

**Research & Evaluation Committee
MEETING SUMMARY**

Monday, May 20th, 2024, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Videoconference via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89756434893>

Teleconference: (929) 205 6099 / Meeting ID: 897 5643 4893

PRESENT	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ann Bagchi, PhD/DNP (Chair) 2. Corey Destefano (Vice-Chair) 3. Sharon Postel (Non-Voting) 4. Lynette Abduwaliyy 5. Natalie Muhammad 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Debbie Mohammed 7. Warren Poole 8. Kasny Damas (Secretary)

Guests: Ashanti Simpson-Little, Dr. Lynch

PC Support Staff: Roberto Benoit, Richell Garcia

1. Welcome and Moment of Silence

- Bagchi called this meeting to order at 10:02 AM. A moment of silence was observed for all those living with, those who have passed, and those affected by HIV/AIDS.

2. Roll Call

- Support Staff conducted roll call. Quorum was not established.

3. Public Testimony

- Dr. Lynch, the Chief operating officer of the Broadway House joined the meeting. Dr Lynch is interested in being involved in the committee.

4. Approval of the Meeting Summaries from April 15th, 2024

The April 15th meeting summary was sent out electronically ahead of the meeting. Bagchi called for a motion to approve the meeting summary. DeStefano made the motion and Abduwaliyy seconded the motion. All were in favor, no objections. The meeting summary was approved.

5. Standing Committee Updates

Continuum of Care Committee (COC) – Viesha Morales provided the report.

- The committee last met on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 10 AM via Zoom.
- The committee reviewed and approved the Medical Transportation Service Standard.
- The service standards were submitted to the planning council for the 30-day review process.
- During the meeting Adams-Jarrells presented the Living and aging with HIV
- Lastly. Postel presented the 2022-2026 HIV Prevention and Care Plan
- The next COC meeting will be held on Friday, June 17, 2023, at 10AM via Zoom.

Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) – Ricardo Salcido provided the update.

- The CPC last met on Friday, May 10, 2024.
- During the meeting, the recipient office hosted the Quality Management Presentation.
- The Support Staff presented the One-year 2023 CIA Consumer feedback presentation.
- Lastly the committee reviewed the FY24 Needs Assessment Report by Postel.
- The next CPC meeting will be held on Friday June 14, 2024, at 9:30am via Zoom.

Community Involvement Activities Committee (CIA) – Support Staff provided the update.

- The committee last met on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 5PM via Zoom.
- The April CIA meeting was cancelled due to the chair having an emergency
- The next CIA meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 5 PM via Zoom.

Nominations Committee (NC) – Support Staff provided the update.

- The Nominations committee meetings were tabled until an oath ceremony date was established. The NEMA Planning Council oath ceremony was conducted on May 3, 2024.
- Nominations committee meetings are scheduled to begin again to select a consumer that will be attending the Ryan White conference.
- The next nominations committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 17, 2024.

6. Old Business

Monitoring for the 2022-2026 HIV Prevention and Care Plan

- Postel reported to the committee the 2022-2026 HIV Prevention and Care Plan for Newark EMA. The report included data from March 1, 2023, to February 29th, 2024.
- Sharon noted that the format was changed to show the baseline of 2022 and the annual report of 2023. The 2024 reports will show the bi-monthly progress. The following are key findings regarding RWHAP Part A clients in the EMA:
- The new trends indicated that Medicaid declined to 45% and the number of the uninsured increased to 20%. One in five individuals were uninsured. These are the new trends for the past two months. The report is based on the four pillars of ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- The goal is to increase the number of newly diagnosed individuals. The trend for MSM decreased from 40% in 2022 to 37% in this bimonthly period. The percentage of new diagnoses for Black African Americans and Black women increased. The age population of individuals from 25 to 35 decreased from 39% to 37%. The youth age from 14 to 24 and subset from 19 to 24 increase from 12% to about 14% of the newly diagnosed. Transgender trend declined from 2.7 to 1.3 in a two-month period. The Ryan White focuses on the second pillar, that is treatment
- Postel noted that the linkage to care goals is 95% within 30 days of diagnosis by 2026. In the two-month period the link to care within 30 days increased by .5%, from 81.2 to 81.7. Similarly, the linkage to care within 7 days increased by .5% from 57.8 to 58.3%. This data is not broken into priority populations because the data is too small.
- Postel noted in a two-month period the total viral load suppression remained stable at 90%. The one and two years durable viral loads dropped slightly .1%. The goal is 95% viral load suppression.
- MSM account for ¼ (26) of RWHAP clients in the EMA.
- Black/African American are nearly 2/3 of clients – 36% men and 26% women.
- Youth are 3% and most of those are ages 19-24.

- Nearly 1 in 6 are ages 25-34.
- Nearly half (45%) are very low income (receiving Medicaid with income < 139% Federal Poverty Level).
- Nearly 1 in 5 (20%) are uninsured, possibly low income and need RWHAP funded services, especially medical care.
 - Bagchi mentioned that for clinical purposes the changes in the report are minimal.
- **Assessment of Ryan White Part-A in Administrative Mechanism the Newark EMA Agency Survey**
 - Benoit mentioned that the Administrative Mechanism was added to Survey Monkey for distribution to the agencies.
- **Annual needs assessment to identify HIV/AIDS related needs and gaps.**
 - Postel mentioned that 25 agencies responded to the need assessment survey. The survey was sent to 30 agencies. She received the data for the undocumented portion of the survey that included the needs of the undocumented individuals. In addition, she received the newly diagnosed data on Tuesday
 - Postel noted that she will have to create two separate tabulations being that not every agency service undocumented individual.
 - Postel mention that in the survey the agencies provided a good list of resources for the undocumented individuals. The organizations that responded were medical and support care agencies.
 - The newly diagnosed survey responses detailed the work of the agencies in linking the individuals to other services. The responses of the agencies were very telling of all their work.
 - Bagchi requested clarification on agencies that do not provide services to undocumented individuals. Bagchi mentioned that Ryan White is neutral immigration status. Postel that some Legal Services do not specialize on undocumented function. In addition, another clinic in the survey does not provide services to undocumented. Postel does not know the reason.
 - Abduwaliyy mentioned that many undocumented patients come through the ED and that the hospital linked the individual to services. Abduwaliyy seeks resources that can help the undocumented navigate through their paperwork.
 - Postel mentioned that the survey responses listed local, county resources not only RW services.
 - The need assessment was sent on April 10th with a due date of April 26th. The deadline was extended to May 10th. Bramble followed up on the agencies that have yet to submit the assessment.
- **Review progress on 2024 Funding Streams Report**
 - Benoit is working on the Funding Stream Analysis 2025 and waiting for other agencies to update information.
 - Postel mentioned that the demographic data for February should be available.
 - Benoit mentioned that moving forward he will request this information from Gabriel Ferrigno from the Department of Health.

7. New Business

8. Administrative Issues

- No Administrative issues to report.

9. Announcements

- There were no announcements.

10. Next Meeting

- The next REC meeting will be held on Monday, June 17, 2024, at 10AM via Zoom.

11. Adjournment

Bagchi called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was successfully adjourned at 11:00 AM.