



Planning Council Meeting
Thursday, December 10th, 2020
Zoom
4:00 - 6:00pm

Summary of Attendance

Members Present

Amanda Hart
Alison Kirchgasser
Barry Callis
Brian Holliday
Bryan Thomas
Catherine Weerts
Cindi Bell
Damon Gaines
Darian Hendricks
Darren Sack
Ericka Olivera
George Diaz
Gertrude Lundy
Harry Shanmugam
Jessica Stewart
Jessica Tavarez
John Fabiano
Jose Sostre
Joey Carlesimo
Justin Alves
Kathy Lituri
Lea Nelligan
Lorraine Jones
Mahara Pinheiro
Manuel Pires
Margaret Lombe
Melissa Hector
Michael Robbins
Michael Swaney
Patrick Baum
Richard Swanson
Robert Giannasca
Robinah Nakabugo
Serena Rajabiun

Stanley Flores
Stephen Batchelder
Stephen Corbett
Tad Bailey
Tim Mercier
Tim Young
Wendy LeBlanc

Members Excused

Katie Keating
Lamar Brown-Noguera
Zamir Mavo

Members Absent

Ayla Baraka
Jessica Tavarez
Kenneth Averett
Raymond Rodriguez

PCS

Liz Rios
Masill Miranda
Tatiana Ramos

RWSD

Alexandra Zhang
Emily Bennewies
Fabiola Catulle
Felipe Ruiz
Jonathan DeFreese

Guests

Pat Gocklin
Linda Goldman

Topic A: Welcome and Introductions

Brian Holliday, Planning Council Chair, welcomed everyone, reviewed the virtual ground rules, and led a moment of silence.

Topic B: Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of November 12th, 2020 were reviewed. Members went on Basecamp to look at the minutes before motioning to approve.

Ammendment | Remove PB from Attendance of 11.12 Meeting

Motion to Approve Minutes as amended: Wendy LeBlanc

Second: Darren Sack

Result: The minutes were approved with (1) Abstention

Topic C: Committee Reports

Planning Council leadership and sub-committee Chairs provided updates on their meetings that took place since the last Planning Council meeting. Members were encouraged to refer to the Sub-committee handouts for more details on Basecamp.

Needs, Resources, and Allocations Committee (NRAC) | Harry Shanmugam: NRAC met in November, elected Damon Gaines as the Vice Chair, reviewed the funding environment and the past NA. The NA ad hoc group met for the first time this week and discuss the plan for the upcoming assessment.

Executive Committee | Brian Holliday: Reviewed the agenda, evaluations, committee work, etc.

Services, Priorities, and Evaluations Committee (SPEC) | Michael Swaney: The 2019/2020 NA data was presented. A service category spotlight (part III) was presented for in-depth discussion and had a team exercise where groups had hypothetical clients to assign service categories.

Membership & Nominations Committee (MNC) | Robert Giannasca: MNC will start recruitment soon. A mid-year evaluation has been launched and members were encouraged to submit it. Coffee hours will also continue monthly.

Consumer Committee | Tim Young: Consumer met at the new time, Tuesdays at 5p. Tim led a member spotlight, Consumer chose the Audio Chemists to produce the anti-stigma campaign video, and Dr. Rowena Johnston of amfAR led a special presentation on HIV cure research.

Topic D: Funding Streams Exposition

Liz Rios, PCS Manager, explained to the Planning Council the purpose of the Funding Streams Expo. The goal was to provide an overview of the funding streams for HIV services. Learning about various funding streams is important for all Council members to gain knowledge of, especially because Part A is the payer of last resort. She also explained that ‘payer of last resort’ is a principle that says funds may not be used for services where another entity could cover the cost.

Planning Council members were separated into breakout rooms, in which they were assigned a cases scenario. The goal was for Council members to learn about different funding sources, eligibility requirements, and the services provided per funding stream.

