

## Monterey County HIV Planning Group Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 31, 10am-noon

Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula – Conference Room C

Attendees: Amanda Mihalko (MCHD), Angela Cook (MCHD), Susie Barnes (MCHD), Patti Yurus (OPIS), Emiko Torres (MCHD), David Kilburn (ASN), Kristina Baker (CHS/CATS), Irma Eclavea (NIDO), Zonelle Cantu (MCHD), Casey Grover (CHOMP), Devon Corpus (CHS), Elena Ramirez (ASN), Dina Calderon (ASN), Alisha Mann (CSUMB/Community), David Perez (ASN), Lisa Irish (PHN, Community member), Bianca Huicozhea (Safe Place), Victor Martinez (Safe Place), Ali Garcia (Safe Place/Safe Passage), Kendal Lardie (Safe Place), Truitt Grant (Safe Place), Elaine Fischer (Community, VNA), Laurice Rubaclava (PPMM)

### Welcome and Introductions

#### I. Announcements/Agency and Clinic Updates

- Updates from participants (agency/staff changes, projects of interest, trends, trainings, announcements, questions for group, etc.)
  - Community Human Services (CHS) –
    - Devon Corpus, LCSW, is a new Senior Program Officer at CHS, overseeing a number of programs including the CATS Program.
    - Kristina Baker, CATS Intern, shared that there is a new support group for members of the LGBT community – Monday 6:30pm-8:00pm. Drop in group. Ph number is 757- 7915 x002 for more information. CATS continues to provide mental health services to individuals within the LGBTQ community and individuals living with HIV free or at little cost (sliding scale). Had table at Pajaro Valley Pride and West End Festival, provided literature on services provided by CHS, including CATS Program. Going to Fresh Express Health Fair today.
    - Victor Martinez – Counselor with CHS Safe Place will share more about the program later in the agenda. Also present from CHS Safe Place Bianca Huicozhea, Ali Garcia (Safe Passage), Kendal Lardie, and Truitt Grant. Thanks to the Safe Space staff for being a part of our meeting today!
    - Anna Logsdun, Off Main Clinic – provided copies of Surgeon General’s update letter on opioid epidemic. Off Main Clinic currently has a full caseload of 220 patients, and a 4 month wait list. Applying for ability to increase number of clients who can be seen. Still have 10 spaces available for PLWH and women who are pregnant. Jennifer Molar introduced herself as a new Counselor at Off Main Clinic. Welcome Jennifer!
  - NIDO
    - Irma Eclavea shared that NIDO has hired a new PSR (Patient Services Rep.) who has been a great addition to the team! Current caseload is 290. 3 new clients were added to the caseload each

month in the last quarter (May, June, and July), and this past quarter marked the passing of two clients.

- Alisha Mann, currently teaches Public Health courses at CSUMB, previously worked at John the 23<sup>rd</sup>. No update.
- Lisa Irish, PHN - vocalized appreciation for Amanda's work and service to community.
- Elaine Fischer – Concerned Community member, working for VNA, potential ASN volunteer - no update
- ASN
  - David Kilburn shared that ASN partnered with Clinica De Salud providing HIV and HCV testing at the Stand Down Veteran's event held on the former Fort Ord campus. Also present from ASN Elena Ramirez, Dina Calderon, and David Perez.
- CHOMP
  - Casey Grover, MD – introduced himself as a physician in CHOMP ER, and the new Medical Director for CHOMP Mobile Clinic; looking to establish mobile services. If you are interested in partnering with their mobile bus or have ideas please contact him.
- MCHD
  - Amanda transitioning to a new position. Thanked group for being engaged in the Planning Group process, and shared that MCHPG has been the highlight and most rewarding part of her work. Kristy Michie will be covering HIV/AIDS programs until Coordinator position is filled. Filling Specialist position is still ongoing. Call Kristy for urgent issues, otherwise please email. Amanda mentioned update of meningococcal outbreak in southern Cal. If interested in additional information, contact Kristy or Angie Gladstone, MCHD's IZ Coordinator. (See previous MCHPG email with information.) Thanks to Susie Barnes for helping with the notes today. Also big thanks to Patti Yurus for securing the beautiful conference room for our meeting!
  - Also present from the MCHD are Angela Cook, Supervising Public Health Nurse, Zonelle Cantu, PH Nurse III, Susie Barnes, Epidemiologist, Emiko Torres, Teen Pregnancy Programs.
- OPIS
  - Patti Yurus shared that Dr. Strand will be leaving OPIS, likely within the next month. Recruitment to replace her is in the works. Dr Taplin will remain as Medical Director. Dr. Blum is also able to see patients in the interim.
- Planned Parenthood
  - Laurice Rubaclava shared that PPM Health Educators will continue to present information in schools this year. She also

