

**CONSUMER COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**October 24, 2013**

**MINUTES**

**Charge: Empowering consumers through education by providing the tools and knowledge to interact with those individuals and committees that affect categorical service delivery of the Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act, including the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Angela Medlin	Jose Raymundo	Gregg Gunter
Auntjuan Wiley Judith Dillon	Linda Freeman	Robert Baxter
Ben Martinez, Chair	Paula Witherspoon	Robert Compton
Helen Goldenberg, Vice Chair	Lionel Hillard	

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Anthony Bolden	Rosa Carballo	Jai Makokha
Kendal Richardson	Michelle Anderson	Ricky Tyler
Ethene Jones		

**COUNCIL STAFF PRESENT**

Crystal Flores, RWPC Manager

**GRANTS MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

- I. **Call to Order:** Ben Martinez, Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM.
- II. **Certification of Quorum:** Quorum was established and certified by Crystal Flores, RWPC Manager and confirmed by Ben Martinez, Chair
- III. **Introductions/Announcements:**
  - a. Greg Gunter announced that Januari Leo from the Texas HIV/AIDS Coalition (THAC) gave a presentation the day before on ACA & the Insurance Marketplace. THAC is recommending that our clients look into getting the Silver health insurance plans. One thing to watch out for is to make sure the clients HIV medications are on the insurance plans formulary list. There are two plans, Aetna and Molina, which are currently not accepting single dose HIV medications. There may be other companies that do not accept single dose medications, so be aware when selecting an insurance plan. The THAC is studying the insurance assistance program and they think there will be an increase of several hundred clients in the Dallas area that would sign up for one of these plans. THAC new policy subcommittee is having a conference call next week on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:30. You can sign up for the conference call and action alerts by going to the website at [www.texashiv.org](http://www.texashiv.org) and entering your email address.
  - b. Jose Raymundo announced that there will be an Affordable Care Act Update event at the Cathedral of Hope from 6:00pm-8:00pm on Saturday October 26, 2013. It is open to the LGBT Spanish Community and others within the community. If you would like to attend, you can RSVP with Jose at 214-645-7337. Food will be served. A table is being reserved for the RWPC members.
  - c. Linda Freeman announced that the Positive and Precious Group of HIV Women Program is having a fundraiser at Applebee's on Saturday November 2, 2013 at 8:00am-10:00am. Ms. Freeman has tickets available for sale at \$10 each. Her contact information is 214-772-4273.
  - d. Helen Goldenberg announced AIDS Services of Dallas is having a "Field Day" this Saturday October 26th, 2013 from 9:00 AM to 2:00PM.
  - e. Gregg Gunter also announced the Legacy counseling received an award from HUD to setup 24 apartments for low income HIV positive people. The first eight apartments have already been completed and the second round of apartments is coming up on Saturday November 2, 2013. Legacy is requesting volunteer teams to help setup and there will be a contest held for the best decorated apartments with the winning team receiving a free wine tasting.
  - f. Helen Goldenberg announced that a group is going to Little Rock, Arkansas on November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013 from the campaign to end AIDS. This trip is to advocate for three children that were kicked out of school because their parents are HIV positive.
- IV. **Approval of the September 26, 2013 Minutes:** *Lionel Hillard moved to accept the minutes with amendments. Auntjuan Wiley seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.*

V. **Committee Liaison Reports:**

- a. **Allocations Committee:** – The Allocations Committee met on October 21, 2013. The committee reviewed the up to date expenditure reports per service category for Part A, Part B, MAI and state services funding. There were some questions on the categories that were not being spent. It was determined that parts of the grand funds were just issued in August. Also there were changes to the law on qualified child care facilities that will cause these funds to not be able to be spent. For this reason we will have an emergency allocation meeting sometime before October 31, 2013 to reallocate those unspent monies.
- b. **Planning and Priorities Committee:** The Planning and Priorities Committee meeting was held on October 16, 2013 at 9:00am. Quorum was established. There were conversations held about the 2013 Needs Assessment Update, the 2014 Continuum of Care and the 2012 Comprehensive Plan Update.
- c. **Evaluation Committee:** on the Evaluation Committee meeting was held on October 22, 2013. The committee approved the Administrative Mechanism and this will be sent to the planning council for vote. There are three top priority services to increase collaboration with non-funded providers. The categories are dental, transportation and housing.

VI. **2012 Comprehensive Plan Update (Goal5: Objective 1: Action Step 3):**

The Consumer Council committee is tasked with contacting and interviewing various providers and ask them the questions on the provided the questionnaire. The purpose of collecting this information is to find out what STD prevention messages are HIV+ clients being exposed to. Also, how well educated non-HIV related service providers are about HIV and how to link their customers to care if they find out that they are HIV positive. This activity will also give committee members an opportunity to identify and educate providers that need assistance in strengthen their prevention messages and to learn how to test for STDs. Identified providers can be linked to the AETC for training. Copies of the questionnaire template were disseminated to committee members and persons in the audience upon request.

The committee is compiling a list of all providers that are completing the questionnaires to limit providers being approached more than once by different committee members. New members were given additional time to complete their surveys. Additional provider names were also added to the list. The list of providers will be emailed to the Council members. Completed surveys should be submitted to the committee Chair or Vice Chair by November 1, 2013. Once the list is completed it will be given to the Planning and Priorities committee. This list will help facilitate dialogue with the AETC so that they can begin contacting the agencies to begin training or provide more information.

**Consumer Council Committee Forum Updates:** Ben Martinez urged everyone to attend the upcoming event on October 31, 2013. Crystal announced that there will be an event survey that will be held after the forum The committee also discussed supplies that are needed for this event.

VII. **Consumer Council Committee Goals:** Crystal Flores started the conversation stating that the CCC establishes goals for themselves every year. The Goals have Objectives and actions steps. The Committee reviewed a draft that the RWPC staff produced with a couple of last years' goals to start the conversation. The Committee will continue the discussion and come up with a new goal, objectives and action steps for the next year at the November meeting.

VIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:08PM

*Submitted by:*

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Robert Compton

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Date

*Draft Certified by:*

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Crystal Flores, RWPC Manager

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Date

*Final Approval by:*

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**Ben Martinez, Chairperson**  
**Helen Goldenberg, Vice Chair**

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**Date**

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING  
Thursday, November 21, 2013 12:00 p.m.  
Hickman Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Dallas County Health and Human Services Building  
2377 N. Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX