

**Ryan White Part A Planning Council (RWPC) of the Philadelphia EMA  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, July 14, 2011  
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
Office of HIV Planning 340 N. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 203, Philadelphia, PA 19107**

**Present:** Christine Ambrose, Dafne Armstrong, Tim Barlow, Naseem Bazargan, Henry Bennett, Kevin Burns, Michael Cappuccilli, John Churchville, Ted Danowski, Lupe Diaz, Alan Edelstein, Dawna Edwards-Watson, Amy Eusebio, Princess Graham, Peter Houle, Kevin Huang, Andrena Ingram, Tyrone Johnson, Gerry Keys, Richard Lampkins (Co-Chair), Joseph Roderick, Nurit Shein, Wendy Walters, Deanne Wingate

**Excused:** Alicia Beatty, Carmell Bolden, William Brawner (Co-Chair), Christopher Coleman, Karen Coleman, William Gray, Michael Myers, Ann Ricksecker, Kevin Smith, Sandra Thompson, Melvin White, Jacqueline Whitfield, Vincent Wynn

**Absent:** Marcelo Fernandez-Viña, Eugenio Garcia, Mildred Grant, Elizabeth Minor, Belmis Montero, John Oliver, Patrice Patterson, Jorge Rivera, Emery Troy, Leroy Way

**Guests:** Lenny Bell, Chris Chu (AACO), Ricardo Colon (AACO), Sam Cutler, Terry Davis, Marvin Govens Jr., Sheila Heck, Brian Langley, Joseph Malloy III, Loretta Matus, Tiffany Melo, Anthony Pearson, Gary Pinkney, James Taylor

**Staff:** Aneesa Agha, Nicole Johns, Debbie Law, Briana Morgan, Mari Ross-Russell, Nishika Vidanage

**Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Introductions:**

R. Lampkins called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m. and a moment of silence followed. Those present then introduced themselves.

**Approval of Agenda:**

R. Lampkins presented the agenda for approval. J. Churchville stated that Comprehensive Planning Committee would not have a report, and A. Edelstein stated that the Finance Committee also would not have a report. **Motion:** T. Johnson moved, L. Diaz seconded to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion passed:** All in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:**

R. Lampkins presented the minutes from the June 9, 2011 meeting, noting that the RWPC had approved the priority list for the 2012 fiscal year during that meeting. D. Edwards-Watson stated that she had been absent from that meeting. **Motion:** D. Wingate moved, L. Diaz seconded to approve the minutes from the June 2011 meeting as amended. **Motion passed:** All in favor.

**Public Comment:**

J. Malloy stated that the July/August issue of Poz magazine included an article stating that, of all fifty states, New Jersey had the highest proportion of PLWHA who are women. He went on to say that, while women of color only made up one third of the female population in New Jersey, they represented 83% of female HIV/AIDS cases. He then asked everyone present to review the article.

**Report of Co-Chair:**

None.

**Report of Staff:**

M. Ross-Russell stated that the Ryan White awards still had not been released, although she had been notified that the awards ought to be released on or around July 22. She explained that the OHP had tentatively set dates for the allocations meetings, but that they were subject to change based on the release of the awards. She further explained that both the Finance Committee and RWPC would need to meet prior to holding the allocations meetings, in order to review the previous year's allocations in comparison to the actual awards. She also clarified that the award in question was the award for the fiscal year that had begun March 1, 2011. She then stated that the OHP would keep RWPC members as up-to-date as possible throughout the process, and that they would complete as much work as possible before the August RWPC meeting.

**Presentation:**

- **Drug Use in Philadelphia**

S. Cutler introduced himself and asked anyone with questions to ask throughout the presentation (*see – attached booklet*). He first reviewed key points about his data sources, noting that the Domestic Monitor Program (DMP) included undercover drug purchases. He stated that Liquor Control Board licenses referenced in his sources included beer distributors, bars, restaurants, and similar establishments. He then noted that those persons covered by Medicaid would not be included in the data from the Behavioral Health Special Initiative (BHSI). He next stated that drug test data was gathered from the Adult Parole and Probation Department (APPD) for those entering probation or parole for the first time.

S. Cutler then began to review the data. He first explained that recovery prevalence was based on whether respondents or anyone in the respondent's family were in recovery. He then pointed out that 68% of those in prison are actually awaiting trial, rather than serving sentences.