shared that it is OFFICIAL – PPMM is now a PrEP provider, with all staff trained and ready to assist the community.

- General Announcements:
  - Transgender leadership group with Conexiones will be building a float for the El Grito Parade in Salinas; opportunity to volunteer or participate as an ally; if interested contact Anna Rick. (Be on the lookout for a MCHPG email with the details.)
  - Salinas Valley Pride, September 17th – if interested in being involved or having a table contact Amanda for the email address to follow up.
  - November 4, 2016 – STD Clinical Update, half-day CME event at Marina Training Center (email sent to MCHPG, will resend closer to date)
- Upcoming Awareness Days/Events
  - Salinas Valley Pride – September 17<sup>th</sup>
  - National HIV AIDS & Aging Awareness Day – September 18<sup>th</sup>
  - National Gay Men’s HIV Awareness Day – September 27<sup>th</sup>
  - National Latino HIV AIDS Awareness Day – October 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Bi-National Health Week – Oct 7-16th
  - World AIDS Day - December 1<sup>st</sup> – any ideas??? Organizers? Any agency interested in spearheading effort to organize event?
    - Amanda asked the group to keep this on your radar as the date comes after the Thanksgiving Holiday and requires some pre-planning.

## II. Discussion/Brainstorm – Broadening focus of MCHPG to include Sexual and Reproductive Health

- Amanda Mihalko, MCHD, reviewed ‘HIV, Sexual Health, and Reproductive Health Planning Groups in Other Jurisdictions’ document with group. She also shared feedback received from CSUMB Wellness Program that they support an expansion of scope to include sexual health as this fits with their demographic and population. She then opened the discussion to the group.
- David Kilburn shared that an expansion to broaden scope is reflected in what is happening at the state level, including a new Interagency Taskforce. In addition, ASN received 3 year grant for HCV testing and linkage to care for Monterey and SLO counties; need to create HCV community group and suggested that perhaps it can be an agenda item in a broader MCHPG.
- Angela Cook shared that on September 9<sup>th</sup> the STD Control Branch will release report regarding statewide STD trends. Report may inform decision making regarding future direction of this group.
- Victor Martinez from Safe Place requested that a partnering agency of MCHPG be available for a sex ed or presentation on STDs for youth at their facility. Also interested in HIV and HCV testing. David Kilburn shared his contact info with him.

- Laurice Rubaclava shared that the Planned Parenthood focus is sexual health, focus more broad than HIV/AIDS but concepts still related. Suggested that the term sexual health be used over reproductive health so as to be more encompassing and not leave anyone out of the conversation.
- Zonelle Cantu from MCHD shared that in her experience as a Public Health Nurse STD activity is high, and noticing an increase of dual diagnoses. Greater discussion of STD prevention and treatment among providers would be welcomed.
- Dina Calderon from ASN shared her experience as a parent and the lack of comprehensive sexual health education available through schools. Would be in support of a broader focus, as well as the inclusion of school nurses or health educators to attend/be a part of the group.
- Amanda Mihalko, MCHD, shared that after reviewing the spectrum of planning groups across the state that she feels a broader focus may draw in larger pool of participants, including providers and school staff.

### III. Surveillance

- Angela Cook, Supervising Public Health Nurse, reviewed revised guidelines for reporting HIV under Title 17 CA Code of Regulations (CCR) –HIV Acute infection reportable within 1 working day. HIV infection at all other stages reportable within 7 calendar days.

