

Cuyahoga Regional HIV / AIDS Health Services Planning Council

Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina Counties

Naimah O'Neal – Co-Chair



Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Minutes

Wednesday, June 2, 2021

12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Start: 12:01pm

End: 1:02 pm

Facilitating Co-chair: N. O'Neal

Moment of Reflection – N. O'Neal

Naimah O'Neal invited all to bring words into the room about people they value that are here now, or who have passed away.

N. O'Neal - Dwayne Brown

K. Shumate - Tessa, a native-American man, with an incredible amount of wisdom who said, "The face of God is what you see when you look at people in the hour of their death or people under the age of 7."

J. Mazo – Bringing to the front, the older brother of my partner, who recently passed.

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda: June 2, 2021

Addendum: Motion to add the Needs Assessment presentation, making it first on the agenda.

Motion: J. Mazo Seconded: F. Ross

Vote: In Favor: All Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Motion passes.

Approval of the Minutes: May 5, 2021

Motion: J. Mazo Seconded: F. Ross

Vote: In Favor: All Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

New/Old Business

Needs Assessment Presentation- M. Krelko

Michelle Krelko, Epidemiologist, Kate Shumate, Nicole Pichardo, and Charles Abernathy, all from the Ohio Dept. of Health, presented to the CLC committee to solicit input on the next phase of the Ohio Statewide Needs Assessment. The Ohio Statewide Needs Assessment project, which initially began by utilizing focus groups, committees and surveys to gather information on the health care needs of people living with HIV, has since been compiled into an extensive report, currently consisting of over 300 pages. Focusing on the goals listed below, the new project plans include: looking at what works, uncovering gaps in care, and determining the best practices for going forward.

Goals:

1. *To find actual insight, in an accessible format, that will help drive program improvement for ODH (Ohio Department of Health) and its community partners.*
2. *To collect needs assessment data on people living with HIV/Aids (PLWH/A), who may or may not be receiving care.*
3. *To prioritize the information from the needs assessment and evaluate what is best.*

Comments/Brainstorm Ideas for the Needs Assessment

***Comment:** K. Shumate – When Ryan White started, the original funding went to big cities, Ohio had no money. We raised our hands and asked for help. When they got money, it was for Ryan White Part B then, in addition, Ohio got money just for Cleveland which was for the Ryan White Part A program. The questions raised today help Part B, but may also help with Part A.

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***Comment:** S. Harris – Each year Susan DiCocco updates us on the Part B spending and that helps us understand other RW funding in our TGA (target grant area) and helps with prioritizing resources for HIV-related services to fund with Part A dollars.

***Question:** P. Scardino – How do we **get word out about RW to those in need in Ashtabula and outlying areas?**

***Response:** S. Harris – Partly, we've done forums, as we try to get a sense of community awareness.

***Comment:** P. Scardino – After a recent negative experience involving a medical diagnosis, maybe we should **consider reaching out to the medical community, at large, to inform them of the RW program.**

***Comment:** S. Harris – In helping to make sure the medical community is aware of RW, we've talked about limits to services like oral and mental health and how we can expand outside of Cuyahoga County.

***Response:** M. Krelko – We can gear a survey towards clinical staff, it doesn't have to be PLWH/A, it can also be for other groups.

***Comment:** B. Jones – For **PLWH needs to be secondary for prevention or rather prevention for positives. Prioritize the acceptance of statuses and utilize PLWH in our efforts** because we have navigated the playing field. Also, for communities at risk, the **epi data needs to be broken down so certain zip codes can receive the info, at least those most impacted.**

***Comment:** K. Shumate – The data first has to be reviewed before going out. The data can be geared toward certain areas, but it must be done on the front end so we can know where to direct resources.

***Comment:** J. Mazo – It needs to **be clear on the plan and timeline for this data master plan** and how various jurisdictions utilize data to impact the communities more effectively, so we can move forward in reducing newly diagnosed. It seems this is the same thing that's been seen over the last twenty years.

***Comment:** N. O'Neal – **We need to do something about stigma, because we have a criminal law in Ohio.** Stigma is real and prevents people from being tested and taking medications.

