities.</p>		
#	TASK/ACTIVITY	TARGET COMPLETION DATE/STATUS
1	Collaborate with the Human Relations Commission and other trainers to design and implement trainings and facilitated discussions on managing conflicts, interpersonal relationships, and implicit bias.	Start February/Ongoing STARTED/IN PROGRESS
2	Planning Council effectiveness evaluation technical assistance provided by HealthHIV. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will evaluate the effectiveness of the structure, policies and procedures, membership, and stakeholder/consumer engagement integrated HIV planning groups. 	June STARTED/IN PROGRESS
3	<p>Conduct EHE focused strategic planning for the Commission. Support implementation of local EHE Plan within duties of the COH as defined in its ordinance.</p> <p>Strategic planning sessions will lead to the development of an EHE operational plan for the Commission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct an in-depth analysis of EHE plan and operationalize relevant activities for the Commission. Determine how to best support and supplement the work of the DHSP EHE Steering Committee. Define specific roles and goals for the Commission to end the HIV epidemic in LA County in 10 years. Define roles and expectations for the Commission and the DHSP EHE Steering Committee and provide opportunities for collaboration. Select a Commission Co-Chair or a member in a leadership position to serve as the liaison to the DHSP EHE Steering Committee 	May-June ONGOING
4	Develop an EHE Community Engagement and HIV Service Promotion Speaker's Tool Kit for Commissioners to use in community outreach and presentations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toolkit seeks to increase community awareness of EHE and local services. through Commission meetings, Virtual Lunch and Learn events; HIV Connect resource website; social media; virtual and in-person (pending DPH guidance) health and resource fairs (these may be ongoing activities) 	March STARTED/IN PROGRESS
5	Implement National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) BLOC training for consumers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customized training aimed at supporting consumer leadership development. 	June Virtual training secured for May 17-20 postponed to Sept per NMAC staff request
6	Implement activities aimed at integrated prevention and care planning, priority setting and resource allocation.	Start Jan/Ongoing STARTED/IN PROGRESS



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV (COH) 2021 MASTER WORK PLAN (Updated 4.23.21)

7	Review BAAC and ATF charge and implement recommendations best aligned with the purpose and capacity of the Commission	Start Jan/Ongoing STARTED/IN PROGRESS
Subject to change and does not include ongoing activities for Committees and subgroups.		



Transgender Caucus Workplan 2021 Updated 3-31-21

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT: To identify activities and priorities the Consumer Caucus will lead and advance throughout 2021.

PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA: Select activities that 1) represent the core functions of the COH and Caucus, 2) advance the goals of the local Ending the HIV (EHE) Plan, 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.

#	Activities & Lead/Champion(s)	Priority Level (High, Medium, Low)	Approach/Comments/Target Deadline
1	Track implementation and funding for AB2218 (Transgender Wellness Fund)	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with TransLatin@ Coalition and Public Policy Committee Track Governor's Budget for full funding @ \$15M Monitor bill in collaboration with Public Policy
2	Track SB 225 - the Bodily Autonomy, Dignity, and Choice Act	Ongoing	Monitoring bill in collaboration with Public Policy Committee
3	Integrate mini training at all meetings on how decisions are made on the Commission. Keep training as a standing meeting agenda item.	Ongoing	Training topics: Commission overview/committee functions and relationship with caucuses; priority setting and resource allocation process; service standards development; Ryan White Care system vs other HIV funding streams; understanding housing services, systems, and funding streams; other topics as determined by Caucus members.
4	Monitor implementation of the DHSP Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan; provide feedback. Keep EHE discussion as a standing meeting agenda item.	Ongoing	
5	Collaborate with the Public Policy Committee on policies specific to Transgender issues	Ongoing	

COMMISSION ON HIV (COH) ORDINANCE: INTEGRATED HIV/STD PREVENTION & CARE PLANNING COUNCIL (PC)

- **Formally became an integrated PC in 2013**
- **PC is federally required in order to receive Ryan White funds for HIV/AIDS services**
- **Housed as an independent commission within the Executive Office of the BOS in the organizational structure of the County of Los Angeles.**
- **Advise Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) on how to prevent and reduce HIV infections via the integrated HIV plan (aka Comprehensive HIV Plan or CHP)**
- **51 voting members; 1/3 must be unaffiliated consumers (UC)**
- **UC: PLWH and currently using a Ryan White (RW) Part A – funded service(s) and not employed by an agency receiving RW Part A funds.**



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Commission on HIV is housed as an independent commission within the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in the organizational structure of the County of Los Angeles.

