

Cuyahoga Regional HIV Health Services Planning Council

Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina Counties
Kimberlin Dennis, Terry Allan, Brian Kimball Co-Chairs



Combined Executive and Full Planning Council Minutes Wednesday, May 19, 2021 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Start: 5:03 pm

End: 6:44 pm

Co-chair: K. Dennis

Moment of Silence

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda: May 19, 2021

Motion: C. Barnett Seconded: N. O'Neal
In Favor: All Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Approval of the Minutes: April 21, 2021

Motion: C. Barnett Seconded: N. O'Neal
In Favor: All Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Flu & Covid-19 Update

Terry Allan, Commissioner, Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH)

For the county, overall 48% (591,000) have been vaccinated and we still have a ways to go but are making progress. Last count, four percent (4%) tested positive, with this county still highest averaging around 118 case per day (averaging 50 cases the last 7-days). We're doing everything we can. We have a "Rapid Response Fund" that's identified 30 locations with pop-up clinics available through May within the community. The clinic locations are:

5/22/21 Imani Church of Christ

1505 E. 260th St. Euclid 44132
www.gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov 9:30-1:00 Moderna

5/24/21 Cuyahoga County Board of Health

5550 Venture Dr.
Parma, OH 44130
www.gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov 1:00-3:30 Moderna

5/25/21 The Word Church

18903 S. Miles Rd
Warrensville Heights, OH 44128
Walk-ins 2:00-4:00 Moderna

5/26/21 River of Life Ministries

24600 Lakeshore Blvd
Euclid, OH 44123
www.gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov 3:00-7:00 Moderna

5/28/21 Cleveland Hts. Community Ctr

One Monticello Blvd
Cleveland Heights, OH. 44118
Walk-ins 10:00-2:00 Pfizer

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Additionally, you can call the United Way 211 hotline to assist with transportation. In regards to Governor Dewine's latest vaccine lottery incentive, you must first register in order to be entered into the drawing. **You can register on the Ohio website at: <https://ohiovaxamillion.com/> or for those without internet access, call the state helpline at 833-427-5634.** They will keep drawing starting next week through the next five weeks. The lottery prizes are: for adults 1,000,000 and for teens, a full four-year scholarship to an Ohio State University or College. Once registered, you will remain in the lottery pool and will not have to re-register. However, just know that if you win, they will have to blast your name and picture all over the place!

Brian Kimball, Interim Director, City of Cleveland

For vaccinations over the past week, we are down since the early stages and are now pivoting from the larger clinics to smaller ones so we can better penetrate neighborhoods. We had anticipated a decline in demand, but not at this level, so we are continuing to look at other ways to make vaccines more available. We've also begun administering the vaccines to youth, 13 years and older, at St. Ignatius and Central Catholic high schools.

**Question:* N. O'Neal – What about the lottery for college?

**Response:* B. Kimball – The governor's office has provided incentives for teens and adults who receive vaccines and there is an online portal to register at: <https://ohiovaxamillion.com/>

**Question:* C. Barnett – Was there an uptick in people getting vaccinated after the incentive announcement, or did it remain consistent and are there any other tactics being used?

**Response:* B. Kimball – We haven't seen any uptick, yet, but other areas in the state have. We are also looking to partner with business in smaller clinics, like agencies that can identify groups as small as 20, and working on increasing outreach groups and our capacity to be more present in the community.

Dr. Barbara Gripshover, M.D., Immunology Medical Director, University Hospitals

We still have patients in the hospital. So, we know the virus is still here and that it's a good idea to stay safe, keep wearing masks and get vaccinated to stop the spread.

**Question:* J. Patterson – Can you reflect on the changes in mask requirements, particularly for those that are immuno-compromised?

**Response:* Dr. Gripshover – People virally suppressed are okay with the vaccine. People less responsive are those in chemotherapy and with other risk factors. Vaccines are very protective, but hopefully people still wear masks. Being safe, especially in crowds, is good for all.

**Response:* T. Allan – If you are fully vaccinated, the likelihood of reinfection is low. Overall, you're also less likely to transmit. That's the CDC-based science. The problem now is that people are going back to normal routines and ignoring safety requirements, which causes confusion. Most venues are taking it slow, although some are still not comfortable in crowds. The science says the vaccine is good and very protective. For Ohio, our vaccine rates have slowed, but hopefully they will improve.

