



Continuum of Care Committee

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, December 8, 2022, from 10:02AM to 12:06PM

Video-Conference via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/85358756881>

Teleconference: (929) 205-6099 / Meeting ID: 853 5875 6881

Present	Excused Absences	Unexcused Absences
1. Viesha Morales (Chair) 2. Lauro Rocha 3. Ann Bagchi, Ph.D. (Secretary) 4. Nancy Scangarello 5. Dr. Wanda Figueroa 6. Denise Brown 7. Cezar Dumago 8. Janet Hemingway	9. Dr. Lucy Efobi	10. Dr. Dominga Padilla 11. Kendall Clark

Guests: Priscilla Dobbins, Steven Toth, Dr. Ali Abbas, Rebekah Jarvis, Victoria Spencer, Sharon Postel, Maria Lorenzo

Support Staff: Carla-Ann Alexander and Roberto Benoit

1. Welcome and Moment of Silence

Morales called the meeting to order at 10:02AM and welcomed all in attendance. A moment of silence was observed for all those living with, those who have passed, and those affected by HIV/AIDS.

2. Roll Call

Bagchi conducted the roll call. Quorum was established later in the meeting.

3. Public Testimony

There was no public testimony at this meeting.

4. Approval of Meeting Summaries from September 8th, October 13th, and November 10th

The September 8th, October 13th, and November 10th meeting summaries were distributed electronically. Bagchi made a motion to approve all meeting summaries. Scangarello second. Dumago abstained.

5. Standing Committee Updates

- *Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC)* –Alexander provided the November 4th CPC report.
 - The CPC did not meet since the last COC meeting.
 - The committee voted to have two members become Co-Chair and Secretary.
 - The committee voted an AETC Representative as a CPC member.

- Support Staff presented the 2017-2022 IHAP Progress/Performance Report.
 - The committee reviewed the Draft of the 2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention & Care Plan. Committee members motioned and approved this draft to be presented to the Planning Council.
 - The committee discussed performance outcomes from the 2017-2021 IHAP along with suggested target populations for the 2022-2026 IHAP. Members voted in agreement to having eight target populations versus the previous fourteen.
 - The committee reviewed the FY22 RWHAP Part A Emergency Relief Grant Attachment 7: Coordination of Services and Funding Streams Table.
 - The committee discussed recommendations for the FY23 Needs Assessment.
 - The next CPC meeting will be held on Friday December 9, 2022, at 9:30am via Zoom.
- *Research and Evaluation Committee (REC)* – Alexander provided the November 21st REC report:
 - Sharon Postel is working on the Administrative Mechanism and will be emailing the report to PC Support Staff when completed.
 - Sharon Postel gave a summary of the 2022 Needs Assessment Report. She will email the completed report to be submitted to the Planning Council for review and approval.
 - Sharon Postel gave a brief summary of the 2022-2026 Integrated Plan. She discussed the plan’s goals and situational analysis.
 - The committee discussed Needs Assessment topics for 2023: linkage to care within thirty days of new diagnosis.
 - The next REC meeting will be held on Monday, December 19, 2022, at 10AM via Zoom.
- *Community Involvement Activities Committee (CIA)* – Alexander reported that the CIA’s November 16th meeting was cancelled.
 - The next CIA meeting will be held on Wednesday December 21, 2022, at 5pm via Zoom.

6. Old Business

- Review/Update Oral Health
 - Dr. Steven Toth from Rutgers School of Dental Medicine's Special Services Dental Clinic joined the meeting and gave recommendations pertaining to this service standard.
 - Morales reviewed the whole service standard. The following were added:
 - In Part C, “It should also document treatment progress and should be reviewed within 90 days from initial plan and modified as necessary.”
 - In Part D, “Treatment/Service Plan assessment and revision within 90 days of initial assessment and modified as necessary.”
 - Dr. Toth explained that some patients may not require another appointment within ninety-days if they are in full care. In this case, patients may be seen every six months.
 - Bagchi made a motion to approve this service standard. Dumago seconded.
- Review/Approve Health Insurance Premium & Cost-Sharing Assistance (HIPCA) for low-income individuals
 - Morales explained coverage and the purpose of HIPCA.
 - The committee reviewed this standard, and no edits were made.