Topic H: Agency Reports

The representatives for Medicaid (Alison Kirchgasser), New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NHDHHS) (Cindi Bell), Massachusetts Department of Health (MDPH) (Barry Callis), Mayor Walsh’s Office (Melissa Hector), Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC)/Ryan White Services Division (RWSD) (Katie Keating) gave agency updates – SEE below.

BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION INFECTIOUS DISEASE BUREAU, HIV/AIDS SERVICES DIVISION

- Hosted an informational and feedback session on an initial prototype of the Shared Eligibility module for subrecipients
- Shared World AIDS Day information through BPHC and City’s social media
- Continue to monitor and respond to agency COVID needs
- Continue to work on EHE plans with partners

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH BUREAU OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND LABORATORY SCIENCES (BIDLS) OFFICE OF HIV/AIDS (OHA) REPRESENTATIVE: BARRY CALLIS - DIRECTOR OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION

- EHE Plan for Suffolk County – December 31, 2020
- EHE Resources for Suffolk County
- EHE Pillars and Stigma Meeting (11/23/2020)

CITY OF BOSTON

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE: MELISSA HECTOR, DIRECTOR OF CAPACITY BUILDING

Mayor's test pledge initiative was launched early November. Take the pledge to #GetTheTestBoston. Provide the resources individuals need to get tested, stop the spread of COVID-19, and avoid a setback in our reopening process. We also encourage individuals to take the pledge to demonstrate their commitment to stopping the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

A) INDIVIDUALS

Get tested for COVID-19, even if you don't have symptoms, especially if:

- you may be experiencing COVID-like symptoms
- you are at high risk for complications
- you have come in close contact with someone who is infected with COVID-19, or
- you have traveled or been in large gatherings.

Employers

Encourage all your employees to consider getting tested, even if they don't have symptoms, especially:

- anyone who may be experiencing COVID-like symptoms
- those at high risk for complications
- people in close contact with someone who is infected with COVID-19, and
- anyone who has traveled or been in large gatherings.

City website for State and Boston COVID-19

testing: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-health-commission/covid-19-testing-sites>

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

REPRESENTATIVE: CINDI BELL - MANAGER, NH RYAN WHITE CARE & TB FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION, INVESTIGATION & CARE SERVICES

NH CARE is pleased to announce that the Harbor Care contract was approved on 12/3, funded through 100% Other Funds (Pharmaceutical Rebates). This is a retroactive contract with Harbor Care, Nashua, NH, formerly Southern NH Task Force, for case management and support services to individuals living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

- We are actively seeking applications for the Ryan White Part A and B data analyst position
- NH Governor's Equity Task Force is among many expert groups reviewing the draft NH DHHS COVID vaccine distribution plan as follows:

- o Phase 1 (Limited doses) includes at-risk health workers, older adults in congregate settings, and first responders
- o Phase 1 may include individuals with a co-morbid condition that places them at **significantly higher risk**
- o Phase 2: Includes all ages with co-morbid disease at **moderate** risk, among other groups

Co-morbid conditions list (not exhaustive)

High risk

Cancer
Chronic kidney disease
COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant
Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 kg/m² or higher but < 40 kg/m²)
Severe Obesity (BMI ≥ 40 kg/m²)
Pregnancy
Sickle cell disease
Smoking
Type 2 diabetes mellitus

Possibly High Risk

Asthma (moderate-to-severe)
Cerebrovascular disease (affects blood vessels and blood supply to the brain)
Cystic fibrosis
Hypertension or high blood pressure
Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from blood or bone marrow transplant, immune deficiencies, **HIV**, use of corticosteroids, or use of other immune weakening medicines
Neurologic conditions, such as dementia
Liver disease
Overweight (BMI > 25 kg/m², but < 30 kg/m²)
Pulmonary fibrosis (having damaged or scarred lung tissues)
Thalassemia (a type of blood disorder)
Type 1 diabetes mellitus

Topic I: Other Business, Announcements, Evaluation & Adjourn

Meeting to Adjourn

Motion: Darren Sack

Second: Patrick Baum

Result: The meeting was adjourned.