S. Cutler next stated that those using certain drugs would use them for longer before seeking treatment when compared with those using other drugs. He explained that when crack cocaine was new to the market, for example, users would seek treatment after approximately three months. He further explained that those with alcohol or heroin habits typically waited much longer before seeking treatment. He then noted that there were six cities in the United States that were experiencing issues with PCP, and that Philadelphia was one of these cities. He also stated that the "Big Four" (marijuana, alcohol, cocaine, and heroin) previously represented 95% of drug use in

Philadelphia, but that pain medications and benzodiazepines were becoming increasingly popular.

S. Cutler then reviewed treatment admissions for the uninsured by age group, noting that they were seeing an aging cocaine-using population. He next stated that the top two drugs seized by the police department were marijuana and cocaine. Moving to deaths with the presence of any drug, S. Cutler noted that there had been a widespread issue from April 2006 – April 2007 where illicitly produced fentanyl was found in heroin bags, causing many deaths. He also stated that the Philadelphia Medical Examiner's Office does not test for marijuana stays in the system for a very long time. W. Walters asked how long marijuana remains in the fatty tissue. S. Cutler replied that marijuana would remain in the system for four weeks for regular users, although it would not remain as long for those that did not use regularly. He also stated that there was an average of 4.5 drugs in the system for those that had died from drug intoxication, although he had seen one case in which the person had had 17 drugs in his or her system at the time of death.

S. Cutler next reviewed the top drug-positive urinalysis results, noting that cocaine would work out of the system of a frequent user within three days, and out of the system of a less frequent user within two days. He then stated that responses to drug use or overdose accounted for approximately 0.25% of EMS responses, which amounted to approximately 250,000 ambulance runs each year. N. Bazargan asked if treatment admissions were court-ordered. S. Cutler replied that Philadelphia did not use remanded treatment. He explained that many times, a person was unable to make bail, and was given the option of seeking treatment or facing prosecution.

S. Cutler stated that heroin users had been surveyed as heroin purity declined, and that they had found that many heroin users had switched to prescription painkillers as they had greater trust in pharmaceutical products. He went on to say that some other heroin users had switched from snorting to injecting the drug, while others had used more heroin per use or used more times each day. He noted that a group of people had also come into treatment. He then explained that it was important to consider systematic changes when looking at the number of people that had come into treatment each year, since the number of slots or changes in authorizations could also affect these numbers.

S. Cutler next pointed out that opioids had become more common in 2010 arrests, and that there had been a new emergence of treatment demand from people using painkillers. W. Walters asked if OAS had addressed the issue of those visiting the doctor while experiencing cocaine withdrawal, and being given antidepressants. S. Cutler replied that they did not have a way of quantifying who had prescriptions, and for what reason. He then stated that they had seen some people that visited multiple doctors in order to get multiple prescriptions for the same drug.

S. Cutler noted that the PA House Bill 365 had designated both salvia and bath salts as Schedule I controlled substances, and that this bill had passed with a vote of 195-0.

Following the presentation, M. Ross-Russell explained that S. Cutler had attended the current meeting to speak on drug use in Philadelphia in order to inform the RWPC's discussions. She further explained that the National HIV/AIDS Strategy encouraged sharing of information and collaboration across agencies, so it would be important for these conversations to happen more frequently.

K. Huang asked if S. Cutler had data on disease prevalence among drug users. S. Cutler replied that this data was not available from many of OAS's data sources. He went on to say that OAS did not receive HIV data from treatment admissions programs. M. Ross-Russell added that OHP staff reviewed the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), but that the information was restricted. S. Cutler noted that M. Ross-Russell had asked about disparities in numbers from TEDS, and found many organizations do not report to TEDS.

**Points of Integration Update:**

None.

**Report of Committees:**

- *Finance Committee – Alan Edelstein, Co-Chair*

No report.

- *Needs Assessment Committee – Christine Ambrose, Co-Chair*

C. Ambrose reported that the Needs Assessment Committee was seeking new members, noting that the group met on the second Monday of the month from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. She stated that her co-chair was D. Edwards-Watson, and that the group had discussed outcomes from the consumer town halls at their last meeting. She went on to say that the committee would present data on the town halls to the full RWPC later in the year. She next stated that the committee was preparing for the 2012 consumer survey, and that they planned to incorporate new questions related to the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) and Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning (ECHPP).

- *Comprehensive Planning Committee – John Churchville, Co-Chair*

No report.