The COH is NOT under DHSP/Dept. of Public Health. The COH is under the Board of Supervisors. Staff report to the Executive Office of the Board.





LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV

<http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

EXECUTIVE OFFICE



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The Commission on HIV (COH) serves as the local planning council for the planning, allocation, coordination and delivery of HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)



MEMBERS

51

Nominated by the
Commission on HIV.



APPOINTMENT

By Board
of Supervisors.



TERM OF OFFICE*

2 years

Serve at the pleasure
of the Board.



FORM 700

May be subject
to file.



QUALIFICATIONS*

Recommended entities shall forward candidates to the Commission for membership consideration.

Recommending entities and the nominating body are strongly encouraged to nominate candidates living with HIV disease or members of populations disproportionately affected by HIV/ STDs.



INCENTIVES*

Gift cards or stipends, and reimbursements for mileage, transportation, childcare are available only to unaffiliated consumers.

No more than \$150 per month as determined by the Commission policy.



DUTIES*

The Commission on HIV is tasked with planning, allocation, coordination and delivery of HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Disease(s) (STDs) services in Los Angeles County.

Consistent with Section 2602(b)(4) (42 U.S.C. § 300ff-12) of Ryan White legislation, HRSA guidance, and requirements of the CDC HIV Planning Guidance.

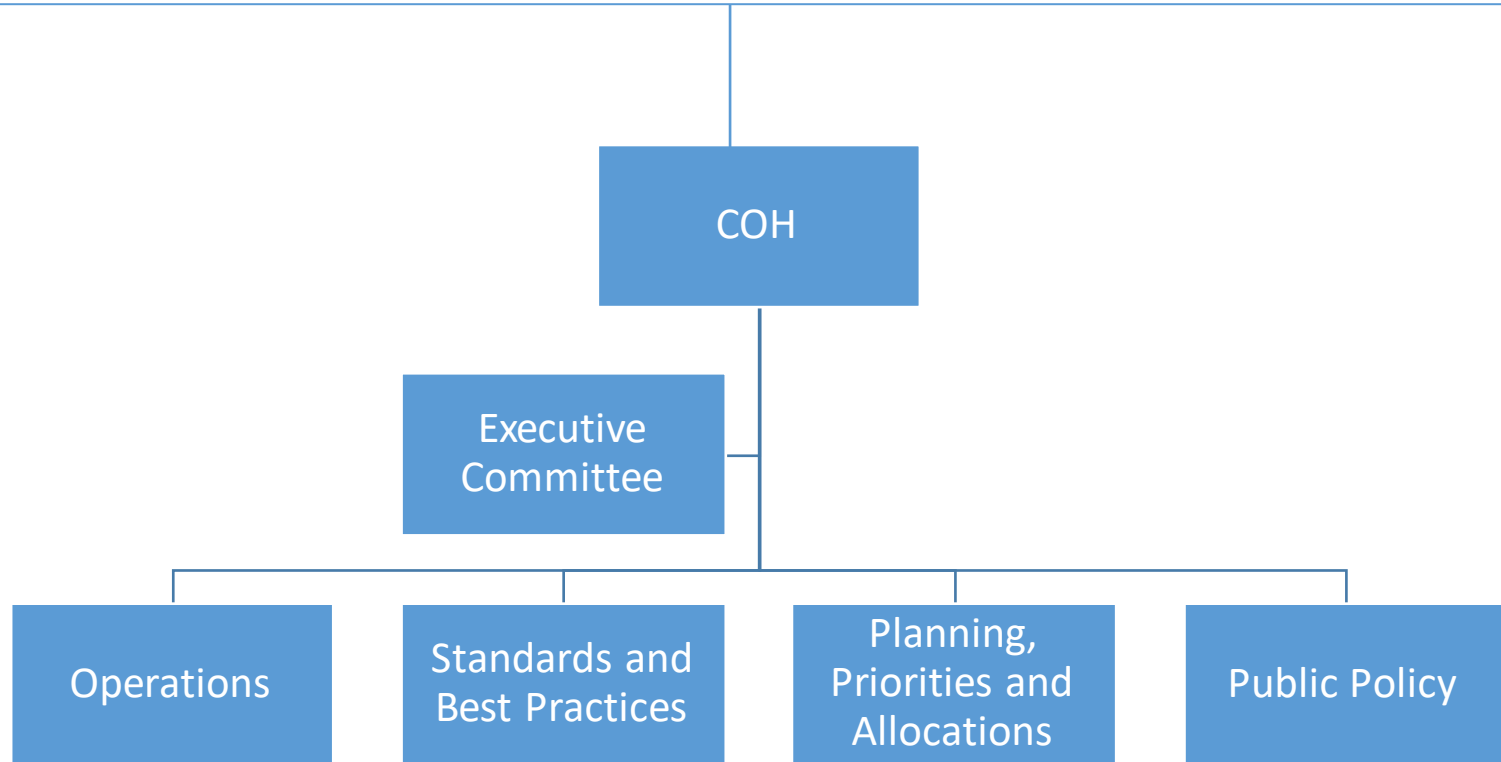


MEETINGS*

At least ten (10) times per year, plus monthly Committee meetings.

Additional time commitment may be required.

Board of Supervisors



Workgroups, Caucuses, Task Forces
Women's Caucus, Consumer Caucus, Transgender
Caucus, Black/African American Community Task Force,
Aging Task Force

CAUCUSES

- Established by the COH as needed
- Provide a forum for Commission members of designated “special populations” to discuss their Commission-related experiences and to strengthen that population’s voice in Commission deliberations.
- With Commission consent, caucuses determine their membership, meeting conduct and timelines, work plans, and activities.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



CAUCUSES

- A vehicle to provide a safe and judgement-free setting where the Commission's caucus members can easily and freely discuss their reactions and experiences, share their insights, and exchange perceptions of issues addressed by the Commission among other Commission members who are more likely to share/ understand those perspectives.
