

**HIV Integrated Planning Council
Positive Committee
Monday, July 9, 2018
12-2pm**

Office of HIV Planning, 340 N. 12th Street, Suite 320, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Present: PH (15), PA (1), NJ (2)

Guests: None

Staff: Nicole Johns, Stephen Budhu

Call to Order: J. Murdock called the meeting to order at 12:04pm. Those present then introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda: J. Murdock presented the agenda for approval. **Motion:** M.W. moved, J. W. seconded to approve the agenda. **Motion Passed:** All in favor.

Approval of Minutes: J. Murdock presented the minutes for approval. **Motion:** J. W. moved, M.W. seconded to approve the minutes. **Motion Passed:** All in favor.

Report of Chair: No report

Report of Staff: N. Johns reminded the committee the regional allocation dates have been set and the dates are on the calendar in the meeting packet. The Comprehensive Planning Committee will not meet in July 2018 because of the South Jersey regional allocations on July 19, 2018. All committees will meet at their regularly scheduled times in August 2018.

Action Items:

- **PLWH Representation**

N. Johns reminded the committee the Executive Committee asked that they review the mandate for PLWH representation in the HIPC officer positions. The committee briefly discussed PLWH representation in its last meeting and N. Johns suggested the committee should continue its conversation. Currently the HIPC bylaws require one of the officers to be HIV positive. The Executive Committee has discussed HIPC co-chair structure over the last few months. Their discussion included changing term lengths, the number of officers, and lifting the PLWH representation mandate. The Executive Committee proposed changing the HIPC bylaws to require an officer to be from the affected community instead of requiring them to be HIV positive and open about their status. Before any changes would be made the Executive Committee felt it was best that the Positive Committee should discuss this topic and present its recommendations to the full Planning Council.

The committee discussed their feelings on PLWH representation. For the most part the committee felt that PLWH representation should be included, “it should be required that one of the officers are PLWH and also from the community”. M.W. stated, “they can’t represent us without us.” Various members of the committee shared their opinions and weighed the pros and cons. One of the most mentioned cons was people may not want to be fully open about their status, and this mandate in a way forces people to do that. The committee noted on the other hand PLWH should be included in representation and the entire planning process.

N. Johns reminded the committee if they approved the recommendation from the Executive Committee there is still a chance an officer(s) maybe HIV positive. With the proposed change people in the officer position will no longer need to be open about their status and more PLWH may run, especially those who are not comfortable disclosing their status. In the past there has been former officers who were HIV positive but they were not open about their status.

Motion: M.W. moved, J.W. seconded to recommend that HIPC retains the PLWH representation mandate in officer position. **Vote:** 14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. **Motion Passed.**

Discussion Items:

- **Allocations Review**

N. Johns reminded the committee the regional allocations meeting will take place on July 19, 24, and 26 2018. She explained the word allocation meant to budget. Within the EMA there are three regions: Philadelphia, PA counties, and South Jersey counties. The PA counties are made up of the Bucks, Delaware, Chester, and Montgomery counties. She noted over the past few years the proportion of the epidemic has been increasing in the PA counties compared to the other EMA regions. This observation will be examined in greater detail by both the PDPH as well as the OHP. The South Jersey EMA region is made of 4 counties as well: Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Salem counties. In 2018 the Ryan White Part A grant award was around \$20.5 million; 77% of the grant is put into core services and 23% are allocated into supportive services. Supportive services include services such as transportation and housing assistance. At this time the federal government requires that no more than 25% of the total grant allocations goes into supportive services.

N. Johns reviewed the HIPC allocations process with the committee. Annually the HIPC develops a 5% decrease budget, a level-funding budget, and a 5% increase budget. Only the 5% increase budget goes to HRSA in the grant application. The fiscal year begins on March 1 every year and at that point a partial award is generally received from the government. The full grant award is usually received in June or July of that year. Based off the award the Planning Council decides on what budget to approve for the fiscal year. During regional allocations meetings members are given the opportunity to the decide the amount of funding that goes into each service category.

N. Johns reviewed the flow of the funding from the government to services. She explained once the Philadelphia EMA receives its allocation the funds are received by the AIDS Activity Coordinating Office (AACO) and then distributed to services based on the approved budget by HIPC. Even though there are three regional allocations meetings the budgets are combined into one EMA budget after HIPC approval. The final budget is presented to the entire Planning Council after the regional allocations meeting and presented for final approval. Throughout the fiscal year the Planning Council has the ability to change the EMA budget; funds may be reallocated to categories of need. If a reallocation is less than 10% of the budget AACO can reallocate funds without the approval of the Planning Council, if the reallocation is greater than 10% than a formal request must be made to the Planning Council and can only be made after Planning Council approval is received.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Announcements: M. W. announced Philadelphia FIGHT is hosting a community cookout on Saturday, August 18, 2018 on 33rd street and Cecil B. Moore Avenue. Event is from 12:00-3:00pm.

M.C. stated World Hepatitis C Awareness Day is July 27, 2018. Philadelphia FIGHT is hosting an event at the Loews Hotel located at 1200 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Event begins at 8 am, breakfast is provided, RSVP is required.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by consensus as at 12:48pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Stephen Budhu, staff

Handouts distributed at the meeting:

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Minutes
- OHP Calendar