

Rochester Area Task Force on AIDS, Inc.

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TESTING DAY MINUTES 04/25/05

Present: Sher Beachtold, Jeff Bookhart, Michael Booth, Pearlie Breedlove-Luttrell, Julian Brown, Ramon Cintron, Sady Fischer, Priscilla Hardy, Ebonee Johnson, Carol King, Melinda Le, Mary Ellen Pannell, Steven Price, Patty Ross, Lynn Varricchio, Deloris Williams, Pat Zacharias.

Review of Minutes:

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

- The phone number for Planned Parenthood is 1-866-600-6886.
- Huther Doyle's event will be Tuesday, June 28th from 11A to 7P.

Sher motioned that the minutes be approved with the changes and Sady seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Contacting Agencies:

The Gay Alliance was contacted and will donate a page in the May issue of the Empty Closet for a SAVE THE DATE and a page in the June issue to list the testing sites.

Ramon will call Luz Santiago again to encourage her to send someone from Rural Opportunities.

Pearlie Breedlove-Luttrell has been playing phone tag with the City of Rochester Recreation Bureau.

Testing Day Plans:

ACHC will hold an event on Friday, June 24th from 10 AM to 4 PM in St. Joseph's park across the street. They are collaborating with MOCHA to provide testing and ice cream and hot dogs.

Huther Doyle in collaboration with Ibero and ACHC will hold an event called The Test Fest on Tuesday, June 28th from 11 AM to 7 PM. MOCHA will help out from 5-7 PM. A tent will be erected in the back parking lot and food and music featuring Michael Lee singing will be provided.

MMWC will again hold their event in Bull's Head Plaza on Saturday, June 25th from 11 AM to 4 PM.

Julian passed around the flyer for last minutes updates and corrections.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising – Patty Ross reported that a drug company has offered to donate \$5.00 grocery cards.

Outreach – The Street Outreach Collaborative will do outreach in the downtown area on Monday, June 20 to promote everyone’s events. They will also do outreach on Saturday, June 25th to promote an event that evening. Melinda Le announced that if any agency has need for outreach workers, please call her at ABC/AFC 262-4330.

Logistics – The subject of using food coupons instead of food as incentives was discussed. The Subway on Main Street is centrally located. Wendy’s seems to have the most locations within the city so therefore that is another possibility. Lynn also mentioned using a food cart vendor who could have carts at various events. Julian said that they use Burger King coupons because Letty has a contact that gives her free coupons. Patty Ross will contact Letty for more information.

Media – Julian reported that the final schedule for testing is due by next Monday so that the flyers can be printed and distributed in a timely fashion.

Incentives – Deloris reported that a trip to Gifts in Kind today yielded nothing. Fortunately they have enough personal care products on hand to make up gift bags. She assured everyone that there would be enough gift bags for all agencies including the ones in the rural counties. Project Wave will be donated T shirts and balloons and possibly movie tickets. The movie tickets will be distributed through NYS DOH and any unused ones are to be returned. Ernie Jackson from Project Wave will be in Rochester on May 17th.

Rural Counties – In Allen’s absence, Deloris reported that all counties will be participating. Chemung will do their own testing and will also test in Schuyler County. Yates County has partnered with Family Planning in Penn Yan to do testing. In Steuben County testing will be done in Bath, Hornell and Corning. The NYS DOH will do testing in Seneca and Livingston Counties on June 27th. In Ontario County testing will be done in Ontario County Complex. This location is rather hard to find so it was also suggested that someone should call Finger Lakes Migrant Health Project to determine if they could provide testing in Geneva.

Testing for the Deaf Community:

ARI will have interpreters available at both their testing sites. MMWC will provide an interpreter at their event on the 25th. If anyone schedules an appointment at NYS DOH for anonymous testing or comes to the HIV Clinic at Strong an interpreter can be provided.

Follow Up Picnic:

Julian reported that he has confirmed the date with Sister Higgs and the place with Rural Opportunities.

Census Forms:

The NYS DOH will again collect the information from all the testing sites. Lynn asked if zip codes could be added to the form so that we can track from what part of the city did most people come from. Deloris will bring a copy of the form to the next meeting to make sure it meets everyone needs.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 23 at 3:00 PM at FLHSA.