- Intended to develop a more organized voice to ensure that the caucus population's perspective is effectively heard when relevant issues are raised and discussed at the Commission.



CAUCUSES

Primary responsibilities:

1. Facilitating a forum for a dialogue among the caucus members
2. Developing the caucus voice at the Commission and in the community
3. Providing the caucus perspective on various Commission issues
4. Cultivating leadership in the caucus membership and population



Role of COH Staff

- **Assist the COH to carry out its legislative responsibilities and to operate effectively as an independent planning body**
- Staff committees and COH meetings
- Provide expert advice on Ryan White legislative requirements and HRSA/HAB/C DC regulations and expectations
- Oversee a training program for members
- Encourage member involvement and retention, with special focus on consumers
- Serve as liaison with DHSP
- Help the PC manage its budget
- Be involved *only* with supporting RWHAP Part A-related activities; COH public policy activities do not use RW funds

DHSP and COH Roles and Responsibilities

- DHSP and COH = two independent entities, both with legislative authority and roles
- Some roles belong to one entity and some are shared
- Effectiveness requires clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each entity, *plus*:
 - Communications, information sharing, and collaboration between the recipient, COH, and COH support staff
 - Ongoing consumer and community involvement

COH, DHSP, Roles & Responsibilities

Task	Committee	DHSP	COH
Carry Out Needs Assessment	PP&A	X	X
Do Comprehensive Planning	PP&A	X	X
Set Priorities*	PP&A		X
Allocate Resources*	PP&A		X
Manage Procurement		X	
Monitor Contracts		X	
Evaluate Effectiveness of Planning Activities	PP&A	X	X
Evaluate Effectiveness of Care Strategies	SBP	X	X
Do Quality Management		X	[Care Standards & Committee Involvement]
Assess the Efficiency of the Administrative Mechanism*	Operations		X
Member Recruitment, Retention and Training	Operations		X

* Sole responsibility of RWHAP Part A Planning Councils

Governing Documents

- **Los Angeles County, California, Code of Ordinances >> Title 3 - ADVISORY COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES >> Chapter 3.29 COMMISSION ON HIV >> http://lacounty-ca.elaws.us/code/coor_title3_ch3.29**
- **Bylaws**
http://hiv.lacounty.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=_7kBeDauzx4%3d&portalid=22

Q & A



<https://hivconnect.org/>



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HIVCommissionLA



@HIVCommissionLA



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