### IV. Prevention

- Syringe Exchange Update
  - Amanda Mihalko, MCHD, shared that the county has moved forward with a proposal from ASN to become the authorized SEP in Monterey County. Currently in contract phase. Anticipate a start date later this year.
- Youth
  - Review of Community Human Services' Safe Place Program (Shirley Millico, Program officer, Safe Place) – Shirley unavailable, Victor Martinez to present.
    - Presentation given by staff member Victor Martinez, Street Outreach Counselor. Safe Place has a drop in center upstairs, kitchen, computers, clothing, and personal hygiene items available. Counseling services provided downstairs. Residential facility (Safe Passage) 2 doors down, 6 beds for youth – safe space provided while working on other living arrangements. There is a need for HIV, HCV testing, particularly if services can be brought to facility. Age range 12-24 yrs (what grants allows). Hours: 9-11AM, 3-5PM. Older individuals referred to Good Samaritan in Sand City. In November or December – Open House; firm date will be confirmed. Safe Place has a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ChsSafePlace>
- PrEP – [PrEP Resources on MCHD Website](#) , [www.PleasePrepMe.org](http://www.PleasePrepMe.org)
  - Recent community discussions – 3 most common questions were regarding where to get it, how to pay, and what are side effects. In

addition, there are a number of misconceptions in the community, including the idea of once on PrEP on it for life, it is unattainable in our community... We have work to do educating our county! Positive feedback was also received that individuals are accessing PrEP at Planned Parenthood and it has been a smooth and helpful experience.

○ David Kilburn shared that the state did approve to move toward a fund that can help pay for PrEP and this will be administered through ADAP workers. This is not in place yet, but will be a great asset to the community once it is available.

- Social Media Training with CPTC (California Prevention Training Center) – scheduled for September 1, 2016 at the Marina Training Center. Hope to have follow-up trainings if interest is present. 15 participants currently signed up representing a variety of different community groups.

#### V. Care, ADAP, HOPWA and ACA

- Linkage to Care Project (Integrating Surveillance, Prevention, Care) – Lilly from MCHD will be working on this project. Initiation of project ongoing. Using surveillance data to bring individuals out of care back into care. New project because of change in state law in how surveillance data could be used. David provided data summaries of ASN client demographics and proposed grant awards.
- Possible Care Budget Augmentation – request of additional monies from State submitted; waiting for decision.
- HCP/MAI Site Visits – October 4<sup>th</sup> (MCHD and ASN) - Amanda will be present for state visit; MCHD in morning, ASN meet and greet in afternoon.
- ADAP Transition – Elena Ramirez spoke about the transition in ADAP vendors. NIDO remains a closed enrollment site; ASN is Monterey County's open enrollment site. If clients are having PRA cards rejected, can go to ASN for assistance in submitting – doing it by birth date and 6 mo schedules and priority. ASN is currently providing assistance on a case by case basis.
- HOPWA – Elena Ramirez shared an overview of the housing options available through HOPWA and also the Care Program. ASN completed HPR, served 61 individuals with HOPWA funds last year. Elena suggested bringing numbers to share with the group next meeting.

#### VI. Planning Groups, Coalitions, Alliances updates

- California Planning Group update
  - i. Draft of Integrated Plan and State Wide Needs Assessment
  - ii. In person meeting October in L.A. – last in-person meeting with current members.
- California HIV Alliance update (David Kilburn) – Most requests made to the legislature were approved and funding is moving forward. Including disseminating HBV vaccine to LHDs, PIA cards, Co pays for PrEP. Medi-Cal waivers did not pass, will be resubmitted.

- Hep C Update (ASN) – David Kilburn, ASN, spoke about the proposed improvement for training certification for testing HCV – simplified 1 day training (waiting to see if it gets through).

VII. Open Forum/discussion

- CHOMP mobile clinic – currently working on proposal. Formal plan of 1 night a week for community medical care, regardless of ability to pay; mobile bus. [Casey.grover@chomp.org](mailto:Casey.grover@chomp.org) can be contacted if you want to be involved or have ideas for partnering.
- Kristina Baker, CHS, shared that there are new CATS posters; flyers for support groups.
- Amanda Mihalko, MCHD, thanked the group for staying engaged and helping to make the last meeting so rich with information.