

**Continuum of Care Committee
MEETING SUMMARY**

Thursday, June 13th, 2019, at 10AM-12PM
 Willing Heart Community Center
 555 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102

Present	Excused Absences	Unexcused Absences
1. Ann Bagchi, Ph.D. (Secretary) 2. Richlyn Burnham 3. Kasny Damas (Non-Voting) 4. Cezar Dumago 5. Wanda Figueroa, MD 6. Imad Ibrahim 7. Pat Moore 8. Vieshia Morales 9. Mario Portilla (Chair) 10. Nancy Scangarello	11. Maisel Guzman 12. Dominga Padilla 13. Lauro Rocha	14. Kendall Clark 15. Aliya Onque 16. Sharon Postel (Non-Voting)

- 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**
 Tania Guaman, Support Staff, conducted the roll call. Quorum was established later during the meeting.
- 3. Public Testimony**
 No public testimony at this time.
- 4. Approval of Meeting Summary for May 9, 2019**
 The meeting summary from May 9, 2019 was reviewed. Mario Portilla, COC Chair, asked for a motion to approve. Ann Bagchi, PhD., motioned to accept the summary. Cezar Dumago seconded the motion. The motion was passed, and the summary was approved with edits.
- 5. Standing Committee Updates:**

 - Comprehensive Planning Committee: Joann McEniry**
 Tania Guaman, Support Staff, provided the following report. The Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) met last Friday, May 10 at the Willing Heart Community Center in Newark. The following occurred at the meeting:

 - The CPC committee begun the Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA) process. As part of that, members voted and approved the service category definitions for FY'20.

- The majority of the meeting focused on discussions regarding the core service waiver. In preparation for the development of recommendations for a non 75/25 split, members reviewed and received a presentation regarding consumer feedback and information on the sweeps process, requests that could not be granted, and allocations vs. actual expenditures.
- Based upon the reviewed information, members drafted recommendations for FY 2019 allocations.

The following core service categories are recommended for a decrease:

- Primary medical care (the largest decrease at 3.0%), early intervention services, mental health services, substance use services outpatient, health insurance premium and cost sharing assistance, and medical nutrition therapy.

The following support services were recommended for an increase:

- Housing services, medical transportation services, case management, emergency financial assistance, other professional services (legal).

Due to the strict deadline for submission of the core service waiver, the CPC requests the Planning Council review and vote on the FY2019 non 75/25 recommendations at today's Planning Council meeting.

After a discussion about the changes with members in attendance, Dr. Robert L. Johnson motioned to approve the FY 2019 non-75/25 recommendations. Calvin Toler motioned to approve the recommendations. Mario Portilla seconded the motion. All members agreed to approve the CPC report and the non-75/25 recommendations.

The next CPC meeting will be held on Friday, June 14, 2019 at the Willing Heart Community Care Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102. All are encouraged to attend.

- **Research and Evaluation Committee: Ann Bagchi, Ph. D**

Tania Guaman, Support Staff, provided the report for the REC committee. The last REC meeting was held on April 15 2019. There was no meeting on May due to unforeseen circumstances. The next REC meeting will be held on Monday, July 20, 2019 at the Willing Heart Community Care Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102.

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

Tania Guaman, Support Staff, provided an update for the CIA Committee. The last CIA meeting was held on May 22, 2019. An educational presentation was held on Mytesi, a medicine that can be prescribed to treat chronic diarrhea on HIV patients. Several attendees acknowledged that chronic diarrhea can be disruptive in their daily living and very difficult to manage. Participants asked questions about the benefits, side effects, and potential interactions with other medicines.

Support Staff received three applications for membership for the CIA. During the meeting, Warren Poole - CIA Chair, asked if anyone was opposed to accept the new members. All consumers accepted the new applicants and welcomed the new members. At this time, the CIA Chair encouraged all attendees specially, the new CIA members, to attend all committee meetings as well as the planning council meeting to voice their concerns during the time for public testimony.

Warren Poole, CIA Chair, continued the meeting with by presenting the recent non-75/25 recommendations that were approved by the Planning Council. He highlighted that, if the Core Service Waiver application is approved, those would be the new resource allocations which were developed, in part, using consumer's feedback. He also reinstated the importance of attending the meetings because consumer's voices are being heard. He asked all attendees once again to take advantage of the opportunity to share their opinions and experiences with Ryan White services.

Announcements were made about upcoming events held by different organizations as well as a 3-day training in Maryland, the NMAC BLOC training. Warren Poole, CIA Chair encouraged all interested consumers to apply for the training. To ensure that applications got completed, Support Staff stayed on site to assist consumer applicants. In total, 4 consumers applied for the NMAC BLOC Training including 3 representatives from Essex County and 1 from Union. Support Staff announced that a collaboration with the Union and Tri-County EIRC was built to have at least two representatives from each county apply.

The next CIA meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at the Willing Heart Community Care Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102.

6. Old/ Business

- Finalize review of Housing Standards of Care – The new definition of Housing and Program Guidance from PCN 16-02 was added to the Housing Standards of Care. A discussion was held on the edits needed on the Housing Standards of Care. Ann Bagchi motion to accept the Housing Standards of Care with edits. Vieshia Morales second the motion. The Housing Standards of Care were approved.
- Follow Up discussion about summer meetings – An email will be sent to all members to vote about a recess in August.

7. New Business

- Start the review of Emergency Financial Assistance Standards – Mario Portilla, Chair, will send the edited Emergency Financial Assistance Standards for the committee to review and discuss any new edits at the next meeting.
- Discussion on Access to Medications – Will be discussed at next meeting.

8. Administrative Issues:

Tania Guaman, Support staff, reported the following administrative issues:

- Support staff is requested that all members, both existing and new, complete a Membership Application to update membership records. Support Staff explained that there are two types of applications. Members applying for a committee membership only should use the committee application of their choice. On the other hand, Planning Council members were advised to complete one Planning Council application noting within that application the committee of their choice.

- Support Staff has implemented a survey system to collect data on how meeting support can be improved. Members were asked to complete meeting evaluations at the end of each meeting to include any comments or ideas for the following meetings.

9. Announcements:

Tania, Guaman, Support Staff, made a few announcements:

- The Prevention, Care and Treatment Summit hosted by NJ Planning Group will be held on June 20th, 2019 from 9am to 2pm. Flyers are available at the table.
- HRSA is hosting a Webinar on the National End the Epidemic Initiative on June 25th, 2019 from 2pm to 3pm. Tania Guaman send the link to the webinar via email to all members.
- Newark Community Health Centers, Inc. is hosting an event on June 27th from 12pm to 4pm in recognition of National Testing Day Event. Flyers are available at the table.

10. Next Meeting:

The next Continuum of Care Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 10AM, at Willing Heart Community Care Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Newark, NJ 07102.

11. Adjournment:

Mario Portilla, COC Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vieshia Morales moved to accept. Cezar Dumago second the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58AM