

**Ryan White Part A Planning Council (RWPC) of the Philadelphia EMA
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 11, 2011
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Office of HIV Planning 340 N. 12th St., Suite 203, Philadelphia, PA 19107**

Present: Christine Ambrose, Naseem Bazargan, Henry Bennett, William Brawner, Michael Cappuccilli, John Churchville, Karen Coleman, ted Danowski, Lupe Diaz, Alan Edelstein, Dawna Edwards-Watson, Amy Eusebio, Marcelo Fernandez-Viña, William Gray, Peter Houle, Kevin Huang, Gerry Keys, Richard Lampkins (Co-Chair), Michael Myers, Kevin Smith, Emery Troy, Leroy Way, Vincent Wynn

Excused: Dafne Armstrong, Alicia Beatty, Carmell Bolden, Kevin Burns, Princess Graham, Andrena Ingram, Ann Ricksecker, Nurit Shein, Wendy Walters, Sandra Thompson, Jacqueline Whitfield, Deanne Wingate

Absent: Tim Barlow, Christopher Coleman, Eugenio Garcia, Mildred Grant, Tyrone Johnson, Elizabeth Minor, Belmis Montero, John Oliver, Patrice Patterson, Jorge Rivera, Joseph Roderick, Melvin White

Guests: Lenny Bell, Ricardo Colon (AACO), Timothy Gibson, Brian Langley, Joseph Malloy, Loretta Matus, Jim McNamara, Ann Williams

Staff: Debbie Law, Briana Morgan, Mari Ross-Russell, Nishika Vidanage

Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Introductions:

R. Lampkins called the meeting to order at 2:13 p.m. and a moment of silence followed. Those present then introduced themselves with an icebreaker activity on each member's favorite cartoon character.

Approval of Agenda:

R. Lampkins presented the agenda for approval. A. Edelstein stated that the Finance Committee would not have a report. R. Lampkins noted that the co-chairs of the Positive Committee were not present so there would not be a report for that committee. **Motion:** J. Churchville moved, A. Edelstein seconded to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion passed:** All in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

R. Lampkins presented the minutes from the July 14, 2011 meeting, noting that the RWPC had received a presentation from the Office of Addiction Services. **Motion:** A. Edelstein moved, J. Churchville seconded to approve the minutes from the July 2011 meeting. **Motion passed:** All in favor.

Public Comment:

None.

Report of Co-Chair:

None.

Report of Staff:

None.

Action Items:

- **September Meeting Date**

M. Ross-Russell stated that the Philadelphia EMA had still not received its Part A award for the 2011 fiscal year. She then explained that the RWPC would most likely need to hold an emergency meeting when the award came in, but that the RWPC would still need to have a regularly scheduled meeting. She then stated that they were suggested that the group move their regular meeting to Thursday, September 22 so they would hopefully be able to meet after regional allocations meetings were held.

M. Ross-Russell further explained that, once an award for the 2011 fiscal year was received, that the Finance Committee and RWPC would need to hold emergency meetings in order to approve allocations for the 2011 fiscal year. She went on to say that, after these allocations were approved, regional meetings would need to be held to develop allocations plans for the 2012 fiscal year. She stated that the Finance Committee would then need to meet to review these allocations plans, and that they hoped to have this work completed by Thursday, September 22.

R. Lampkins noted that the Nominations Committee also planned to move its meeting to Thursday, September 22 if the RWPC were to move its date. K. Huang stated that he would be unable to attend a September 22 meeting, and asked if he would be able to vote on the regional allocations without being present. A. Edelstein replied that he would have the most impact at the Philadelphia Regional Allocations meeting. He further explained that most decisions are made at the regional allocations meetings, and that with rare exception, the Finance Committee and RWPC both accept the regional plans without changes.

Motion: A. Edelstein moved, M. Myers seconded to move both the Nominations Committee and RWPC meetings to Thursday, September 22. **Motion passed:** 18 in favor, 0 abstentions, 0 opposed.

- **Co-Chair Nominations**

D. Law stated that they would be opening nominations for the position of co-chair currently held by W. Brawner. She noted that the election would be held in October. C. Ambrose and P. Houle both nominated W. Brawner for the position. C. Ambrose then asked for more information about the co-chair position. D. Law replied that a co-chair needed to be a member in good standing for at least one year, and that nominations must be submitted to her. She went on to say that any member could nominate themselves or someone else, and that the person being nominated must accept the nomination. She also stated that they would ask for a 250 word biography from

each candidate if they had more than one nominee. R. Lampkins stated that the bylaws included duties of the co-chair, which included facilitating regular and special meetings of the RWPC, serving as a spokesperson for the RWPC with prior approval, coordinating meetings, and attending appropriate meetings. He went on to emphasize that co-chairs should not serve as spokespersons and should not publicly hold themselves out as speaking on behalf of the RWPC without full RWPC approval. He explained that this was a very important part of serving as a co-chair, and that the co-chair's role was to facilitate the process. He added that they encouraged anyone that was interested to run for co-chair.

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 stated that the committee had begun the Self-Assessment Module (SAMs) that they complete at the end of each year. She explained that the committee would be working on the SAMs over the next several meetings, and that the process would give the committee ideas for work to complete over the next year. She went on to say that the committee had also reviewed ways to incorporate questions related to the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) and Enhanced Community HIV Prevention Planning (ECHPP) into the 2012 consumer survey. She noted that new questions would be presented to the Positive Committee and possibly the RWPC. She concluded her report by inviting those present to attend the Needs Assessment Committee meetings, held on the second Monday of each month from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

- ***Comprehensive Planning Committee – Michael Myers, Co-Chair***

M. Myers stated that the committee had had a presentation by Matthew McClain on health insurance premium/cost-sharing assistance. He went on to say that this had been a thorough and interesting presentation, and added that the Office had copies of the slides available.

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

No report.

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

M. Cappuccilli stated that the committee co-chairs had met for the first hour of the meeting in order to finalize an action plan based on the membership survey. He noted that the action plan would be presented in the fall. He went on to say that the group had previously determined that a social would be appreciated by members based on information from the survey, and that more information on a social event would follow. He then stated that they would also conduct a follow-up survey to help them understand the impressions of members that had joined the RWPC within the past

year. He noted that they had held a follow-up orientation during the second hour of the meeting, which included information on how the RWPC works as well as an opportunity for new members to ask questions.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

Announcements:

M. White stated that Bridge Over Troubled Water would be celebrating its twenty-fourth anniversary as a support group on August 26. He noted that fliers were available, and asked those interested in attending to please RSVP.

Adjournment:

Motion: D. Edwards-Watson moved, K. Smith seconded to adjourn the meeting at 2:42 p.m. **Motion passed:** All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Briana L. Morgan, Staff

Handouts Distributed at the Meeting:

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Minutes from July 14, 2011
- OHP Calendar

Philadelphia EMA Ryan White Part A Planning Council

Thursday, August 11, 2011 2:00-4:00 pm

Call to Order/ Moment of Silence

Introductions

Approval of Agenda

Recap of Previous Meeting

- *Drug Use in Philadelphia* – Sam Cutler of the Office of Addiction Services (OAS) presented on drug use in Philadelphia. The full presentation is available in the July meeting packet at www.hivphilly.org.

Approval of Minutes (from July 14, 2011):

Public Comment

Report of Co-Chair

Report of Staff

Action Items:

- **Co-Chair Nominations**
- **September Meeting Date**

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 is TBD,
and will be held at 340 N. 12th 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). If you require any special assistance, please contact the office at least 5 days in advance.*

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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