

Rochester Area Task Force on AIDS, Inc.

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PREVENTION COMMITTEE MINUTES 01/20/06

Present: Michael Campo, Jennifer Colon, Tom DellaPorta, Allen Forbes, Sandra Graham, John Hardel, Jonathan Lang, Erik Libey, Bobbie McCaffery, Emmanuel Oparah, Kraig Pannell, Jose Rivera, Lynn Varricchio, Pat Zacharias.

Review of Minutes:

John motioned that the minutes be approved and Allen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

PPG (Prevention Planning Group) Presentation:

Erik Libey is the Vice Chairperson of the statewide committee. The other members from Rochester are: Priscilla Hardy, Luis, L'espere, Emmanuel Oparah, and Roscoe Skinner. The Buffalo area dominates the PPG.

Background: If the Federal Government is going to give states CDC money the states must have a PPG so that non-state employees are actively involved in the planning process. The PPG is comprised of 50 members who serve on one of eleven committees. These committees are: MSMs, Criminal Justice, Women, Substance Abuse, Young People, Race, Immigrants & Migrants, PLWA Advocacy, Emerging Needs & Issues, By-laws, and Finance.

The entire membership meets five times a year while the committee chairs meet monthly. Their priority is HIV prevention. The state has to make a report to PPG as to what it is doing in HIV prevention. The PPG offers feedback on the programs and trends relating to HIV.

The current focus of the PPG is people of color.

Erik informed the group that in September there will be membership openings. Each person serves a 3 year term. He encouraged people to apply. If anyone is interested, he can contact Allen Forbes at 423-8115 for a copy of the nomination process. There is a strict membership requirement that committee members attend all five annual meetings which take place in January, April, July, August and November. They are two days long occurring on Wednesdays and Thursdays and are held in either New York City or Albany. The PPG covers expenses and in some cases gives a stipend.

RGA Report: The RGA report was presented to the PPG by Emmanuel Oparah since no PPG member was on the RGA Committee. Rochester was the only area where that was the case. Using the data from this report the PPG set priorities and gave their

committees 36 interventions with the charge to determine how to make them work. This should influence the way RFAs are written.

Announcements:

- The new CHBT Calendar is now available.
- Tuesday, March 7 from 8:00am-1:00pm workshop on “Incorporating HIV Prevention into Medical Care of HIV+” for clinicians and medical case managers. For more information call Tom DellaPorta at 275-7655.
- The annual HIV Clinical Conference at Strong will be held on Friday, May 19. Watch for more details.
- The statewide CAC has created a pouch with a health journal for PWAs to keep all relevant medical information. If you would like some please see John Hardel. Also the CAC has produced a pamphlet “Living Well with HIV” that is available.
- A DVD has been developed for the deaf with HIV information. The DVD features deaf people using ASL to communicate.
- The CDC offers courses in HIV Prevention Leadership on their website: www.IHPL.org.
- CAC is holding a LTI reunion in conjunction with their monthly meeting on Saturday, January 28 from 1-4:00pm at ACHC.
- On February 7 the Rays of Hope Committee is sponsoring a Black AIDS Awareness Day health fair at Damon City Center Campus.
- Deloris Williams from NYS DOH informed the group that there is a new HIV screening test coming out in March call Unigold which can give results in 10 minutes. A Western Block test is still needed to confirm a positive result.

Next Meeting: Friday, February 17 at 2:00 pm at FLHSA.