**Question:* N. O'Neal – Would the vaccine help with Rapid StART (ART-antiretroviral therapy) efforts?

**Response:* Dr. Gripshover – As a believer in Rapid Start, the sooner the better, they should respond well to the vaccine.

Grantee Report - May 2021 – Planning Council

1. Grantee Report

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- a. ODH State Integrated Plan – HRSA announced guidance for 2022-2026 Integrated Plan in June 2021, due December 2021; ODH filling key positions.
- b. Clinical Quality Management committee continues to meet with the efforts focusing on disparities in viral suppression. – developed projects in January 2021, holding Q1 meetings throughout April
- c. Grantee team is continuing to work on the 2020 closeout.
- d. Due to delayed hiring due to COVID life-saving and response throughout the TGA when vacancies occurred, funding remains at the end of the grant year.
- e. ODH sponsored needs assessment update. The report is being vetted through ODH before it can be shared statewide. A preliminary was presented February 3rd to S&F committee.
- f. Grantee completed version six of the newsletter and it was sent out on December 1st. Feedback welcome. Next version June 2021.
- g. The AETC presented at Planning Council in October. This met the PC directive of the grantee. Gilead presented February 23rd HIV 101 and a PrEP 101, Mental Health within COVID times was March 2nd and Oral Health training is scheduled for April 27th.
- h. Data to Care – ODH is reviewing its D2C process. CCBH will need to update our protocol in regard to potential changes. This project is a funded Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative. This project is potentially getting additional TA from a HRSA sponsored agency for best practices pertaining to RX to Care project expansion.
- i. CCBH continues to work with sub-recipients in regards to data completeness and productivity. All data is requested to be ready for submission by February 5th. RSR submission is complete.
- j. Ryan White Part A received COVID-19 funding. CCBH and CDPH conducted joint listening sessions with providers. CCBH completed a large order of masks for clients as well as distributed funding to all providers based on Part A eligible clients served. Providers working on invoices and monthly reporting requirements. Final expenditures are coming due to close out the grant. A small amount of funds will be requested to be carried over due to agencies leaving some funding unspent.
- k. The full Ending the Epidemic award was received. The following projects are expected to continue: social media campaigns for U=U/stigma reduction for HIV positive clients. Community Health Worker Certification program in coordination with Cleveland State University, Data 2 Care program support, Intensive MCM program support, Medical Transportation program support and Rapid Art program support.
- l. Prevention Committee – The first official meeting to integrate activities with the PC structure was March 3rd 2021, also met on April 7th, 2021
- m. **Full Part A award received 4/5/2021** – beginning to work on allocations and contracts for Part A providers
- n. Ending the Epidemic Plan update:
Community Solutions completed the plan and it was submitted by ODH to the CDC for review. Thank you for participating in the plan development.

FY2020 Part A Grant:

Allocations split - 79.67% Core - 20.33% Support

Expenses are at 91.73% for 12 months (Underutilized)

Target for 12 months should be 100%, all invoices for FY2020 have been received and reported

Administrative Update & Fiscal Report

HRSA (the United States Health Resources Services Administration) announced guidance for 2022-2026 Integrated Plan in June 2021, due December 2021. Invitations to the annual kickoff meeting will be sent out, upon request. We are currently working on the 2020 close out, and an upcoming HIV oral health training with the dental director from AETC. This is more of a clinical training with case managers from Circle Health and MetroHealth to check in and see how they're doing, but we will open this up to everyone. Prevention is now integrated into Planning Council, the full Ryan White, Part A award was received, and all but two contracts are ready to go for approval. We

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also want to extend a big thanks to all who participated in the Ending the HIV/A Epidemic (EtHE) project. It has been completed and now submitted by ODH (Ohio Department of Health) to the CDC (Center for Disease Control) for review.

**Comment:* S. Harris – As we look to the upcoming year, we will use 2019 as our barometer as it's less Covid influenced. We just want to make sure we don't underspend.

**Question:* B. Jones – The epi data will reflect a decline in numbers, which may be false information, how will we disseminate it and, is there a disparity in the first and second community health program?

