

# **Cuyahoga Regional HIV Prevention and Care Planning Council**

*Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina Counties*  
**Kimberlin Dennis, Brian Kimball, Christy Nicholls, Co-Chairs**



## **Full Planning Council Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 16, 2023**

**5:30 pm to 7:00 pm**

**Start:** 5:31 pm

**End:** 6:53 pm

**Facilitating Chairperson:** C. Nicholls

### **Moment of Reflection**

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

#### **Approval of Agenda: August 16, 2023**

Motion: J. Citerman-Kraeger      Seconded: T. Marbury  
In Favor: All      Opposed: 0      Abstained: 0

#### **Approval of the Minutes: May 17, 2023**

##### **Addendum:**

Motion: J. Patterson      Seconded: L. Lovett  
In Favor: 21      Opposed: 0      Abstained: 5 - S, Washington, B. Aguriano, B. Jones, A. Thomas & R. Watkins

#### **FLU & COVID-19 UPDATE**

**Brian Kimball, Interim Director, City of Cleveland**

In agreement with Dr. Gripshover, nothing to add.

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

We are not seeing a lot of Covid, or severe disease. We are anticipating a new booster around the end of September or October, and recommend everyone get boosters if more than three months having one, and get flu shots when they become available.

### **Recipient Report – August 2023 – Planning Council**

#### **Administrative Report – A. Idov**

All recipient contracts have been approved, submitted, and we are working on carryover accounts. Also happy to announce, PC Committee Chair, Kimberlin Dennis as a new representative on the newly formed Community Advisory Board at CCBH. This an excited new development and we appreciate having her on board with us.

**Administrative Updates:** Provider updates, HRSA reporting, full/partial awards, RSR, etc.

- All FY23 sub-recipient contracts approved and fully executed
- Preparing final carryover request report for HRSA
- All year-end reporting submitted and have been approved by HRSA
- Planning Council representation on recipient's EDI Community Advisory Board

**Planning Updates:** HRSA updates, State Integrated Plan, RFPs, Monitoring, Needs Assessments, etc.

- FY23 monitoring cycle began in June and will conclude in December
- Integrated Plan Summary Statement received by HRSA in June; recipient participated in statewide review of Summary Statement; edits and revisions are in progress

**Medical Case Manager Network Updates:** Topics discussed, MCM related initiatives, etc.

- In-person meeting with MCMs took place 7/18; updates on new Ryan White Part A manual and Medicaid unwinding; presentations on 1) services to refugees in Cleveland TGA 2) HIV and kidney transplantation 3) CHW certification

**Training Updates:** Trainings held/attended, upcoming provider trainings, upcoming PC trainings, etc.

- Eligibility training for sub-recipients took place 5/1
- Recipient presence at Cleveland Pride events
- NAESM conference trainings attended 6/7-6/11: \*Communicating Effectively About PrEP to Black MSMs \* Our Family Our Voices (OFOV): An Adaptation of Many Men, Many Voices Tailored to Members of the House Ball Community

**Clinical Quality Management Updates:** QI projects, QI meetings, CQM Plan updates, etc.

- Pilot CQM project resulted in an impressive 63% in referral rate between March and May (**goal was 40%**)
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- CQM plan submitted to HRSA in May, along with annual progress report
- Recipient participates in TA with HRSA to improve CQM plan/CQM activities

**Collaborative Updates/Info Share:** EHE, Prevention, newsletters, etc.

- EHE Community Advisory Group meeting- 7/12
- New EHE Grant Supervisor selected
- EHE website promoted Nat'l HIV testing day on June 27<sup>th</sup>
- Cleveland TGA newsletter released in June 1<sup>st</sup>

### **Fiscal Report – A. Idov**

The current expenditure split, total expenses, etc., Core: 17.4 %, Support: 31.99%, and Expenses: 20.1% for five months, Target: 41.67%, and Full Award provided: \$4,917,218.

### **Medicaid Update – A. Thomas**

First, Medicaid Open Enrollment begins Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, and we encourage everyone to share this information so people are aware of this. Second, for past three months, the Medicaid call center has taken over 11,000 phone calls, which is a high rate, but we are still managing and processing things in a timely manner. To help continue making that happen, we ask everyone to send in their renewal packets as soon as they are received, as the more time we have to process information, the more applications we can approve. So, again we just ask everyone to please get those renewal packets in right away.

**\*Question: N. O'Neal** - How long is the wait time after submitting, to know whether apps are approved.

**\*Response: A. Thomas** - For Medicaid, 45 days is timely. For the state, you can email me or Christy to review.

**\*Question: A. Forbes** - Do you currently have backlogs?

**\*Response: A. Thomas** - No, but we can get the past data on that. For now, though, you can always contact the process center for statuses on submitted applications, or visit the Virgil Brown Center where you can get a receipt.

**\*Response: C. Nicholls** - On backlogs, only 5,200 apps are pending for Medicaid, seven percent (7%) over 90 days, 80% are under the 45 timeframe, so there are no huge backlogs, right now. However, please feel free to reach out to us if needed, as we can also give release of information to case managers.

**\*Question: Dr. Gripshover** – How many lost Medicaid after coming off at the end of the pandemic emergency?

**\*Response: A. Thomas** – There have been a lot discontinued due to Covid ending.

**\*Response: C. Nicholls** – As the number is not exact, every month roughly 3-5,000 individuals lose Medicaid for not turning in their packets. When packets are submitted, they get marked in system, and you continue maintaining Medicaid coverage, during the renewal period. That's why it's suggested to submit packets promptly, because that is the number one reason people lose benefits, as well as not providing adequate verification. Also, it's unknown how many of those were renewals, reports of income changes, resulting in ineligibility, or other.

