

## Continuum of Care Committee MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, February 14, 2019, at 10AM-12PM  
Willing Heart Community Center  
555 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102

Present	Excused Absences	Unexcused Absences
1. Mario Portilla 2. Ann Bagchi PhD 3. Kasny Damas 4. Cezar Dumago 5. Pat Moore 7. Richlyn Burnham 8. Wanda Figueroa MD 9. Sharon Postel 10. Imad Ibrahim 11. Dominga Padilla, MD 12. Nancy Scangarello 13. Lauro Rocha	14. Cuthbert Ashby 15. Viesha Morales 16. Altece Smith  Parker is no longer a member. Dr. Chew resigned -> Dr Pringles will take their place Rutgers ID staff	17. Kendall Clark

Absent: Richlyn Burnham,

**1. Welcome and Moment of Silence**

Mario Portilla, COC Chair, welcomed all in attendance and called for a moment of silence to be observed for all those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

**2. Roll Call**

Mario Portilla, called the roll. Quorum was not established.

**3. Public Testimony**

Dr. Figueroa announced that the Department of Health will offer PreP services for patients starting today. Everyone is welcome to schedule an appointment.

**4. Approval of Meeting Summary**

Approval of meeting summary was postponed because quorum was established later in this meeting. The minutes were approved with proposed revisions.

**5. Standing Committee Updates**

- **Comprehensive Planning Committee:**

Eugenia provided an update for the CPC. The CPC has been making preparations for the PreP and Syringe Access and Needle Exchange program to be held on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Newark. During the CPC meeting, the

agenda and location were finalized. The presenters will be someone from Gilead Sciences and someone from NJCRI. The CPC also reviewed the goals and objectives as per the Integrated Health Plan marking those items that have been completed and prioritizing those that need to be finalized. The CPC also developed its 2019-2020 calendar of meetings. The next CPC meeting will be held on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10 am at the BF Johnson Community Center.

- **Research and Evaluation Committee:**

Ann Bagchi Ph. D provided an update for the REC committee. The REC last met on Monday January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 at Willing Heart Community Center in Newark. The Needs Assessment survey was discussed, but the form was not available for approval, so only notes were taken for this meeting. The REC calendar of meetings was created. Preliminary preparations for the needs assessment were also discussed at the meeting. The next REC meeting will be held on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10 am at the Willing Heart Community Center 555 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07103.

- **Community Involvement Activities/Community Conversations Committee:**

Eugenia reported that the CIA committee last met on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Willing Heart Community Center in Newark. A pharmaceutical representative was scheduled to attend the meeting to present on the anti—diarrhea medication Mytesi. However, the presenter canceled last minute due to a family emergency. Instead, Eugenia engage consumers in voicing their issues – such as access to housing, stigma with primary care providers, and food. A large number of consumers reported a need for legal services assistance related to landlord issues – evictions, transitional housing. Consumers showed interest in education and support with co-morbidities as well. The next CIA meeting will be on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5 pm at the Willing Heart Community Center in Newark, NJ.

## 6. Old/New Business

- Early Intervention Standards – Page 1 changes: IV youth aged 13-24 changed. Added a requirement that agencies who receive EIS funding are required to be a member of the Early intervention and retention Collaborative and to attend scheduled meetings. V: wording on CD4 counts and viral loads was rephrased as well as the mark for HIV patients. Page 2: VII – #7 -e. changed some wording from direct service provider to EIS provider. Page 3: no edits. Summary of services must be documented “in clients record”. Page 4: client cell phones should be used to avoid barriers. Training regarding confidentiality should be provided. Pg4, a. targeted HIV testing comes from the HRSA policy. Use bullet points on section 5. A discussion on the overall Early Intervention Standards continued.
- Broadway House - Behavioral Health Department presentation: substance abuse and mental health counselors are available on site. Level 4 care is offered to individuals who have multiple mental health conditions who are considered too unstable to be treated elsewhere.
- A testimony was shared by a client from the Broadway House explaining his struggles in the transition from being homeless to becoming more stable.
- Referral method for the Broadway House: a social worker from the hospital or the insurance company should refer patient to specialized care at Broadway House.
- VP nominations are pending. Attendees are welcome to step up.
- We will need a calendar of activities to update the Standards of Care.
- Update on status for CHAMP update. Still pending.

**7. Administrative Issues**

- A new staff was hired, and she will start on February 25, 2019. Eugenia will train her.

**8. Announcements**

- A presentation will be happening at the next meeting on hepatitis C.
- Attendees are encouraged to suggest topics and presenters for the COC meetings. Opioids is a topic of interest.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next Continuum of Care Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 10AM at Willing Heart Community Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd n Newark, NJ, 07102.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.