



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 22, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	COMM STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Grissel Granados, MSW, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Al Ballesteros, MBA	Yolanda Sumpter	Carolyn Echols-Watson, MPA
Ricky Rosales, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Traci Bivens-Davis		Dawn McClendon
Jason Brown	Joseph Cadden, MD		Jane Nachazel
Raquel Cataldo	Terry Goddard, MA	DHSP STAFF	Doris Reed
Kevin Donnelly	Joseph Green	Michael Green, PhD, MHSA	James Stewart
Aaron Fox, MPM	Mario Pérez, MPH		Julie Tolentino, MPH
Ace Robinson, MPH			
Kevin Stalter			

CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET

- 1) **Agenda:** Executive Committee Meeting Agenda, 2/22/2018
- 2) **Minutes:** Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, 1/25/2018
- 3) **Application:** Erika Davies, City of Pasadena Representative, 2/22/2018
- 4) **Table:** Commission on HIV Membership Slate, 2/15/2018
- 5) **Definition:** Los Angeles County Commission on HIV (COH), Consumer Caucus Co-Chair Description, Final 2/14/2018

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Rosales called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

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 1/25/2018 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 COMMENT

4. **NON-AGENDIZED OR FOLLOW-UP:** There were no comments.

IV. REPORTS

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT:

- Ms. McClendon again acknowledged Mr. Stewart for his years of service and presented a Langer's Delicatessen-Restaurant gift certificate. He was recognized with a plaque at the 2/8/2018 Commission Meeting.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2018

Page 2 of 6

- Mr. Stewart thanked everyone for the experience and brought his homemade butter crunch as a going away gift.
- A. Statement of Economic Interest Form 700 Reminder:** All Commission members should have received an email from the Executive Office regarding submission of Form 700. The deadline is 4/2/2018. Late forms are subject to daily fines.
- B. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Site Visit Follow-Up:** Mr. Rosales reported on a mini-check-in with HRSA on 2/21/2018. They did not offer much visit detail, but sounded impressed overall with an interesting general conversation. He did not participate in the Unaffiliated Consumer (UC) portion, but heard they enjoyed it and it went well.

6. CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:

- Mr. Rosales reported the Co-Chairs have meetings with three Health Deputies on 2/26/2018 with the other two scheduled for mid-March. This is the first meeting in a while so they will be prepared to answer any questions as well as to address a few priorities, especially the Los Angeles County HIV/AIDS Strategy (LACHAS) and Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U).
- Mr. Stalter asked the Co-Chairs to request Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas' Health Deputy to approve Traci Bivens-Davis' application. It has been held two months. They are also considering another candidate., but a membership application form has not been received from this individual.
- A. Public Comment Placement on Agendas:**
 - Mr. Rosales noted Public Comment was deliberately moved to the end of Commission meetings after extensive discussion, including in the Operations Committee, to avoid meetings being diverted, e.g., by demonstrations. Ms. Granados added comments often preceded pertinent agendized items prompting jumps around the agenda.
 - Mr. Stalter said Operations discussed placement that morning and recommended moving it up to after the colloquia. That is late enough to avoid commandeering the start of the meeting and people are generally in a good mood. Comment can be an opportunity for outreach and participation, but many people have left by the end of the meeting.
 - Operations members will also come early to personally greet Commission meeting attendees with agendas and comment cards. Staff was requested to produce agendas in English and Spanish as well as bilingual comment cards with a reminder that the public may comment on each agenda item in addition to general comments.
 - Mr. Rosales felt the current position was good and noted most Public Comments are announcements, but he was amenable to any position. He felt ensuring people know they can comment on any agenda item will be more helpful.
 - Mr. Donnelly noted the Commission has made various agenda adjustments to be more consistent with Los Angeles County (LAC) bodies. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) and other commissions place Public Comment at the end.
 - Mr. Fox felt the time is not as important as keeping meetings on schedule so people can plan for Public Comment.
 - Mr. Stewart complimented the Commission on taking Public Comment seriously and listening to it. Most Brown Act-covered bodies provide Public Comment because it is required, but pay little to no attention to what is said.
 - Ms. Cataldo felt there were cases both to leave it or move it, but educating the community on making comments is key.
 - The Commission is legally prohibited from entering into dialogue on Public Comment, but topics may be referred to a Committee, Caucus, Task Force, or Work Group. Individuals may be offered some service referrals outside the meeting.
- ➡ Return topic of Public Comment placement on the Commission agenda to Operations Committee for further discussion.

MOTION #3: (Stalter/Brown): Move Public Comment on the Commission Agenda from the end of the meeting to immediately after the colloquia (**Failed: Ayes:** Brown, Cataldo, Donnelly, Stalter; **Opposed:** Fox, Robinson, Granados, Rosales; **Abstention:** None).

B. Executive At-Large Member Nominations/Elections:

- To date, nominees are current seat holders Ms. Cataldo, Mr. Donnelly, and Mr. Green; and Danielle Campbell, MPH.
- Nominations will remain open until elections at the 3/8/2018 Commission Meeting. Nominees must have been on the Commission for one year to be eligible. There are no other requirements.

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

- Dr. Green thanked the Commission and consumers for participating in the HRSA site visit. The debriefs he had at the end of the Commission visit and at the end of the site visit overall were very positive. HRSA was impressed with the Commission and with the forthrightness of the consumer conversation. He felt all did a good job in sharing perspectives.
- He had not known that the administrative reviewer would be the lead for Planning Council discussions, but she was also the one who read all the minutes on the website and was very thorough. She said positive things about both the Commission and DHSP. The fourth HRSA team member was doing the fiscal review and stayed at DHSP to continue that work.

- There will be a couple of DHSP findings related to Quality Improvement. He did not expect any Commission findings but, if there are, they will pertain to membership and the Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism (AAM). DHSP will report on findings to the Commission and discuss a prospective plan of corrective action after receipt of the draft site visit report.

8. LOS ANGELES COUNTY HIV/AIDS STRATEGY (LACHAS):

- Mr. Rosales noted draft speaking points were in the 2/8/2018 Commission Meeting packet. Feedback is appreciated.
- One suggestion from the Co-Chairs' meeting with DHSP the prior week was to use Commission Meetings as a vehicle to host listening sessions during or after meetings in different areas of LAC. The Commission is discussing a partnership with the Northeast Valley Health Corporation to help bring in consumers and other local community leaders in that area.
- Each session will likely group Health Districts. It is hoped a schedule will be available for the 3/8/2018 Commission Meeting.
- Mr. Robinson reported widespread feedback from the City of Long Beach in support of greater funding autonomy reflective of its status as a large City and to meet residents' needs. Dr. Green replied, due to Long Beach HIV Planning Group work, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Long Beach and LAC health departments is being drafted for the first time. The MOU will hopefully expedite distribution of funds to the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), increase data sharing, and improve input from City of Long Beach DHHS staff into area planning.
- The City of Long Beach receives some resources from the state, but not from HRSA or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as it is not considered its own Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA). It is contained within the Los Angeles EMSA. Historically, DHSP has funded the City of Long Beach DHHS in the same way it funds Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to provide direct prevention or care and treatment services to consumers.
- Ms. Cataldo raised the issue of the proposed realignment of LAC fiscal authority and was concerned to hear that DHSP's delegated authority was reduced from 25% to 10%. Dr. Green responded DHSP's delegated authority had been 10% for years. DHSP can always ask for greater delegated authority from the BOS, e.g., DHSP asked for and received delegated authority of 50% for the new Mental Health contracts to ensure funds if expenditures exceeded initial projections.
- Mr. Fox said the key concern appears to be an internal proposal to consolidate all finance and budgeting within the Department of Public Health (DPH) instead of maintaining separate finance and budgeting for, e.g., DHSP, and Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) which have distinct, complex funding requirements.
- Dr. Green noted current DPH administration is unaware of history on the prior single budget unit. Eventually, largely due to consumer input, a budget process was assigned specifically to the AIDS Program including finance staff and budget codes. DHSP can continue to recommend against consolidation and point to examples of LAC attempts to consolidate that resulted in inefficiencies, but the bureaucracy continues to move toward consolidation. The Commission's voice is unique in its ability to share with DPH leadership and the BOS what the effects of consolidation would be.
- Mr. Fox noted, as private individuals, people are free to voice concerns to their Board Offices about department policy.
- ➡ Cheryl Barrit, MPIA, Executive Director, is following up on the DPH budget matter and will give an update on 3/22/2018.

9. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Planning, Priorities and Allocations (PP&A) Committee: Mr. Brown and Mr. Ballesteros were re-elected as Co-Chairs.

1. Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA):

- Mr. Brown reported Rebecca Ronquillo has joined PP&A and will provide a monthly HOPWA update.
- At the 2/20/2018 meeting, she provided an update on the Consolidated Plan including contracted agencies, their allocations, expenditures, service categories, and people served at this point in the contract year.
- Mr. Rosales noted community sessions are hosted for Consolidated Plan input and that input is valued.

2. Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Plan and Directives Update: Review has started and will continue on 3/20/2018.

3. 2018 Prevention Planning: PP&A will continue to review prevention planning in consideration of LACHAS goals, e.g., it is estimated 1,975,000 HIV tests will be needed, assuming a 0.5% positivity rate, to meet that goal. The countywide positivity rate must be estimated because, aside from Ryan White-funded tests, DHSP only receives data on HIV+ tests.

B. Standards and Best Practices (SBP) Committee: Dr. Cadden and Mr. Robinson were elected Co-Chairs.

1. Upcoming Standards Review:

- Mr. Robinson reported the 2/1/2018 meeting reviewed final revisions to the Housing Standards of Care before forwarding them to the 2/8/2018 Commission Meeting where they were approved.
- Significant discussion addressed the Prevention Standards of Care with a particular focus on "test and treat." The gold standard is for people testing HIV+ to receive a starter set of medications immediately. Discussion focused on determining varying levels of capacity to meet that goal and how to increase it.

- Another aspect of the Prevention Standards of Care discussion is to ensure physicians are educated on U=U and provide clients medically accurate information on U=U to reduce HIV transmission and improve quality of life.
- SBP reviewed some Legal Services Standards of Care feedback and will review more at its 3/1/2018 meeting.
- Wendy Garland, MPH presented on the first year of Medical Care Coordination (MCC) evaluation data. She expects final iterations of the assessment tool and outcome documents will be available for review at the next meeting. SBP raised several issues to consider including improving staff diversity to better reflect the patient population.
- Standards of Care are incorporated in prevention, care, and treatment services contracted by DHSP, but are voluntary for other providers. LACHAS community engagement efforts can help expand uptake.

C. Operations Committee:

1. Membership Management:

- a. **Membership Application: Erika Davies, City of Pasadena Representative:** There was no additional discussion.

MOTION #3: Approve Membership Application for Erika Davies, City of Pasadena Representative (*Passed by Consensus*).

- b. **Review Options for J. Muñoz, R. Peña, and Y. Sumpter:**

- Mr. Stalter reported Mr. Peña and Ms. Sumpter have re-engaged, have spoken with Ms. Barrit and have been informed about requirements for avoiding any future action.
- Mr. Muñoz has not responded to any of the multiple attempts to reach him. He was sent a letter with a deadline of 2/24/2018 to respond to avoid his seat being vacated. If he does not respond, the Operations Committee will bring a recommendation to vacate the seat to the 3/22/2018 Executive Committee meeting.

- c. **Seat Vacancies Review:**

- Mr. Stalter said Ms. Barrit may have a lead on a candidate for the long vacant Medi-Cal Representative seat.
- Unaffiliated Consumer (UC) representation remains an issue. Operations discussed a variety of strategies to address it. He felt moving Commission meetings to different areas of LAC will help.

