

HIV Community Planning Council
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 4th 2018
25 Van Ness, Room 810
3:00-5:00 pm

Committee Members Present: Orin Allen, Lee Jewell, Kevin Lee, T.J. Lee-Miyaki, Eric Sutter

Council Member Present: Mike Shriver

Committee Members Absent: Wade Flores [E], Timothy Foster [A], Dominique Johnson [A], Charles Siron [L], Laura Thomas

Others Present: Beth Neary (HHS), Jeremy Tsuchitani-Watson (HCAP), Nyisha Underwood

Support Staff Present: Melina Clark, Ali Cone, Dave Jordan, Mark Molnar

Minutes

1. Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm by Co-Chair Sutter. Everyone introduced themselves and quorum was established.

2. Review/Approve April 4th, 2018 DRAFT Agenda – VOTE

The April 4th 2018 DRAFT Agenda was reviewed and approved by consensus.

3. Review/Approve February 7th, 2018 DRAFT Minutes– VOTE

The February 7th 2018 DRAFT Minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.

4. Announcements

- CS Cone announced that there is an upcoming membership renewal cycle. She requested that folks send in their funds ASAP to allow Council Staff adequate time to process the renewals.

5. Public Comment

- None.

6. HCAP Report

- Jeremy Tsuchitani-Watson updated the Committee on the HIV Consumer Advocacy Project (HCAP) report:
 - He reported on a number of cases with Service Categories including Housing, Dental, Ambulance/Outpatient, Psychosocial Support, Emergency Financial Assistance and Non-medical Case Management.
 - In February 2018, the highest number of cases was in the Housing service category, with 34 cases (or 24% of all cases. The next highest was Dental, with 24 cases (17%) and Ambulance/Outpatient with 16 cases (11%).
 - In March 2018, Housing was the category with the most cases.

7. Getting to Zero Update Review

- Co-Chair Shriver reported that the quarterly consortium meeting at the end of April will focus on housing.

8. COLA Update

- CS Cone reported on the recent COLA session:
 - This report was put together by former Council Staff member Liz Stumm. This COLA was a mixed serostatus group of Trans Latinas with experience in sex work.
 - There were 6 participants total, but only 5 participated in survey. The positive folks have had HIV for 10-20 years.
 - PrEP
 - None of the COLA participants are taking PrEP or PEP.
 - The idea of PrEP is new, there are many barriers. Language came up as a large barrier.
 - There was a general consensus of doubt in the group.
 - Folks generally favored condoms as the safest way to prevent HIV.
 - HIV Stigma
 - Being Trans and HIV is particularly taboo in the Trans population.
 - The intersection of being Trans, Latina and immigrant came up a lot. Many factors influenced how folks engaged with the system of care.
 - Many folks described fleeing violence in home countries, and have having to keep their HIV status a secret.
 - Discrimination against Trans Women
 - All participants reported having a negative experience with the police.
 - They experienced a high level of violence from police as well as people they lived with, or people that harassed them because they were Trans.
 - They felt like they didn't receive the same support as other marginalized groups in SF, such as gay men.
 - Immigration Status/Language as a Barrier
 - Folks had experienced being asked discriminatory questions, such as "are you a man or a woman?"
 - One participant described working at a restaurant and feeling unsupported/harassed because they're Trans. After leaving that job, they felt that they had to do sex work in order to survive.
 - Sex Work
 - All participants felt that they should be able to do sex work if they wanted, but most of them felt they shouldn't have to use it as their only option to survive.
 - Many also felt they had to make choices they shouldn't have to make. Folks reported being paid more by clients for using no condom or using drugs with the client.
 - Substance Use Services
 - Some folks had bad experiences in sober living facilities.
 - CM Sutter inquired if the bad experience was due to staff or residents?
 - CS Cone responded that it was a fellow resident.
 - Substance use and dependence are common, but many folks don't feel safe accessing services in San Francisco.
 - Challenges with Medical Services
 - Folks reported that if they look physically fine they're not treated as a priority.
 - Priorities
 - Education/Job Opportunities
 - There was a lot of interest here but many barriers.
 - Community-specific services
 - The intersection of being HIV positive, trans, Latina, immigrant and monolingual Spanish speaker- needs are distinct from those of white trans women.
 - Importance of Safe Spaces

- Folks emphasized the importance of safe spaces. Everyone felt supported by St. James.
- Nyisha Underwood inquired if the COLA geared towards Latinas, or if other groups were included.
 - CS Cone responded that Council Staff tends to piggy back on a pre-existing support groups at an agency, in order to get good attendance. They attempted to make groups that were a little broader, but didn't get enough folks to participate.
- CS Jordan added that for many folks the idea of PrEP and U=U have taken some time to gain traction and support.
- CM Lee commented that most of the target audience surrounding PrEP has been geared towards white MSM. For Trans Latina communities, not having that exposure could lead to more doubt and skepticism.
 - CS Cone offered to add that into the next group.

9. 2018 Needs Assessment Update

- The committee discussed the 2018 needs assessment, including the formation of the work group.
 - CS Jordan reported:
 - The first COLA of the year will be people who are using PrEP and/or serodiscordant couples. They are still sorting out recruitment.
 - He asked for the Committee for ideas on what agencies, providers and/or individuals would like to participate in the work group.
 - Various committee members offered suggestions and will follow up with specific contact information.
 - CM Sutter asked how big the work group will be.
 - CS Jordan responded, that there are usually around 5-6 participants.
 - CM Lee inquired if the work group will focus on strategies to reach participants for different focus groups? Or working on measures and tools?
 - CS Jordan responded:
 - They have materials that they carry over from year to year. The survey stays the same for data reasons, but the interview guide is tailored to the specific group.
 - A lot of what happens in the work group is looking at the survey and figuring out what they need. The questions have gotten better and more useful as they've gone along.
 - It's also about developing a strategy around recruitment and outreach.

10. Next Meeting Date & Agenda Items

The next Community Engagement Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 2nd 2018 at 25 Van Ness 8th floor Conference Room from 3-5 pm.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm by Co-Chair Sutter.

Community Engagement Committee

HIV Community Planning Council

Roll Call: **P**=Present; **A**=Absent; **E**=Excused; **L**=Leave of Absence

Votes: **Y**=Yes; **N**=No; **B**=Abstain; **R**=Recused (deduct from quorum)

April 4, 2018

roll [1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6] [7] [8] [9] [10]

1.	Orin Allen	P										
2.	Wade Flores	E										
3.	Timothy Foster	A										
4.	Lee Jewell	P										
5.	Dominique Johnson	A										
6.	Kevin Lee	P										
7.	T.J. Lee-Miyaki	P										
8.	Charles Siron	L										
9.	Eric Sutter (Co-Chair)	P										
10.	Laura Thomas	A										
	Mike Shriver	P										

Ayes	7											
Nayes	0											
Abstain	0											
Recusal	0											
Total	7											