

Allocations Committee



Jared Vega, Chair

Wednesday, December 1, 2010
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm
Public Health
4041 North Central Avenue, Phoenix
14th Floor, Training Room

4041 North Central Avenue
14th Floor • Phoenix, AZ 85012-3329
(602) 506-6321 phone
(602) 372-8499 fax
PlanningCouncil@mail.maricopa.gov

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

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

AT	Cheri Tomlinson	AT	Debby Elliott <i>alt: Philip Seeger</i>	EX	Jared Vega
ALT	Mary Rose Wilcox <i>alt: Mark Kezios</i>	AT	Randall Furrow	AT	Juan Carlos Perez

Guests

Kim Eggert Shoana Jackson

Administrative Agent Staff

Rose Conner Georgina Lowe

Support Staff: John Sapero

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

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

Funding is provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009 and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health.

Copies of the documents provided to the participants of this meeting may be requested from Planning Council Support.

MEETING MINUTES *continued*

Determination of quorum

Randall Furrow determined that quorum was established with four of seven members present at approximately 5:34 pm.

Review of minutes and action items

Participants silently reviewed the summary minutes for the September 1, 2010 meeting. No corrections were voiced.

Administrative Agent update

Rose Conner provided the committee with a Part A program update (please see attached document).

Discussion points:

- There is an anticipated 8% end-of-year budget surplus, due to lower billings than anticipated and changes to the Oral Health Services program.
- Providers in Pinal County have experienced an increase in newly diagnosed clients; however, many of the clients have been AHCCCS eligible.

Rose provided an overview of recommended reallocations as detailed in the AA report document.

Cheri Tomlinson asked what percentage of funds could be carried over. Rose Conner replied a carryover request could be up to 5%.

Special Projects

Rose Conner discussed a proposed special project that would fund short-term oral health care to eligible clients. The project would also provide a short-term dental case manager to contact clients.

John Sapero provided an overview of two potential projects the Planning Council was interested in initiating. One is an evaluation of the effectiveness and ability of the EMA to implement social marketing activities as part of the EMA's Early Intervention Strategies. The second involves training peers to present the Positive Self Management Program, a series of training designed to empower clients to maintain their health and wellness.

Committee Chair Update

No update was provided.

MEETING MINUTES *continued*

Reallocations

Yvette Madero asked why some services are recommended for decreases in funding, and have the agencies affected been notified. Rose Conner replied that agencies that will receive decreases have been notified, and the decreases are because the funding for those services is not expected to be fully utilized by the end of the grant year, and one provider contract has been cancelled.

MOTION: Debby Elliott moved to approve the reallocations recommended by the Administrative Agent, as detailed in the Part A program utilization report. Mark Kezios seconded.

DISCUSSION: None.

OUTCOME: The motion passed.

MOTION: Cheri Tomlinson moved to make a recommendation to the full Planning Council to allocate \$13,500 to provide financial assistance to clients affected by recently implemented AHCCCS pharmaceutical copays. Mark Kezios seconded.

DISCUSSION: None.

OUTCOME: The motion passed.

Ryan White Part B/ADAP Update

Shoana Jackson discussed that clients are being screened to transition to high risk pool insurance, and several of these clients have received insurance denial letters that will allow these individuals to apply for the insurance program. Clients are being screened for eligibility. Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation will be the provider that coordinates the premiums for high risk insurance clients.

The Ryan White Part B program and ADAP are working to determine how ADAP can assist with coverage for Medicare Part D-eligible clients.

Cheri Tomlinson asked if El Rio Health Center was a provider for the high risk insurance pool. Shoana related that she did not know this. Cheri related that MIHS is determining whether to become a provider.

Shoana related that due to decreased enrollment and cost savings measures, ADAP is projected to end the grant year on budget. Why enrollment is decreasing is being analyzed. Initial thoughts are that clients are not responding to contact efforts (mail/phone).

Debby Elliott discussed that some clients are experiencing long wait times to complete ADAP eligibility forms due to phone calls not being returned in a timely manner. Additionally, ADAP has been dealing with clients directly, rather than working through the case managers that are assisting the clients with

MEETING MINUTES *continued*

the applications. Debby related that there is ongoing discussion with ADAP to address these issues. Maclovía Morales and Cheri Tomlinson discussed that their organizations are experiencing similar issues.

Cheri Tomlinson discussed that clients who are dropping off of ADAP enrollment might still be in medical care, but not accessing medications. Shoana related she will discuss the issue with the Part B Program Manager.

AHCCCS Copays

Rose Conner discussed that AHCCCS implemented mandatory \$4 to \$10 pharmaceutical copays on November 1, 2010 for childless adults or clients in the medical spend-down categories. Many HIV clients have been affected by this change. Some providers have provided short-term assistance to clients to keep them on their medication regimens.

Rose related that the CHPS Committee has been developing a strategy to offer clients copay assistance and identified significant numbers of clients in the 0% to 25% FPL level (150 from Part B, 385 from Part A). HRSA will allow Part A to provide co-pay assistance as an allowable expense. Rob Bailey, Part B Program Manager, was analyzing whether to provide Part B clients with copay assistance. The costs for the 385 Part A clients are estimated to be \$13,000 to \$15,000.

Rose provided an overview of how the program could be managed to ensure only Part A eligible clients were served, and only for a limited timeframe.

Mark Kezios discussed that medical providers are now charging copays, and turning clients away who cannot pay these small fees (about \$3.40).

Rose Conner related that if the initiative is approved by the Planning Council on December 9th, the program could be implemented on December 13th and run through March, 2011.

She encouraged suggestions for possible co pay strategies to be forwarded to her or Planning Council Support.

Review of the Planning Council's Guiding Principles

John Sapero discussed that during the Council's Priority Setting and Resource Allocations Determination Sessions, a Council member asked for a review of the Guiding Principles to determine if non-financial considerations should be incorporated into the document.

After discussion, the committee reached a consensus to not revise the document.

MEETING MINUTES *continued*

Determination of agenda items for the next meeting

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

Agenda Items

Reallocations

Action Items to be completed by the next meeting:

Task	Assigned To

Current Event Summaries

No comments were voiced.

Call to Public

No comments were voiced.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.