

Approved July 14, 2009

Governor's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (GACHA)
Executive Council Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2009
Conference Call

Members Present

David Lee
Mark Garrett
Judi Billings
Charley Emlet
Jeff Schouten

Members Excused

Staff

John Peppert
Lynn Johnigk

Members Unexcused

Mick McCoy

Others Present

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Garrett at 10:15 a.m.
The agenda was reviewed and no changes were made.

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2009

It was moved by Billings to accept the minutes. Seconded by Emlet. The second paragraph under the Vice Chair report was changed to read: Spokane is completing development of a collaborative process for requesting the Northwest AIDS Education and Training Center and other professional accredited CME trainings for continuing HIV education. Passed as corrected.

Chair Report – David Lee

Trainings attended:

- Ethics in HIV training in Washington, DC the week of June 1
- Presentation by Jane Heady on contraceptives and HIV at Harborview Medical Center on June 9

Trainings by Northwest AIDS Education and Training Center

- Moses Lake – two providers offer most of the HIV care in that area

Vice Chair Report – Mark Garrett

Facility recruitment for the Medical Monitoring Project (MMP) is being completed. Interviews could start by August 1, 2009. Approval for the project was received from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Transmission of data for the Client Level Data Reporting Project begins soon. Several elements such as coding are still being worked on. DOH will encrypt the data and send it to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

DOH Report – John Peppert

Budget

Within the federal budget for the next fiscal year, there are modest increases for these programs: HIV; STD; and TB.

There are significant reductions within the state budget to the Early Intervention Program and AIDS Omnibus funds. DOH also was required to reduce expenditures of general funds state (GFS) by \$8M. GFS continue to decline and further reductions in funding are expected.

Twenty individuals in DOH are at risk of lay-offs or being bumped. Currently, there are 100 vacancies in the agency. No lay-offs within Infectious Disease and Reproductive Health are expected, however, there are vacancies. The current hiring freeze set by law ends on July 1, 2009.

WAC Update – The final stakeholder meeting is June 16 in Spokane. The State Board of Health (SBOH) will be briefed on the proposed changes in October and will hold a formal hearing for action on the changes in November.

Public Forum

The Executive Committee is in favor of holding a forum.

Purpose for forum – How to administer care and prevention funds for the next twenty years.

Suggested topics for discussion

- Overview of current health services
 - Service changes – affect to communities/individuals
- Efficient use of resources
- Funding
- What would be the advantages/disadvantages be to doing away with the current system?
- Reducing the number regions
- What could care and prevention services in Washington State look like in the future?
- Administration of funds by DOH for needed services

Suggested workgroup participants

AIDS Service Organizations (Lifelong AIDS Alliance)

DOH

A local health jurisdiction (small one) representative

GACHA

AIDS Nets – Peppert will discuss at their June 12 meeting.

Lee and Garrett will represent GACHA and Lee will contact Hillard to ascertain his interest in participating.

Membership

The attendance summary from August 2007 forward was reviewed. A letter to determine their interest and ability to attend future meetings will be sent to Diggs-Hobson, Carroll, and Droke as their attendance is below 50 percent.

Appointments and Reappointments – Several attempts have been made to contact Stacey Tichenor, Boards and Commissions Assistant, in the Office of the Governor. In May, she indicated her supervisor, Bill Wegeleben, was working on some issues. Peppert sent an email to Wegeleben on June 4 with no response received to date.

Condoms in Prison

An issue paper developed by the Council in 1997 on prison issues which addressed the use of condoms was sent to the Executive Committee for review to follow up on the comment by Strick at the May meeting regarding GACHA's interest in recommending condoms in prisons. The paper will be sent to Strick asking for feedback if the paper is okay as is and should be resent to the Governor or if it should be updated. The issue will be brought back for discussion at a future meeting.

Other

Denis Moyers passed away in May per Schouten.

Lee will write a letter to send to Governor Gregoire recommending passage of a law similar to California's regarding payment for routine HIV testing by insurance companies as discussed at the May meeting.

Next Meeting

- Liver transplantation for HIV positives
- PrEP

Council members will be advised September 22 is confirmed as the date for the meeting.

The conference call adjourned at 11:30 a.m.