- *Positive Committee – Wendy Walters, Co-Chair*

W. Walters reported that the Positive Committee had received a presentation called “Where We Live Matters” from N. Johns on demographics in Philadelphia, which used maps of the city to display data. She explained that the city was very segregated by race and socio-economic status, and that areas with high degrees of neighborhood instability also had more HIV/AIDS cases. R. Lampkins asked how attendance had been at Positive Committee meetings. W. Walters replied that they had seen lower attendance at the last meeting, but that they believed this to be a result of hot weather.

- *Nominations Committee – Michael Cappuccilli, Co-Chair*

M. Cappuccilli stated that the Nominations Committee would be hosting a follow-up orientation meeting for new members on August 11, which would provide new members with an opportunity to meet committee co-chairs and ask questions. He went on to say that the committee planned to present the action plan for the membership survey in the fall. He then added that the RWPC was in need of new members, particularly African-American and white males from Philadelphia.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

None.

**Announcements:**

None.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** W. Walters moved, C. Ambrose seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:54 p.m.

**Motion passed:** All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Briana L. Morgan, Staff

**Handouts Distributed at the Meeting:**

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Minutes from June 9, 2011
- Drug Use in Philadelphia, PA Booklet
- OHP Calendar

# Philadelphia EMA Ryan White Part A Planning Council

Thursday, July 14, 2011 2:00-4:00 pm

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## Call to Order/ Moment of Silence

## Introductions

## Approval of Agenda

## Recap of Previous Meeting

- *Priority Setting* – The RWPC approved the priority list for FY2012. The full list is displayed in the conference room, and is also available at the Office of HIV Planning website ([www.hivphilly.org](http://www.hivphilly.org)).

## Approval of Minutes (*from June 9, 2011*):

## Public Comment

## Report of Co-Chair

## Report of Staff

## Presentation:

- *Drug Use in Philadelphia – Samuel Cutler, Office of Addiction Services*

## Points of Integration Update

## Report of Committees

- Finance Committee – Alan Edelstein, Chair
- Needs Assessment Committee—Christine Ambrose, Co-Chair
- Comprehensive Planning Committee—John Churchville, Co-Chair
- Positive Committee—Wendy Walters, Co-Chair
- Nominations Committee—Michael Cappuccilli, Co-Chair

## Old Business

## New Business

## Announcements

## Adjournment

### PLEASE TURN ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS TO SILENT OR VIBRATE.

*The next meeting of the Planning Council will be on Thursday, August 11 from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.,  
and will be held at 340 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 203, Philadelphia, PA 19107.*

*Please refer to the Office of HIV Planning calendar of events for committee meetings & updates  
([www.hivphilly.org/calendar.html](http://www.hivphilly.org/calendar.html)). If you require any special assistance, please contact the office at least 5 days in advance.*

**Ryan White Part A Planning Council (RWPC) of the Philadelphia EMA  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 9, 2011  
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
Office of HIV Planning 340 N. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 203, Philadelphia, PA 19107**

**Present:** Christine Ambrose, Dafne Armstrong, Naseem Bazargan, Alicia Beatty, Henry Bennett, Carmell Bolden, John Churchville, Christopher Coleman, Karen Coleman, Ted Danowski, Lupe Diaz, Alan Edelstein, Amy Eusebio, Princess Graham, Peter Houle, Kevin Huang, Richard Lampkins (Co-Chair), Michael Myers, Ann Ricksecker, Joseph Roderick, Nurit Shein, Emery Troy, Wendy Walters, Leroy Way

**Excused:** Tim Barlow, William Brawner (Co-Chair), Kevin Burns, Michael Cappuccilli, William Gray, Andrena Ingram, Gerry Keys, Kevin Smith, Sandra Thompson, Melvin White, Jacqueline Whitfield, Vincent Wynn

**Absent:** Marcelo Fernandez-Viña, Eugenio Garcia, Mildred Grant, Tyrone Johnson, Elizabeth Minor, Belmis Montero, John Oliver, Patrice Patterson, Jorge Rivera, Deanne Wingate

**Guests:** Chris Chu (AACO), Ricardo Colon (AACO), Brian Langley, Loretta Matus, Robert Partridge, Anthony Pearson, Cindy Scott, Ann Williams, Michael Wilson

**Staff:** Aneesa Agha, Nicole Johns, Debbie Law, Michael Milsop, Briana Morgan, Mari Ross-Russell, Nishika Vidanage

**Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Introductions:**

R. Lampkins called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. and a moment of silence followed. Those present then introduced themselves.