**Response:* V. Panakkal – We are in the process of recruiting for a second community health worker program. For the epi presentation, we will make a note of that. We also think HRSA will be observing decline across the country, due to Covid, and make exceptions.

Medicaid Update – C. Nicholls

Good news on the number of pending applications, they are very minimal and mostly applications that were received in the last month. The applications are also timely. Last meeting we reported changes in authorized representatives and we have finished up trainings on this with community partners. For anyone who currently has an authorized representative, we will honor, but with renewals they will have to update their authorized representatives as most who had them, no longer meet the new requirements. We don't want renewals to be invalid. If you know someone who needs additional information on the new authorized representative process, please let us know. We are also looking to do a mailer or a more cost-effective way to get information out.

**Question:* B. Glass – What is best way for person to connect with someone about Medicaid?

**Response:* C. Nicholls – The best way is faxing or e-mailing. Because we are still in a health emergency, no one should be losing benefits, but if you have someone struggling to connect, you can also refer them to me. To submit documents for Medicaid in Cuyahoga County: Fax # 216-987-7700; email: JFS-Cuyahoga-MIPC@jfs.ohio.gov. We also have drop boxes available at our buildings, including one outside of the Virgil E. Brown Building (1641 Payne Ave., 44114) that is available 24/7.

Ryan White Part B Update – S. DiCocco

As a note, ODH employees are not eligible for the vaccine lottery. Thanks extended to Vino for providing earlier updates on the upcoming needs assessment activity. As for additional updates, we received the survey review back from OU (Ohio University), we are currently making edits, and a regional report, including one for the TGA (target grant area) will be sent out. We also did an OHDAP (Ohio HIV Drug Assistance Program) needs assessment where 402 clients provided feedback and the medical advisory committee advised us to have this information available in July. For staffing, two coordinator positions will be staffed by early June, late July.

HOPWA Update – J. Citerman-Kraeger

The new year for HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS) begins June 1st and we are getting close to end of this year. An RFP (Request for Proposal) went out last month. The review committee is finalizing that and will announce the new sub-grantees early June. We also have two new applicants, along with four returning sub-grantees.

Planning Council Operations – S. Harris

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Monthly Report from HRSA Project Officer

We reported the committee's activities: Community Liaison Committee (CLC) oral health survey, Strategy & Finance (S&F) PSRA (Priority Setting & Resources Allocation) activities, Marketing, Retention, & Membership (MRM) open nomination process, and Quality Improvement (QI) efforts around the oral health service category. We reported that all was going smoothly and we were commended on our good work.

PC – Membership Update

We are still recruiting and hope to complete application scheduling before end of the month. We have six members up for re-appointment and currently have 25 active members, with the recent loss of Rohn. We want all to reapply, as our consumer percentages are good and hope they stay that way.

PSRA Update

The S&F committee completed all work plans for PSRA. At the June 2nd meeting we will look at allocation scenarios and we will include the scenarios in the June meeting packets. We will also send out 2019 and 2020 allocations to review. The remaining items to cover will be to set the estimates for out of care and/or care for those new to Ryan White services. We will also look at evaluating the overall PSRA process on whether to make changes. On Wednesday, June 16, 2021, we will do our final PSRA allocations, at the virtual meeting, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. Please note that PSRA will be the only meeting on June 16th. The regularly scheduled QI and Full PC meetings will be postponed until August.

Committee Reports

Community Liaison Committee – N. O'Neal

The majority of our meeting looked at the oral health survey. It is set to go out in June and people should have multiple ways to do the survey. The first part of meeting was for a tribute to former CLC Co-chair, Rohn Rolling. We wanted to give people the opportunity to share, so we opened it up to everyone.

Strategy & Finance – C. Barnett

PSRA updates are everything we're working on. We also emphasized feedback surveys which will help gather data and do the PSRA.

Membership, Retention & Marketing – B. Glass

We looked at the attendance policy and ways to modify it, due to Covid and we designated people to reach out to those attendees.

Quality Improvement – J. McMinn

The committee met today and we were very excited to have an attendee from Ashtabula County, who was referred by Part A office. We took a break from oral health, had a presentation on the Needs Assessment, and we will return to oral health discussion next month.