### **Ryan White Part B Update – K. Ruiz**

There are no updates for ODH (Ohio Department of Health), but we are still working on the jail system pilot roll out and having conversations. Within the timeframe of this, we have had seventeen participants, so we continue with discussions and looking toward the next stage.

**\*Question: N. O'Neal** - When inmates are due to be released, are efforts made to link them to agencies or doctors and on informing them on medication needs, as it's been seen where inmates' relatives have had to intervene to help them, upon release, showing things may not be consistent as should be for linking them to care.

**\*Response: S. Washington** – Having been released from jail, they give 30 to sometimes 45 days of medication once released. However, it's a person's choice if they run out, to find help to get more, because the jail provides info and resources, when they first come, while there, and before release, on how to get meds., especially people with critical illness and deadly diseases. All prisons by law are supposed to do that, and if PLWH or with people with other deadly disease don't take their meds, they can be placed in "the hole" or solitary confinement for a time.

**\*Comment: K. Ruiz**- For linkage program, they get 30-day meds, and folks have right to say yes/no to some things.

**\*Comment: L. J. Sylvia**- For time, perhaps a longer discussion on this can be given at another meeting.

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### **HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People Living with HIV/AIDS) Update – J. Citerman-Kraeger**

We are in a waiting period for the law department to finalize contracts for HOPWA and CDBG sub-grantees, and there are no further updates available until contracts are approved.

**\*Question: S. Washington** - Is HOPWA still helping with hotels for homeless people?

**\*Response: J. Citerman-Kraeger** - Yes, and it is being managed by NEOCH (Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless).

### **Planning Council Business**

#### **Recap Approved Allocations Spreadsheet and Approve PSRA Minutes- J. Patterson, Strategy & Finance (S&F) Committee Co-Chair**

We had our 2023 **PSRA (Priority Setting & Resources Allocation)** meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup>. We began PSRA, **PS for Priority Setting** and **RS for Resources Allocation**, with a **Conflicts of interest presentation from Co-chair, Billy Gayheart**. Following that was an especially good **presentation from CLC Co-chair, Faith Ross, on the results of their recent Consumer Survey**. We then talked on all the work that was done in the S&F committee for priority setting. Next we **voted as full body to approve the Final Rankings and Scoring of Part A Services for the 2023-24**, that were complete in S&F, and then we had a **presentation by QI (Quality Improvement Chair, Jason McMinn on the 2023-24 Directives, and voted as a full body to approve them**. We next went through the **Resources Allocation process, using the Allocation Scenario Worksheet Plan shared onscreen**. Next, we talked through a new system S&F has begun using, where we “flag” or target certain service categories based on utilization, so as to re-visit them for review, at a later time. Overall, the discussion was very robust, we had many suggestions, and we were able to successfully accomplish things. Last, **Final Motion was voted by the full body for Approval of the Part A Allocations for the Grant Year 2023-24**. We are now glad to have completed PSRA for the year, and we should feel proud of ourselves, as everyone did a great job. We also thank everyone who filled out the survey. There were good answers given, especially for the open-ended questions.

#### **Approval of the June 16, 2023 PSRA (Priority Setting & Resources Allocation) Minutes**

**Addendum: Motion to approve June 16, 2023 PSRA minutes, with an amendment to incorporate the Allocation Scenario Worksheet Plan for the 2024-2025 Grant Year, into the minutes.**

Motion: J. Patterson      Seconded: L. Yarbrough-Franklin

In Favor: All      Opposed: 0      Abstained: 0

***Motion passed.***

### **Monthly Progress Report from HRSA Project Officer – L.J. Sylvia - None**

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **Community Liaison Committee (CLC) – L.J. Sylvia**

CLC is working to schedule three listening sessions and have added workgroups for that. The next workgroup meeting is Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon and, after that, another one on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. If anyone has thoughts or ideas for the listening session, please contact L.J. or the CLC chairs. Also consider joining, if possible.

##### **Strategy & Finance (S&F) – J. Patterson**

We discussed PSRA and talked on that, and made a number of notes for other innovations next year.

##### **Membership, Retention & Marketing (MRM) – B. Gayheart**

We went over the annual forms needed for each year and will give updates on when to submit them. For open nominations, we have three new members: Biffy Aguriano, Daytona Harris, and Anthony Thomas, and one renewal member, LeAnder Lovett, who have gone before County Council and have their interview discussion. A resolution was made and when Part A gets confirmation, we will provide that update. On recruitment, all are aware that

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15	Bryan Jones	20	20	0	20	20	0	20			
16	LeAnder Lovett	0	20	0	20	20	20	20			
17	Tina Marbury	0	20	20	20	20	20	20			
18	Jeffrey Mazo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
19	Jason McMin	20	0	20	20	20	20	20			
20	Naimah O'Neal	20	20	0	20	20	20	20			
21	Julie Patterson	20	20	20	20	20	20	20			
22	Faith Ross	20	20	20	20	20	20	20			
23	Karla Ruiz	20	0	20	20	20	20	20			
24	Peter Scardino	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
25	David Smith	0	20	0	20	0	20	20			
26	James Stevenson	20	20	0	20	0	20	20			
27	Anthony Thomas	20	20	20	0	20	0	20			
28	Joye Toombs	20	20	0	20	20	20	0			
29	Stephanice Washington	0	20	0	20	0	0	20			
30	Rhonda Watkins	20	0	0	0	0	0	20			
31	Leshia Yarbrough-Franklin	20	20	20	20	20	20	20			
	<b>Total in Attendance</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>			

PC Attendees: A. Rollins, A. Tomco, L. Cantania, K. Hill

Staff: A. Idov, L.J. Sylvia, T. Mallory