- Bagchi made a motion to approve this service standard. Dumago seconded.
- Review/Update Other Professional Services
 - Scangarello made a motion to approve this service standard. Bagchi seconded.
- Review/Update Foodbank/Home Delivered Meals
 - This standard was reviewed. No edits were made.
 - Dumago made a motion to approve this service standard. Scangarello seconded.
- Review/Update Medical Nutrition Therapy
 - Rebekah Jarvis, a dietitian/nutritionist from Broadway House, joined the meeting.
 - Morales reviewed the whole service standard. The following edits were made:
 - In Part five, section A, number sixteen, the following were removed due to repetitiveness: fasting blood sugar (letter j), lipid panel (letter k), BUN (letter l), prealbumin (letter p), hemoglobin (letter d), and creatinine (letter m).
 - Part one, number three was reworded to state, “To maximize results of medical and pharmacological treatments.”
 - Part five, section A now states, “in consultation with the client’s infectious disease/Primary Medical Care Provider.
 - Rocha made a motion to approve this service standard. Scangarello seconded.
- Review/Update Psychosocial Support Services
 - Maria Lorenzo from Broadway House joined the meeting.
 - Morales reviewed the whole service standard. No edits were made.
 - Bagchi made a motion to approve this service standard. Scangarello seconded.

7. New Business

- New Member introduction—Janet Hemingway
 - Janet Hemingway gave a brief introduction about herself.
 - Scangarello made a motion to vote Janet Hemingway as a member of the COC. Bagchi seconded. All members present were in favor.
- Review/Update Universal Service Standard
 - Morales reviewed and explained this standard. The following edits were made:
 - Part one added, “Proof of HIV+ status (for transfer of medical care, complete HIV fourth generation test required)
 - The committee held a discussion about how different providers receive proof of HIV+ status.
 - Bagchi made a motion to approve this service standard. Scangarello seconded.
- Review 2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan—Sharon Postel
 - Sharon Postel gave an overview of the Situational Analysis, drafted by the COC, that was incorporated in the IHAP. This document focused on African Americans, Youth, and Transgenders.
 - The analysis covered strengths, challenges, and identified needs based on four pillars:

1. Diagnosed (Testing, Linkage to care)
 2. Treat (Linkage to Care, HIV Treatment)
 3. Prevent (PrEP, PEP)
 4. Respond (cluster detection)
- The committee held a discussion about issues they are dealing with in reference to injectables.
 - Sharon Postel gave a briefly discussed the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) and Needs Assessment.
 - The eight priority populations for 2022-2026 IHAP were reviewed and explained:
 1. Men who have sex with Men (MSM)
 2. Black/African American (all genders and ages) (with a focus on black women)
 3. Youth, age 13-24 (with a focus on those age 19-24 who are young adults)
 4. Young adults, age 25-34 (“former youth”)
 5. People who are Transgender, particularly Trans Women of Color
 6. Individuals New to Care (Newly Diagnosed)
 7. Medicaid recipients (low-income individuals)
 8. Uninsured Individuals (also low income and possible undocumented)
 - Sharon Postel reviewed the CY 2022-2026 Goals and Objectives. NEMA’s IHAP includes goals and objectives determined by their planning, their Needs Assessment, and the four pillars. She explained that NEMA will continue to address goals set forth in the NHAS 2022-2025:
 1. Reducing new infections
 2. Increasing access to care and improving health outcomes for people living with HIV
 3. Reducing HIV related disparities and health inequities
 4. Achieving a more coordinated national response to the HIV epidemic

8. Administrative Issues— PC Support Staff

- There were no issues reported.

9. Announcements

- NJCRI will be having their annual Christmas Holiday Party on December 16th from 11AM-3PM.
- Essex County’s CEAS/COC and Newark’s Department of Homeless Services will be having their Homeless Person’s Memorial Day on December 21st from 10AM to 3PM.

10. Next Meeting

- The next COC meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 10AM via Zoom.

11. Adjournment

- The meeting ended by Morales decree at 12:06PM.