- b. **Recruitment and Retention Plan: Identify Strategies to Recruit Unaffiliated Consumers:**

- Operations also formed a work group to broaden media outreach such as with targeted Facebook ads and Scruff; and revise and expand recruitment materials, e.g., creating a Spanish/English postcard; and targeting different communities such as transgender individuals and youth. Staff will identify an outreach budget.
- Operations members will begin attending more community events and meetings, particularly those reflecting communities underrepresented at the table. Ms. Wright will assist Operations in sorting invitations.

2. **Assessment of Administrative Mechanism (AAM) Update:** There was no additional information.

D. Public Policy Committee: Mr. Fox and Mr. Goddard were elected Co-Chairs.

1. Healthcare Access:

- Mr. Fox reported reconciliation at the federal level this year appears unlikely. Reconciliation allows passage of budget legislation with 51 Senate votes and can address topics like Medicaid. The House Budget Committee may pass a budget resolution which allows reconciliation, but the Senate is uninterested.
- Consequently, 60 Senate votes will be needed for legislation. In addition, it is an election year and political winds have shifted so it should not be necessary to defend, e.g., the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

2. State Legislation and Budget:

- Care for All California is a new and very diverse coalition including consumers, labor unions, and some providers. The coalition will be proposing a large and ambitious package of California health care bills. The deadline for proposing bills passed last week, but some bills are in "spot form" with just a few sentences to hold the space.
- The coalition package will address a few large issues such as limiting health care costs, increased assistance for out-of-pocket costs and co-payments; increased consumer protections; and possibly a statewide individual mandate to compensate for loss of the federal individual mandate which will expire in 2019.
- Care For All California is on a parallel track with single payer health care which is unlikely to advance in the Legislature in the near future. Care For All California seeks to move as close to universal coverage as possible.
- Health For All is a related initiative by Senator Ricardo Lara to expand Medi-Cal to undocumented Californians. Currently, California is the only state that pays to cover undocumented children who are otherwise eligible for Medi-Cal. This year there will be a strong push to cover everyone otherwise eligible regardless of citizenship status.
- Ryan White allocations will need to be revised if all undocumented people who qualify for Medi-Cal with an income under 138% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) become covered. As funding of last resort, Ryan White cannot pay for services that are available through another source. Medi-Cal is comprehensive and provides

services not available through Ryan White such as hospitalization but, where both cover a service such as Ambulatory Outpatient Medical, then the patient would receive the care through Medi-Cal.

- Other bills of interest include one that would expand physician CMEs to include PEP/PrEP and testing.
 - The Public Policy Committee plans its initial review of legislation to develop the 2018 Legislative Docket at the 3/5/2018 meeting. Mr. Fox hoped language for many of those bills will be available for review.
 - Mr. Fox was in Sacramento on 2/21/2018 meeting with leadership, Budget Committees, the Department of Finance, and the Governor's Office. The California HIV Alliance is proposing a \$15 million budget ask, the largest since all state HIV funding was cut in 2009. \$10 million would fund HIV prevention services broadly defined to respond to differing county needs. Another is for demonstration projects, e.g., \$2 million over three years for programs serving transgender people with linkage to prevention and care services plus economic empowerment.
 - Other asks are for HIV and aging; \$1 million for public health detailing; and various PrEP Assistance Program asks including reducing the minimum eligible age from 18 to 12, and paying all costs for confidentiality reasons.
 - The California HIV Alliance is also asking to continue the \$6.6 million for Hepatitis C demonstration projects which have been successful in identifying infections, engaging people in treatment, and monitoring adherence to achieve a cure. The Alliance also supports an ongoing \$10 million General Fund investment in STD services.
 - The Governor's Budget includes a proposal to end the 340B drug program which generates savings for Ryan White, STD, and community clinics to provide otherwise uncompensated services. The Alliance opposes the proposal.
- a. **HIV Testing Laws Update:**
- Ms. Ayako Miyashita, JD, Assistant Adjunct Professor, Department of Social Welfare, School of Public Affairs, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and the California HIV/AIDS Policy Research Centers provided a comprehensive update on HIV testing laws in California. It included information on testing in various settings, confidential versus anonymous, information provided after an HIV+ or HIV- test, and mandatory test offers.
 - Mr. Fox found the presentation helpful because many good laws have been passed in the last few years, but implementation is inconsistent. The budget ask for public health detailing is meant to address staff education.

