

## **Monterey County HIV Planning Group Minutes**

Friday, May 27, 2016, 9-11am

Monterey County Health Department, 1270 Natividad Rd., Salinas – Shasta Room

In attendance: Amanda Mihalko, Kristy Michie, David Kilburn, Kris Gottlieb, Elena Ramirez, Angela Cook, Susie Barnes, Patti Yurus, Akin Miller, Kristina Baker, Lillian Clements , Anna Logsdun, Laurice Rubaclava, Toby Uptain-Villa, Oriana Nolan

### 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.)
  - OPIS: Nurse Patti Yurus shared current OPIS staff: herself, Dr. Strand, Dr. Taplin, and two Nurses Emily and Esther (limited hours). OPIS has seen 6 new patients since the beginning of 2016, 1 new diagnosis and 5 clients who have transferred care.
  - ASN:
    1. David Kilburn, Executive Director, shared that ASN is coming up on their 1 year anniversary of working in Monterey County and thanks the group for their assistance this past year. He stated that he would talk more about the 4 year contract/demo project for HCV testing and linkage to care later in the meeting. One area ASN is most proud of is the Housing (emergency hotel assistance) they have been able to provide through the Ryan White Part B contract, sharing that they have seen dramatic changes in clients health once stable housing is in place. The group congratulated ASN!
    2. Also present from ASN, Kris Gottlieb, Development Director working on grants and budgets.
    3. Elena Ramirez, Services Manager, seconded David's excitement of working in Monterey County for a year and shared that ASN is working with 150-160 clients in Monterey County. If you have any clients who may benefit from the work ASN does, please feel free to refer.
    4. Oriana Nolan is coordinating the HCV and Linkage to Care Project (more info later in the minutes). She also shared that there is an HIV and HCV Symposium in SLO on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, and an HCV provider lecture on June 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - Senator Monning's Office: Toby Uptain-Villa present and representing Senator Monning's office. Welcome Toby! Thank you to the Senator's office for sending a representative.

- Planned Parenthood Mar Monte: Laurice Rubaclava shared that PPMM provides youth services and education to Monterey County and is part of the GHGH (Girls Health in Girls Hands effort).
  - C.A.T.S.: Kristina Baker shared that the C.A.T.S. program is available and offers mental health services to the LGBT Community and individuals impacted by HIV/AIDS and their families regardless of payer source. The program has space available for referrals and works out of both Salinas and Seaside, bilingual services provided.
  - Off Main Clinic: Lily Clements and Anna Logsdun, Case Managers, present and representing Off Main Clinic. They shared that the clinic case load is currently 208 (with the capacity of 225), and reiterated that the clinic holds 10 empty spaces for individuals seeking treatment who are living with HIV and/or pregnant. Lily also shared that she will be leaving her position to attend UC Davis and pursue education in Public Health. She thanked the group for sharing their experiences. Good luck Lily! You will be missed!
  - Monterey County Health Department: Kristy Michie, Program Manager of the Communicable Disease Division, shared that there is currently a Bicilin shortage, which is an approved medication for syphilis. She reminded the group that it is important to not over treat early syphilis, and stated that she would talk more about syphilis in the agenda item to come (see minutes). Susie Barnes, Epidemiologist II, Angela Cook, Supervising Public Health Nurse, and Amanda Mihalko, HIV Programs Coordinator, also present. Amanda thanked the group for attending and making time to stay engaged with the HIV planning community.
  - African American HIV/AIDS Wellness Program/NAACP Health Committee: Akin Miller shared that as the Chair of the Health Committee of the NAACP he was involved in discussions with the Monterey County NAACP general meeting about providing condoms in middle schools. The consensus was that the NAACP general membership would not be a part of the discussion of condoms in middle schools. He also shared work on pushing for more mental health counselors on college campuses. The AAHAWP will be tabling and providing safer sex supplies and PrEP information at several music events this summer, including Blues in the Park, and the Jazz festival.
  - NIDO Clinic: NIDO was unable to send a representative to the meeting, however shared that NIDO has recently added 3 new HIV clients to their caseload (new diagnosis). They have also seen an increase in Cocci (Valley Fever).
- Upcoming Awareness Days/Events
    - National HIV Testing Day (June 27<sup>th</sup>)
    - PRIDE Month (June)

- HIV/HCV Symposium, June 2nd, in SLO (MCHPG email sent 5/16)
- HCV Lecture, June 29<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by Gilead (MCHPG email sent 6/14)

## II. Surveillance

- Monterey County Syphilis Quick Facts (Kristy Michie, Program Manager)
  - Syphilis cases are on an upward trend everywhere in CA, including Monterey County. There has also been an increase among females diagnosed with early syphilis. Also emphasized was that 42% of early syphilis cases are co-infected with HIV, underscoring the need for providers to determine HIV status when diagnosing both rectal gonorrhoea and syphilis. Monterey County had its first case of congenital syphilis in 15 years, and this highlights a need to reach out to OB/Gyns about testing in the first and third trimester, as well as completing testing in hospitals if no prenatal care history is available. Discussion held about possible reasons for increase, including the idea that young people aren't aware that it still exists, that it is a difficult disease to diagnose (called the 'great imitator') being mislabelled as genital warts or HPV, and that it is a difficult STD to treat. Question about the lab delays in identifying positive cases, and Kristy reported that she will follow up with the lab director about this.

## III. Prevention

- Syringe Exchange – Ongoing Process
  - Link to the RFP: <http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/cao/pdfs/RFP10573.pdf>
- Youth
  - Review of Community Human Services' Safe Place Program (Shirley Millico, Program officer, Safe Place)
    1. Postponed until 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter meeting
  - Review of the Off Main Clinic Methadone Maintenance Program (Lily and Ana)
    1. Overview of the services offered at Off Main Clinic part of Community Human Services, an outpatient clinic offering methadone maintenance. 10 client slots are dedicated to individuals who are HIV+ and/or pregnant women, so that these groups do not experience a waitlist. Discussion about the positive impact of the ACA allowing more people to access methadone and case management services. Question from group about the average age of clients, response that the majority of people are 40-60 however there are younger clients (and more recently). Question about naloxone available at the clinic, response that it is not available at this time. David Kilburn of ASN also shared that ASN can be a resource for testing and Medi-Cal enrollment assistance. Huge thanks to Lily and Ana!

- Review of changes to CA school code - Comprehensive Sex Ed (Laurice Rubaclava, Education Program Manager, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte)
  1. Review of mandate that schools MUST teach comprehensive sex education to all students at least 1 time in middle school (7 and 8 grade) and 1 time in High School. Review if what comprehensive sex education entails, including that it is age appropriate, medically accurate, includes information about PrEP, talk about gender expression and sexual orientation, dating violence, sex trafficking and sexual harassment. The new law does not apply to charter or private schools. No audits of schools at this time, however parents have the ability to ask critical questions. Planned Parenthood can do full scope curriculum, as well as parts of the mandate that schools need assistance providing. Huge thanks to Laurice Rubaclava for the excellent presentation and overview. Many positive comments and feedback were offered after the presentation.
- CDPH HCV testing and Linkage to Care Project (David Kilburn, Executive Director Access Support Network)
  - David Kilburn, ED at ASN, gave an overview of the 3 year HCV Demonstration Project grant that will be serving both SLO and Monterey Counties, focusing on testing for HCV and linking positive individuals to care. ASN's proposal was 1 of 5 chosen. The populations of focus are any individuals who have injected drugs and baby boomers. The grant started in March. Oriana Nolan works with ASN as the Program Coordinator for the Central Coast Hepatitis C project. HCV testing started in local substance abuse recovery programs. If a positive rapid test is detected the individual is asked to receive a second test at a lab for genotyping, and receive a \$50 gift card/incentive to return for results. Challenge is finding providers to offer HCV care. ASN is engaging primary care providers in capacity building, giving information about basic labs, and helping with benefit counseling and health education. David spoke about the requirement in the grant to start a HCV community advisory board and discussed the idea of adding a standing HCV agenda item to this planning group's agenda.
- PrEP – [PrEP Resources on MCHD Website](#)
  - [www.PleasePrepMe.org](http://www.PleasePrepMe.org)
  - Request from Epicenter to create a palm card with prescribing locations and basic PrEP info – Amanda will be working on this. Timeline for completion next MCHPG meeting (early fall).
- Overview of Social Media Project with CPTC (California Prevention Training Center)

