

Cuyahoga Regional HIV Prevention and Care Planning Council

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

Deairius Houston, Chair

HIV Prevention Committee Minutes

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

4:00 pm to 5:30 pm



Start: 4:02 pm

End: 5:26 pm

Facilitator: D. Houston

Moment of Silence

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda: June 7, 2023

Addendum:

Motion: J. Patterson Seconded: K. Dennis

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

Approval of the Minutes: March 1, 2023

Motion: J. Patterson Seconded: D. Harris

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

Prevention Program Summary – Recipient Report – M. Kolenz

We are onboarding a new DIS (Disease Intervention specialist) staff member, and have recently brought on two new program managers and two DIS program managers. We are almost at our half way point and, as there is no current news, we are awaiting guidance on the upcoming grant year from ODH (Ohio Department of Health).

Community Partner Presentation – Liam Haggerty, Director of Street Outreach, NEOCH (Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless)

NEOCH began in the late 1980's, having roots in advocacy and organizing, and upholding our mission to: *"eliminate the root causes of homelessness while loving our diverse community through organizing, advocacy, education, and street outreach."* Our key values are: *Anti-Racism, Community, Compassion, Affirming Dignity, Trauma Informed, Radically Inclusive, Gracefully Accountable, Sustainability, Pro-LGBTQ, Solidarity, Integrity, Justice, and Love.*

NEOCH also promotes efforts around pay-to-stay legislation for late renters and pending evictions, and we are currently working on source of income legislation for landlords who are hesitant on accepting housing vouchers. We also lead workshops and training around crisis intervention, trans-affirmation, and providing help for the homeless, which is all available on our website.

As our mission statement guides our work, we are not a shelter provider or housing provider, instead our efforts are more towards connecting people to housing or medical services. As the population we serve is mostly unsheltered, homeless persons, who often opt out of staying in shelters (due to a various policy, health, and safety concerns), NEOCH's primary goal is to connect with folks, where they are and then connect them to a variety of resources such as housing, medical care, mental health services, crisis intervention, and daily living needs. This is all done through our collaboration with other agencies, so if you're interested in becoming a part of our mission, please reach out and let us know.

***Question: J. Patterson** - We have folks in HIV community currently doing vaccines, what do you see with this?

***Response: L. Haggerty** – We had something last summer and with uptick now looking at this. One initial issue last year was homeless and HIV positive concerns, on how to navigate that with vaccines and sheltering, but this is now not a challenge.

NEOCH's Street Outreach Services - Contact# (216) 432-0540 main contact to refer someone.

NEOCH, 3631 Perkins Ave, Cleveland, OH 44114. You may also contact Ange Mastandrea, Street Outreach

Coordinator: Ange@neoch.org, and Liam Haggerty: Haggerty@neoch.org, Director of Street Outreach, cell (216) 319-9025.

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Community Health Update - Julie Patterson, AIDS Funding Collaborative- Findings of HIV Testing Assessment of Landscape of Community-Based HIV Testing in Cuyahoga County Project

This last academic year, the AIDS Funding Collaborative, took on a group of CWRU students to work on a project. These were all health profession students, who we asked for their help on a project geared towards accessing community-based HIV testing. We appreciate the feedback from the presentation at the March 1st meeting, as this helped the students identify trends and form opinions, with the goal of making a difference in HIV testing in Cuyahoga County.

<u>Background</u> There are 1.2 million individuals living with HIV in the United States, the CDC (Center for Disease Control) reported in 2020 that 13.8% of those cases were undiagnosed. Characterizing availability of HIV testing in Cuyahoga County could improve access to care and help community organizations make decisions.	<u>Project Goals</u> - Map HIV testing services, testing volume, self-testing availability - Identify trends in community HIV testers' concerns in Cuyahoga County - Improve community organizations' knowledge of testing availability at other testing locations - Update online HIV testing locators with up to date information
<u>Methods</u> - Interviewed community (non-hospital) HIV testing providers in Cuyahoga County and collected information on e.g., testing volume, hours, self-test availability, and provider concerns - Analyzed data for trends and mapped testing availability - Produced written report detailing findings – To be distributed to HIV testing providers in Cuyahoga County	<u>Results</u> - Reached out to 17 organizations – 15 participated - Submitted updated information to HIV testing locators (HIV.gov + CDC/OHIV.gov) - Two (2) locations needed web locator updates; two (2) locations were not in the locators at all - Identified gaps in access - Mapped testing availability - Produced a written report
<u>Additional Results</u> - Cuyahoga community testing sites administer 27,000 HIV tests per year-220 positives (0.8% positive rate) - Forty percent (40%) of the surveyed locations offer at home self- test options - Seventy-three percent (73%) of sites offer rapid testing and 60% offer laboratory testing - Ninety-three percent (93%) of testing sites advertised their services – 73% social media, 40% print materials - Sixty-seven percent (67%) of sites accept walk-ins - Twenty percent (20%) have screening requirements	<u>Primary Concerns for Testing Sites</u> - Funding availability/allocation - Accessibility of their services to the community - Adequate representation of community in their staff <u>HIV Testing Site Mapping</u> This map shows testing volume for community HIV testing locations in Cuyahoga County. <u>Final Conclusions/Takeaways</u> Missing and outdated info was corrected in databases of locators. Self-testing and non-business hours' distribution was limited and not accessible to some populations. Major concerns for testing sites were funding availability and accessibility of their services.

In summary, the highlights of this report can be made available to those interested, as these numbers are based on the project findings and may not be totally accurate. Also, we want to recognize and thank CCBH (Cuyahoga County Board of Health) HIV Prevention Program Manager, Melissa Kolenz, and CCBH Ending the HIV Epidemic (EtHE) Program Manager, Brian Lutz for their help and expertise in providing the CWRU students with a wonderful presentation on the "world of testing". They both gave us a great starting point and frame of reference to begin this project, and we are very grateful for all their tremendous support.