3. **County Legislation and Policies:** There was no additional information.

10. CAUCUS, TASK FORCE, AND WORK GROUP REPORTS:

A. Consumer Caucus:

- Mr. Stalter reported for Mr. Green. The Caucus thanked Ms. Granados for presenting an LACHAS overview at the 2/8/2018 Caucus Meeting. The presentation was a good first step to engage consumers.
- The next Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) Meet and Greet is being scheduled for 40-50 people in April. The date and venue should be finalized in the next few days. Gilead has agreed to underwrite the luncheon.
- Hussain Turk, JD, HIV Law and Policy Project, will help educate consumers with a presentation on HIV criminalization. There will be an LACHAS overview and Gilead will present on their new medication. He thanked all for their support.

1. Co-Chair Definition:

- The Caucus is in the process of restructuring and redefining its leadership to include one UC HIV+ Co-Chair, one Co-Chair who is an HIV- consumer of prevention services, and one community Co-Chair. The final Consumer Caucus Co-Chair Description will be presented for review and approval at the 3/8/2018 Consumer Caucus Meeting.
- The Co-Chair election process will begin 3/8/2018, but it is unlikely all three Co-Chairs will be elected. Candidates with questions, especially those who are HIV- consumers, are urged to contact Mr. Green prior to 3/8/2018.

B. **Women's Caucus:** The last meeting was cancelled.

C. Transgender Task Force:

- Ms. Reed reported Ms. Tolentino presented a LACHAS and Health District (HD) overview. The group expressed concern that LACHAS language was not layperson friendly and felt DHSP did not consult sufficiently with HDs on their needs.
- Concerns regarding PrEP were weight gain, complicated access, and stigma against those who use PrEP. There was consensus that PrEP should be promoted as part of overall sexual health rather than HIV-specific care.
- The Task Force identified an underlying problem for the transgender community is widespread distrust of LAC agencies, e.g., DHSP, DPH, and the Department of Mental Health. The Task Force will develop a survey on the topic. Survey development will be the focal point of the next meeting, 3/26/2018, at 3055 Wilshire Boulevard.
- The Task Force also urged greater Commission representation and staff encouraged members to apply.

D. Housing Task Force:

- Ms. Echols-Watson reported the Task Force's next meeting will be 4/25/2018. In the interim, staff is attending the Coordinated Entry System (CES) meeting. DHSP and HOPWA are also meeting to better coordinate services. Several Consolidated Plan community meetings have been scheduled by the City of Los Angeles for feedback.
- Ashlee Oh, Chief Executive Office, will present on the LAC Homeless Initiative at the 3/8/2018 Commission Meeting.

E. Long Beach Task Force:

- Mr. Robinson reported Task Force members will be attending the next Long Beach HIV Planning Group meeting in a few weeks. Kelly Colopy, Director, Department of Health and Human Services has been very supportive.
- LAC recently hosted one of its listening sessions in Long Beach. Issues raised were the health desert in northeast Long Beach and the lack of culturally competent services for the Cambodian community, e.g., just one person speaks Khmer.

V. NEXT STEPS

11. **TASK/ASSIGNMENTS RECAP:** There was no additional discussion.
12. **AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING:** There was no additional discussion.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mr. Fox reported for informational, not endorsement, purposes, that Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom has a policy paper on his website that includes a commitment, should he be elected governor, to create and implement a statewide strategy for ending the HIV and Hepatitis C epidemics. The strategy would utilize new and existing resources.
- Mr. Robinson announced the Los Angeles Community College District was hosting a Transgender Summit at Los Angeles Trade Tech on 2/23/2018, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. Registration opens at 8:00 am. A few seats remained available.
- The International AIDS Conference will be 7/22-27/2018 in Amsterdam. The deadline has passed for scholarships and early registration, but it remains important for people from this region to represent the area.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

14. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.