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Memorial Tribute to Ronald R. Rolling

N. O'Neal - "Rohn was my co-chair of CLC, we were Cancers together, and we had a relationship in and outside of the planning council. He will be sorely missed, but I won't miss him always being the first to say 'So Moved!' approving motions. As a side, we're losing too many people, quickly. CLC would like to see what we can do on this."

B. Glass - "When I first met Rohn, I thought he was very articulate, intelligent, and could bring a lot to the planning council. I also saw he was very knowledgeable to things pertaining to HIV care and that he had a passion to create ways to help people with services."

J. Patterson - "Rohn always stepped out on all kinds of things in leadership, community advisory boards, and councils. Rohn was also very passionate about the clinical trials, which can be seen on this very nice video Rohn made for the AIDS clinical trials: <https://www.clevelandhiv.org/>. I also remember when Rohn won the award for stellar attendance at planning council, something like 180%!! I definitely will miss him, as well."

 **Ronald Rolling**
Cleveland Ohio Ryan White Planning Council
2019 "Step Up Player"

K. Dennis - "I first met Rohn on a trip to an HIV conference with Naimah. I could tell then that he wanted to be a part of the planning council. I will truly miss him. When I first looked at the text of his passing, it didn't seem real. Then, it really hit today at the Task Force food pantry, where we often met and shared conversations. It's just hard to be able to grieve for people we're losing, and to believe they're no longer here."

C. Barnett - "I remember when I first came to the planning council, trying to get my feet wet and him, taking me under his wings. He was phenomenal. I knew Rohn the human being, not just Rohn the planning council member, always making sure things moved accordingly. I saw him frequently, knew him well, and will keep his honor by staying part of planning council and pushing his agenda to make sure people are treated fairly."

J. McMinn - "I feel blessed that Rohn joined our planning council and to have known him. I remember going at 2:45 in the county building and Rohn having papers set out, ready to work. I'm happy to have known him."

S. Harris - "Toni and I remember Rohn helping us set up for all the meetings, we counted on him and he never let us down. We'll miss him all around, as he was ready resource whenever we needed him."

M. Robinson-Statler - "Rohn was always personable. I always enjoyed when Sharron got his name wrong and he'd correct her."

T. Allan - "Godspeed, Rohn. Rest in Peace."

J. Citerman-Kraeger - "Rohn began attending PAHA meetings and was great at asking questions and being curious...he will be missed."

L. Yarbrough-Franklin - "Sending condolences and prayers!"

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Motion: C. Barnett **Seconded:** M. Robinson-Statler

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Attendance

	Planning Council Members	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June PSRA	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
1	Kimberlin Dennis – Co-Chair	20	20	20	20	20					
2	Terry Allan – Co-Chair	20	20	20	20	20					
3	Brian Kimball – Co-Chair	20	20	20	20	20					
4	Clifford Barnett	20	20	20	20	20					
5	Jeannie Citerman-Kraeger	20	20	20	20	20					
6	Michael Deighan	20	20	20	20	20					
7	Clinton Droster	20	0	20	20	20					
8	Billy Gayheart	20	20	20	20	20					
9	Brenda Glass	20	20	20	20	20					
10	Barbara Gripshover, MD	20	20	20	20	20					
11	Deairius Houston	20	20	0	0	0					
12	Tracy Johnson	0	0	0	0	0					
13	LeAnder Lovett	20	20	0	0	0					
14	Tina Marbury	20	20	20	20	0					
15	Jeffrey Mazo	0	20	20	0	0					
16	Jason McMinn	20	20	20	20	20					
17	Christy Nicholls	20	20	20	20	20					
18	Naimah O'Neal	20	20	20	20	20					
19	Julie Patterson	20	20	20	20	20					
20	Chris Ritter	0	0	0	0	0					
21	Marlene Robinson-Statler	20	20	20	0	20					
22	Ronald Rolling	20	20	20	0	-					
23	Faith Ross	20	20	20	20	20					
24	William Simpson	0	0	0	0	0					
25	Robert Watkins	20	20	20	20	0					
26	Stephanice Washington	0	0	0	0	0					
27	Leshia Yarbrough- Franklin	20	20	20	20	20					
	Total in Attendance	22	22	21	18	17					

PC Attendees: U. Carter, L. Boyer, Antoine R., B. Jones

Staff: M. Halko, V. Panakkal, S. Harris, T. Mallory