

Morris, Sussex, Warren HIV/AIDS Advisory
3 Executive Drive Morris Plains, NJ 07960

Meeting Notes: Tuesday, 5/22/12

In attendance: William Shapiro, Linda Hendrixson, Joann McEniry, Sunny Khosla, Becca Silverman, Bob Armstrong, Shelia Carter

Absent: Joel Aronson, Ray Suttles, Roberta Feil

William Shapiro called the meeting to order at 11:15am and a moment of silence observed.

NEMA Report: Joann McEniry reported that the 2012 – 2015 Comprehensive Health Plan (CHP) was completed in Draft form by the Comprehensive Planning Committee and submitted to Planning Council for approval. Particular focus was the new goals of the plan to focus on engaging and keeping patients in care. Discussion re: comprehensive plan's focus on how to better use tools such as Memorandums of Understandings (MOU), ERICS, treatment team meetings between providers (both Ryan White providers and other community providers). The Comprehensive Plan was approved by the Planning Council as submitted. Bob Armstrong pointed out that 759 people are HIV positive living in Morris County and 67% are 45 years of age or older. In addition he noted that the number of people living with HIV/AIDS across the NEMA has leveled off over the past 3 years.

Bill Shapiro announced that the priority setting season is beginning for 2013 fiscal year. Discussion was held explaining the Priority Setting process and its relation to the Planning Council and the Comprehensive Health Plan. Shapiro advised the committee that there will be additional meetings scheduled over the next few months to enable us to work on setting percentages and preparing for presentation to NEMA.

Bob Armstrong added that his advocacy for Speaker's Bureaus was recognized by NEMA and added as a goal to the Comprehensive Health Plan. Objectives were added to the plan that allows for a tool to be developed to measure the effectiveness of the Speakers Bureaus. Linda Hendrixson expressed some concern that sometimes the impact of such a Bureau is sometime not materialized until much later on. Bill Shapiro explained how the Research Committee of the Council will consider this as well as some additional barriers to measuring effectiveness.

Agency / Committee Reports:

Hendrixson: Linda Hendrixson distributed an article titled "AIDS Prevention Inspires Ways to Make Circumcisions Easier" and discussion was had amongst the committee. The article discusses new devices that can be worn by males to remove foreskin and thus reduce risk of HIV transmission (see attached article).

NJAS: Joann McEniry reported that the NJ AIDS Walk was held in 7 locations across NJ on Sunday May 6, 2012. The event was well attended and Senator Menendez,

Congressman Frelinghuysen, Mayor Daugherty, Council Women/President Michelle Harris were also present and spoke regarding AIDS issues. The event was covered by News 12 NJ and many local news sources. Joann thanked Bob Armstrong for volunteering his time and taking beautiful photos of the event. Joann introduced Becca Silverman who will be interning with the case workers of NJAS over the summer. Joann announced that support groups, relapse prevention groups, and pot luck activities are held on Tuesdays weekly at NJAS. Joann announced that she will be going to Haiti on July 8th to establish an HIV/AIDS prevention program with a youth focus for a medical center.

Hope House: No report.

Morris County: Sheila discussed the Morris County's 10 year plan to End Homelessness planning meeting held on Friday 5/18/12 at College of St Elizabeth Annunciation Center. There were approximately 80 agencies represented at the meeting. She further discussed the importance of documenting housing need and coordination of services. A preliminary report will be developed and shared with the committee.

FHC: William Shapiro announced that due to funding cuts, dental care has been limited to people who are service recipients of the Family Health Center. The dental clinic does accept general assistance, Medicaid and United Health Care Managed Care Medicaid. This will impact people who do not have dental coverage otherwise including Medicare recipients. Nutrition services are no longer funded by Ryan White> However, Charity Care, Medicare and Medicaid resources can be used to assist those in need. Linda Hendrixson inquired about testing in Morris County. Bill stated that the Morris testing has the highest percentages of HIV positive in the state. Linda Hendrixson added that Planned Parenthood is now going to an opt-out model of routine testing.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Next meeting: 6/26/12 at NJAS in Morris Plains. Shapiro will send an email if an additional meeting is warranted due to Priority Setting.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann McEniry