

Allocations Committee



Jared Vega, Chair

Wednesday, July 1, 2009
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Public Health
4041 North Central Avenue, Phoenix
14th Floor, Training Room

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Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members *AT: Attended* *AB: Absent* *EX: Excused* *ALT: Alternate Present*

LOA	Bradley Allen	AT	Debby Elliott <i>alt: Philip Seeger</i>	AT	Larry Stähli	AT	Maclovia Morales
AT	Mark Kezios	EX	Mary Rose Wilcox <i>alt: Terri Leija</i>	AT	Randall Furrow	EX	Stephen O'Dell
AT	Cheri Tomlinson	AT	Jared Vega				

Guests

Administrative Agent Staff

Rose Conner Jen Hawkins Dyle Sanderson

Support Staff: John Sapero

Welcome, introductions and declarations of any conflicts-of-interest

Jared Vega called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. Everyone introduced him/her self and declared any conflicts-of-interest.

Determination of quorum

Jared Vega determined that quorum was established with seven of ten members present at approximately 4:10 pm.

Funding is provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006 and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health.

All of the documents discussed may be requested from Planning Council Support.

MEETING MINUTES *continued*

Review of minutes and action items

The review of the minutes was tabled.

Administrative Agent update

Rose Conner provided information and discussed:

- Two food service contracts were awarded and are in effect
- The RFPs for Outpatient Ambulatory Medical Care are being reviewed
- The Pinal County Case Management contract was terminated the day before the meeting and the clients have been seamlessly transitioned to another provider
- The centralized eligibility RFP should be ready by August
- The AA requests that the remaining \$1300 that have yet to be allocated be moved to Non-Medical Case Management
- There have been increases in bus card costs; this may require \$16,500 to be reallocated to this service if utilization remains consistent. The AA recommends not acting immediately and monitoring utilization.

Debby Elliott discussed the new increases in the costs for bus/light rail transportation services.

Cheri Tomlinson discussed that Part D will no longer have funding for transportation after August 1st. Part A may see a spike in need because of this.

Cheri also asked how consumers will be notified of changes to the food service provider contracts. Rose Conner replied that the changes should not affect clients – service delivery has not changed – subcontracted providers are now stand-alone providers.

Rose provided a utilization report and reviewed expenditures.

MAI Grant

A utilization report was provided to participants. The Mai grant ends July 31st, 2009. Based on current projections, there should be nearly \$47,000 remaining to reallocate to Part B. It is expected that all MAI funds will be expended and there will be no carryover.

The HIV CARE media campaign will begin as soon as the payment is processed by the County.

All year-end documentation has been submitted to HRSA. An extension on the current year's conditions of award was approved and the AAs office is working on completing these documents.

Cheri Tomlinson asked for clarification regarding the Units/Average Cost section. Jennifer Hawkins replied that some providers report units of service rather than clients served – this section details both types of billing.

Committee Chair Update

No update was provided.

Reallocations

Debby Elliot provided additional detail regarding the changes to bus/metro costs. Bus passes are much more cost effective than providing taxi services. Rose Conner discussed costs should be monitored until the 2010 PSRA session.

Maclovía Morales related that consumers are providing feedback that taxis are not picking them up for primary medical care appointments.

Cheri Tomlinson discussed that the Health Care Strategies Work Group forwarded a recommendation to the Allocations Committee to change the six-month renewal process to a one-year renewal. Mark Kezios related that he and the AA had been discussing this issue with the EMA's Project Officer. She had related that if the EMA continues to fund pharmaceutical copay assistance, the six-month renewal would have to remain in place. Mark suggested "winding down" this year, and then start one-year eligibility after the service category is closed out (est. October 2009).

Jared asked if the ADAP program had a six-month eligibility process. Mark Kezios replied this is true and this will not change.

Cheri Tomlinson discussed that if McDowell Clinic clients fall off Ryan White Part A, they also fall off of the COPA Care pharmaceutical assistance program. This will create administrative challenges and keep people from obtaining medications. Cheri also discussed that moving to a one-year renewal may affect the Oral Health program. Cheri detailed other federal and state funded programs that have one-year eligibility renewal.