**Approval of Agenda:**

R. Lampkins presented the agenda for approval, noting that there would be no committee reports from the Nominations, Positive, Comprehensive Planning, Points of Integration, or Finance Committees. **Motion:** J. Churchville moved, P. Houle seconded to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion passed:** All in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:**

R. Lampkins presented the minutes from the May 14, 2011 meeting. **Motion:** W. Walters moved, K. Coleman seconded to approve the minutes from the May 2011 meeting. **Motion passed:** All in favor.

**Public Comment:**

None.

**Report of Co-Chair:**

R. Lampkins stated that he had information available for anyone interested in individually contacting their elected officials regarding Ryan White.

**Report of Staff:**

N. Johns reviewed the ground rules for Priority Setting (*see – attached handout*). She reminded those present to state any conflicts of interest before speaking. She went on to say that those with conflicts ought to abstain from voting on any service categories for which they had a conflict.

**Action Item:**

- **Priority Setting**

M. Myers stated that the RWPC had begun using the current priority setting process approximately three years earlier. He explained that this process was based on another process that had been presented at an All Titles meeting. He went on to say that this process used raw data in decision-making, and included factors of payer of last resort, service utilization, consumer priority, specific gaps/emerging needs, access to/maintenance in care, and core service designation. K. Coleman noted that an explanation of the priority setting process was included in the meeting packet (*see – attached blue handout*). She went on to say that this process had been a joint effort of the Finance, Needs Assessment, and Comprehensive Planning Committees. M. Myers added that all RWPC members had been invited to participate throughout the process.

C. Ambrose stated that the definitions of each service and a list of fundable services were included in the meeting packet (*see – attached canary and lavender handouts*). She explained that they had used score sheets to score each service category for every factor. She went on to say that “payer of last resort” was the extent to which a service had other funding services. She then stated that “service utilization” was the extent to which a given group uses a particular service in a specified period of time, which was based on data gathered from AACO. She also explained that “consumer priority” was based on data gathered by the Needs Assessment Committee, such as surveys and town halls. She next explained that “access to/maintenance in care” was based on how much a service supports consumers’ access to care or continued involvement in care. She then stated that “specific gaps/emerging needs” referred to service gaps for those already in care, as well as emerging trends or needs seen locally, regionally or nationally.

M. Myers then directed those present to review the draft list of priorities for FY 2012 (*see – attached handout*). He explained that there had been some changes due to emerging trends, and that they would be required to present a rationale for any service category that moved by more than three places. He also noted that they had used scores of 1, 3, 5, and 8 to score each factor for each service category to allow for greater deviation between the scores. He added that there had not been many changes in the top ten service categories.

P. Houle stated that the biggest movement that he noticed in the priority list was that of health education/risk reduction, which had moved from #23 to #14. A. Ricksecker first noted that they were reviewing a draft list, and that any changes were up for discussion. She then explained that there had been a new trend toward biomedical interventions in the past year, which would be an emerging trend affecting the position of health education/risk reduction. She went on to say that early intervention services and treatment adherence had also risen in priority due to current issues in HIV care and prevention. P. Houle replied that he agreed wholeheartedly with this reasoning.

K. Huang stated that he would like clarity on three categories: housing (assistance) services, outreach services (care outreach), and child care services. K. Coleman first noted that funding was not tied to the priority list. She then explained that the group had discussed the necessity of child care services in order for families to access and be maintained in care. She concluded that the higher score under access to/maintenance in care had raised this category's place on the priority list. Regarding care outreach, A. Ricksecker explained that the category had lost points on service utilization due to a drop in encounters and clients. She went on to say that this was a very complex service that reaches out to those that are lost to care, attempts to re-engage them in care, and then re-engages them in care for three medical visits. She noted that the grantee had stated that lower utilization may have been in part due to gaps in staffing. She concluded that care outreach had received high points for maintenance in care, but not service utilization. Turning to housing services, C. Ambrose explained that there had been a 14% decrease in utilization for the category. She also noted that housing services only provided short-term services or housing counselors. K. Huang replied that one-third of PLWHA in Philadelphia were living in unstable housing, and 80% of his clients required case managers to help them with the housing application process. He explained that he was surprised to see that this category had dropped in priority, particularly because clients were less likely to be engaged in care without housing. P. Houle agreed that stable, affordable housing was a key part of maintaining the quality of life for an individual living with HIV/AIDS. He then explained that they would not want to confuse short-term with long-term housing. W. Walters asked if housing services may have fallen in priority because those not in stable housing situations, who would find the category most important, may have been unable to attend the meetings. A. Ricksecker replied that this was not the case, since the category had received a high score for consumer priority.