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June Events – D. Houston

Want to take portion out to discuss upcoming events, how we can work together to support these events and also inform our clients so they know where to find them.

- 1. James Stevenson** –Nueva Luz providing Mpox vaccines, Thursday, June 29th
- 2. Naimah O’Neal** - PC will be representing upcoming Lorain Pride event on Saturday, June 24th.
- 3. Daytona Harris** – Neighborhood Family Practice received their grant and are finally staffed with an HIV Prevention nurse and will look to hire a new person for HIV Coordinator. We’re also having a Kick-Off event on June 27th, from 9-3pm at our Neighborhood Family Practice, 3545 Ridge Road location, next to Dave’s.
- 4. Christina Osborne** - On June 16th and 30, the Centers (formerly Circle Health), will be hosting Hep C Testing at the Centers’ Uptown location at 12202 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44106, (216) 721-4010. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins accepted. The Centers will also be hosting a Juneteenth event on June 14th, from 4-6 pm., with music, games and food trucks. Emmanuel Baptist Church, 8201 Superior Avenue, is doing HEP and HIV testing.
- 5. Tina Marbury** – Women We Think 4 A Change is sponsoring upcoming sessions for African American women, on teaching enhanced peer involvement in care in order to better navigate the system as it related to the HIV continuum. For more details, contact either Naimah O’Neal: naimah.oneal@thecentersohio.org, or Tina Marbury at: marbury.tym1@yahoo.com. The first sessions will begin in July.
- 6. Julie Patterson** – AIDS Funding Collaborative will host a Zoom meeting on grant application assistance, Wednesdays, June 7th and 14th, at 1:00 pm. Also Geauga County Pride Events at Century Village in Burton, June 25th from noon to 5 pm. Free event includes music, food, and fun activities for all ages.
- 7. Michelle Jackson-Rollins** – We Think 4 A Change
 - Produce Foodbank, fresh fruit and veggie giveaway, second and fourth Thursdays, June 22nd, 5406 Storer Avenue (West 55th and Storer). Cleveland, OH 44102, set-up 12:30 pm., from 2-4pm. Partnering with Walgreen for National AIDS Testing Day, Tuesday, June 27th at Walgreens, 3415 Clark Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44109, and Walgreens at 11701 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, OH 44107. Juneteenth, June 18th, at Buckeye Trumpet Man Statue, East 118th, Cleveland, OH 44105, 11am set-up, 12-5 pm. Juneteenth, June 18th, West 73rd, Self-Care Community Fair, 3144 West 73rd empty lot, from 12-4 pm.
- 8. Fiona Allen** – University Hospitals will be at Project Lyft, Salvation Army on Euclid, 12-4 pm.
- 9. NEOCH’s Street Outreach Services** - Contact# (216) 432-0540 main contact to refer someone. NEOCH, 3631 Perkins Ave, Cleveland, OH 44114. You may also contact Ange Mastandrea, Street Outreach Coordinator: Ange@neoch.org, and Liam Haggerty: Haggerty@neoch.org, Director of Street Outreach, Cell (216)319-9025. Cleveland Street Outreach Collaborative –This is an opportunity to share resources, track trends, to ensure people who are homeless have basic needs for survival, linkage to services, getting access to temporary shelters, housing assistance, and other support in times of crisis.

Review Committee Work Plan: Trainings – D. Houston

This review is to discuss potential presenters for upcoming trainings, as the committee previously spoke of possible training on the HIV drug, Descovy that could be done by a distributor, rather than a pharmacist or distributor.

***Comment: J. Patterson** - Maybe Kenyon could give Truvada and Descovy presentations.

***Response: D. Houston** – We will reach out to him.

***Comment: A. Rollins** - Training and hands-on information on syphilis and how to read and interpret those tests.

***Comment: M. Kolenz** - Maybe can reach out to Uleta for a September or December training.

D. Houston – Once we see which she can do, this will complete the year for trainings.

Next Steps

The next Prevention Committee meeting is Wednesday, September 6, from 4:00 - 5:30 pm.

Announcements - None

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Adjournment

Motion: F. Ross Seconded: J. Stevenson

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 29

PREVENTION MEMBERS PRESENT: 10

	PREVENTION MEMBERS	June 7, 2023	NOTES
1	Deairius Houston, Co-chair	Present	
2	Julie Patterson	Present	
3	Bryan Jones	-	
4	Tina Marbury	Present	
5	Michelle Jackson-Rollins	Present	
6	Ahlem Zaaed	-	
7	Jeannie Citerman-Kraeger	-	
8	Rebecca Strong	-	
9	Christine Osborne	Present	
10	Cederick Taylor	Present	
11	Akeem Rollins	Present	
12	Rickey Lewis	-	
13	Holly Phillips	-	
14	Elizabeth Habat	-	
15	Kate Burnett-Bruckman	-	
16	Pam Weiland	-	
17	Karla Ruiz	-	
18	James Stevenson	Present	
19	Karen Hill	-	
20	Joye Toombs	-	
21	Leander Lovett	Present	
22	Daytona Harris	Present	

PC: B. Gayheart, R. Watkins, F. Ross, K. Dennis, N. O'Neal, A. Forbes

Attendees: T. Greene, F. Allen, A. Falzone, L. Haggerty, S. Manhoff, K. Rodas, S. Davis, B. Willis, C. Jackson,

Staff: M. Kolenz, L. White, L.J. Sylvia, T. Mallory