- Monterey County was chosen to be part of social media training project that will focus on training community members to harness the power of their own social media accounts and share positive health messaging, specifically focused on HIV and STD prevention, testing, treatment, and care. If you have any clients/patients/friends who may be a good fit for this training please contact Amanda (831-755-4626) with contact information. Training date TBD.
- Discussion/Brainstorm – Broadening focus on MCHPG to include Sexual and Reproductive Health Focus
  - Agreement to table for next meeting, first item on agenda.

#### IV: Care and ACA

- Linkage to Care Project (Integrating Surveillance, Prevention, Care)
  - Amanda and Kristy shared that we anticipate a new individual working with the HIV Programs following up on lists provided by Office of AIDS Surveillance Department of individuals who have received an HIV Dx but are currently out of care. This individual will not supersede outreach or linkage to care activities that are done by HIV clinics.
- ADAP
  - Amanda shared that ADAP will be a standing agenda item under Care in future meetings.
  - David shared that the ADAP work will be handled by two different subcontractors beginning July 1 and that training will be held in June. Concern about the quick turnaround time to train staff, alerting consumers, and the possible consequences if payments are missed on people's health insurance coverage, potentially being canceled.

#### V: Planning Groups, Coalitions, Alliances updates (Planning Group ran out of time and did not discuss the following agenda items, notes provided by individuals listed)

- California Planning Group update –mtg held 4/11-12 in Sacramento
  - i. Amanda – On 4/11 California office of AIDS hosted a “Getting to Zero” stakeholder meeting, which brought together stakeholders from health Departments, Community Based Organizations, AIDS Service Organizations, universities, and other policy makers to discuss what a plan to get to zero would/could look like in California. Information shared and discussed at the meeting will help to shape the Ca Integrated Plan and be reflected in the state wide needs assessment. On 4/12, CPG met and received an overview of efforts in Fresno County to work with their congenital syphilis outbreak, an update from all Office of AIDS branches, and a presentation on the HIV outbreak and response in Indiana. The next in person CPG meeting is scheduled for fall 2016.
- California HIV Alliance update

- i. David - David shared the CA HIV Alliance FY 2016-2017 Budget Proposals, and highlighted several points that the alliance has asked the legislature to consider including:
  - 1. Eliminating cost sharing for individuals enrolled in ADAP with annual income between 400 to 500 percent of FPL.
  - 2. Allow the OA HIPP to cover premiums, copays, coinsurance, and deductibles incurred by all eligible PLWHA
  - 3. PrEP affordability program to cover PrEP related costs
  - 4. 4.8 million state general fund – increase provider reimbursement rates in AIDS Medi-Cal Waiver Program to be on par with rates for similar home and community based programs
  - 5. \$500,000 state general fund – create interagency task force, convened by CA HHS Agency, to develop strategic action plans to address HIV, HCV, STD, and drug user health.
- **Monterey County LGBT Collaborative**
  - i. Amanda: The MC LGBT Collaborative meets the second Friday of every month at the CRLA office in Salinas. Currently the group is involved in approaching the Salinas Union School District to include LGBT inclusive curriculum in their LCAP. The group recently received a presentation from Dr. Shannon Snapp who works out of CSUMB on her reach with LGBT high school students.
- **CalHEP Alliance**
  - i. David shared that CalHep Alliance has requested 1.7 million general fund in FY 16-17 for the following:
    - 1. \$100,000 for the state to purchase and disseminate HBV vaccines to LHJs for vaccination of adults at high risk.
    - 2. \$600,000 for state to purchase HCV rapid test kits to distribute to community based testing programs.
    - 3. \$500,000 for program capacity building to improve access to training and certification programs for HCV testing.
    - 4. \$500,000 to establish a state interagency task force to address viral hepatitis, HIV, and STDs.

## VI. Open Forum/discussion