A community member pointed out that home health care, home & community-based health services, and hospice services had all dropped in priority. She explained that she understood that prevention was a priority, but that PLWHA still needed home care to help keep them out of hospitals. C. Ambrose replied that those services were funded through insurance companies, Medicaid, and Medicare. She explained that the group had discussed the shift of HIV from being a terminal illness to more of a chronic illness, so some services that were very high priority in the past were not as high priority in the present. W. Walters asked if these services had been funded in the recent past. C. Ambrose replied that these categories had not been funded in recent years, since the services were funded elsewhere. A. Ricksecker added that service utilization had consequently been very low for the service, and that the low score for the payer of last resort factor was very heavily weighted as well.

P. Houle stated that he had not been able to participate in all of the priority setting meetings due to his work schedule, and congratulated the group on putting the list together. He went on to say that this had been the most open and transparent conversation around priorities that he had seen in his eight years on the RWPC.

M. Myers stated that the Comprehensive Planning Committee had taken on the responsibility of setting priorities, and invited the Needs Assessment and Finance Committees to participate jointly in the process. He then explained that they planned to establish a separate Priority Setting Committee in the future, and asked RWPC members to bear this in mind as they planned for the year.

**Motion:** The Comprehensive Planning Committee moved to accept the priority list as outlined in the meeting packet. **Motion passed:** 21 in favor. 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

**Points of Integration Update:**

None.

**Report of Committees:**

- *Finance Committee – Alan Edelstein, Co-Chair*

A. Edelstein stated that the Finance Committee had participated in the priority setting process over the past several months.

M. Ross-Russell stated that the grantee still had not received the FY2011 award, which would have an impact on the scheduled allocations meetings. She explained that they would be unable to develop budgets for the allocations meetings without the current year's budget, so the meetings were now tentatively scheduled. She went on to say that the FY2011 award would likely be released by the end of the month, and that Office staff would contact Finance Committee and RWPC members as soon as they received information on the award. She noted that the RWPC would need to vote on the FY2011 budget before proceeding with the allocations meetings.

- *Needs Assessment Committee – Christine Ambrose, Co-Chair*

No report.

- *Comprehensive Planning Committee – John Churchville, Co-Chair*

No report.

- *Positive Committee – Wendy Walters, Co-Chair*

No report.

- *Nominations Committee – Michael Cappuccilli, Co-Chair*

No report.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

N. Johns stated that she and A. Agha had received great feedback on the RWPC from the community while tabling at the Trans Health Conference, particularly from a gentleman from Maryland.

P. Houle stated that he would like to hear more about the 12 Cities Project. M. Ross-Russell replied that the 12 Cities Project and Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning (ECHPP) had many similarities. She explained that it would be most helpful to ask a representative from AACO to present on the two projects. She then stated that ECHPP included the directly-funded cities and those with the largest epidemics, and that this program also required local health departments to begin the strategies as quickly as possible. She explained that she believed that these were the factors used to select the cities in each project.

She then added that these projects were designed to develop collaboration between governmental organizations and agencies.

P. Houle next stated that he had participated in a meeting with Paul Kawata from the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC), and suggested that those present visit the NMAC website to read an article titled, "Are you ready?" He explained that this was a very important time, particularly in the face of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy and health care reform. He went on to say that it would be paramount to stay abreast of policy changes, and asked if it would be possible to have a speaker on the topic once the allocations process was complete. He then asked if the Office had been able to gather any more information on having a staff member to deal with policy issues. M. Ross-Russell replied that N. Johns would tentatively be overseeing any policy workgroups at the Office.

**Announcements:**

A. Beatty announced that the AIDS Alliance had held its annual conference, and that attendees had been advised to diversify their services. P. Houle noted that additional information on this topic was included in the article he had previously mentioned.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** L. Diaz moved, W. Walters seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:08 p.m. **Motion passed:** All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Briana L. Morgan, Staff

**Handouts Distributed at the Meeting:**

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Minutes from June 9, 2011
- Ground Rules
- Priority Setting Process
- Ryan White Program Services Definitions
- Ryan White Program Services List
- Philadelphia-EMA-wide DRAFT Priorities for FY 2012
- OHP Calendar