Mark Kezios discussed the Council was committed to eliminating barriers and many clients felt they were burdened by the current process. Debby Elliott added that most clients did not lose eligibility because of income changes – they typically dis-enroll because they did not renew in time.

Mark Kezios discussed the copay assistance is probably not sustainable in the long term and changing the eligibility guidelines was more important and beneficial to the clients.

Rose Conner related if the eligibility timelines were changed, less money would be needed for centralized eligibility. Additionally, she cautioned that if this change were made, and clients fall out of eligibility and are provided services after their eligibility lapses, providers will be responsible for the costs of the services.

MEETING MINUTES *continued*

The committee discussed potential issues that may occur. The participants agreed that policies would need to be revised to meet these issues.

MOTION: Mark Kezios moved that the Allocations Committee recommend that the full Planning Council issue a directive to the AA that the Ryan White Part A eligibility process follow the one-year SSI/SSDI renewal guidelines, and that this be implemented when centralized eligibility services are contracted.

DISCUSSION: Debby Elliott asked if the Project Officer would be supportive of this directive. Mark Kezios responded that it was his understanding that by eliminating the pharmaceutical copay assistance, this should be allowed. Larry Stähli seconded.

Jared Vega suggested the benefits and challenges to this change be presented at the Council meeting.

OUTCOME: The motion passed.

MOTION: Larry Stähli moved to reallocate \$1300 of unallocated funds to Supportive Case Management. Mark Kezios seconded.

DISCUSSION: None.

OUTCOME: The motion passed.

MOTION: Mark Kezios moved to terminate pharmaceutical copay assistance so that remaining funds can be reallocated to other service categories. Randall Furrow seconded.

DISCUSSION: None.

OUTCOME: The motion passed.

Priority Setting and Resource Allocations planning

John Sapero provided an overview of preparation activities for the PSRA sessions.

Cheri Tomlinson asked Planning Council Support to invite representatives from Part B to attend the August Allocations Committee meeting. Additionally, she suggested that Part B representatives be invited to the July Planning Council meeting to discuss the changes to Part B changes across the state. The committee agreed with these requests.

The committee then reviewed the Guiding Principles for Allocations Decisions document.

MEETING MINUTES *continued*

Cheri Tomlinson and Debby Elliott discussed that pharmaceuticals and the needs of the ADAP program are going to be significant issues to consider during the PSRA process. Cheri Tomlinson suggested the full Council review the Guiding Principles document at the next meeting.

MOTION: Debby Elliott moved that Guiding Principles document be revised so that the Pharmaceuticals bullet under Service Categories included “(to reflect the ADAP formulary)” at the end of the sentence. This would define the intentions of the Council. Randall Furrow seconded.

DISCUSSION: None.

OUTCOME: The motion passed.

Determination of agenda items for the next meeting

In addition to recurring agenda items, the following agenda items were added:

Agenda Items

Reallocations

Part B changes

New and emerging needs (Transportation)

Action Items to be completed by the next meeting:

Task	Assigned To

Current Event Summaries.

Debby Elliott related that two new Pinal County-based case managers attended a training that occurred on July 1st. Also, the transition of clients to new pharmaceutical payer sources appears to be going smoothly.

Cheri Tomlinson discussed all Part A clients were mailed a notification that they were transitioned to the COPA Care program. Additionally, she thanked the Part A program for funding a person to transition clients and answer questions. More medications with \$4 copays have been added to the COPA Care program. Finally, MIHS will be providing consumers with classes on how to use the internet to obtain health-related information.

MEETING MINUTES *continued*

Mark Kezios related there would be no Executive Committee meeting in July.

Maclovia Morales discussed CPLC was approached by Congressman Ed Pastor's office to learn more about HIV issues, especially in the Latino population.

HRSA has asked Ryan White Parts C and D to provide feedback regarding changes in service needs.

Call to Public

John Sapero related that an article will appear in the next addition of Echo Magazine regarding the Part A response to the changes to the ADAP formulary.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.