***Comment:** K. Shumate – June marks the 40-year anniversary of the first official reported five cases of HIV/AIDS.

***Comment:** B. Jones – **We should also change the narrative that black people are more at risk.** It gives the wrong message, and reduces everything to just sex. **We should also engage the community-based organizations,** because ASO's (administrative services only) don't involve them.

Most Significant Issues to Address

N. O'Neal – Stigma for number one.

B. Jones – Stigma first because it handles a lot, but also have acceptance with stigma.

S. Harris – **Finding out what the community and medical community knows about what's available.**

P. Scardino – The medical community needs to know **how to relay information to PLWH.**

B. Jones – In a metro city like Cleveland, found a lot of stigma in health centers, and nurses and doctors sending out stigmatizing messages. There's also stigma among people who do this work.

T. Marbury – It's key in **knowing how to relay diagnoses.**

N. O'Neal – Rural areas would be huge undertaking, as a lot of private doctors don't want to be educated on HIV.

P. Scardino – Maybe **CEU training should be included for educating the medical community on HIV.**

B. Jones – Consider peer-led models, as we can relate to the community. A group of PLWH could open the door and keep people in care. Networking among other PLWH can be a strong force and we should automatically be accepted at the table. **Peer-led models could be a number 2, or maybe 3 or 4 in the text of what we have.**

N. O'Neal – We could **partner with others to get the word out,** other than through community forums.

J. Mazo – **Number 5 could be, for any entity in Ohio that receives funding, to have an internal assessment of how they deliver services.**

B. Jones – Add **engaging community-based organizations.**

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***Question:** P. Scardino – What are the criminalization laws?

***Response:** B. Jones - Criminalization laws are laws that are discriminatory, such as if PLWH don't disclose their status, it's considered a felony, and they can be detained.

***Comment:** N. O'Neal – Kim Welter, from Equality Ohio can provide more info on this. You can contact Kim at: kim@equalityohio.org and she will reach out.

***Comment:** M. Krelko – We will take back all the comments from today and if anyone has further recommendations, please feel free to reach to us on other brainstorming ideas.

***Comment:** K. Shumate – Also, please encourage interested clients to share their email addresses with me through my email address (Katherine.shumate@odh.ohio.gov) or that of our Community Engagement workgroup (OhioNeedsAssessment@odh.ohio.gov). I am pulling together a separate email list of folks living with HIV who might be interested in staying abreast of our continued activities as well as participating on one of the workgroups for the Integrated Plan.

***Comment:** N. O'Neal – Thanks to everyone. Today was very helpful, we want all PLWH to get involved.

Oral Health Services – Mini-Survey update - survey will be e-mailed to get feedback and share at the next meeting.

Review Ongoing Feedback & Distribution Effort from Housing Survey Input - Tabled

Virtual Community Forum in Outlying Counties Update - Tabled

Parking Lot Items - Virtual Support Groups Strategy & Next Steps - Tabled

Review & Update Consumer Mini-Outreach Survey - Tabled

Standing Business - Agree on CLC Committee work activity to be reported at Exec & Planning Council meetings

The committee will report on today's presentation at the August 4th meeting.

Announcements - None

Adjournment - Motion: J. Mazo Seconded: T. Marbury

Attendance

	CLC Members	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June PSRA	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
1	Naimah O'Neal, Co-chair	20	20	20	20	20	20				
2	Tina Marbury	20	20	20	20	20	20				
3	Stephanice Washington	20	0	0	0	0	0				
4	Faith Ross	20	0	20	20	20	20				
5	LeAnder Lovett	20	20	20	20	20	0				
6	William Simpson	20	0	20	0	0	0				
7	Tracy Johnson	0	0	0	0	0	0				
	Total in Attendance	7	4	6	5	4	3				

PC Members: J. Mazo, B. Gayheart, K. Dennis

Attendees: P. Scardino, K. Shumate, M. Krelko, C. Abernathy, N. Pichardo, B. Jones

Staff: S. Harris, Z. Levar, T. Mallory