

I. Call to Order

Prevention Committee Chair, Abril Sarmiento, called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m.

II. Introductions (In-person attendees)

Members, guests, and staff attending in person introduced themselves.

III. Roll Call (Zoom attendees)

Staff read the names of members and guests participating via Zoom. Guests were asked to send a chat message to have their attendance recorded.

IV. Housekeeping

Strategic Planning Chair, David Goldberg, presented the PowerPoint, *Partnership Meeting Housekeeping – Hybrid Meetings*, including code of conduct, resource persons, and attendance. Members and guests were reminded that this meeting – including video, audio, and chat box input – was being recorded and will become part of the public record. Members attending via Zoom were reminded of the requirement to be on camera.

V. Floor Open to the Public

Ms. Sarmiento opened the floor to the public with the following statement:

“Pursuant to Florida Sunshine Law, I want to provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to be heard on any item on our agenda today. If there is anyone who wishes to be heard, I invite you to speak now. Each person will be given three minutes to speak. Please begin by stating your name and address for the record before you talk about your concerns. BSR has a dedicated telephone line as well as a general email address for statements to be read into the record. No statements were received via the telephone line or email.”

There were no comments; the floor was then closed.

VI. Review/Approve Agenda

Members reviewed the agenda; there were no changes.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels

Seconded: Hardeep Singh

Motion: Passed

VII. Review/Approve Minutes of March 14, 2022

Minutes of March 14, 2022 were posted for review and shown on the screen at the meeting; there were no changes or corrections.

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022 as presented.

Moved: Dr. Diego Shmuels

Seconded: Juan Buch

Motion: Passed

VIII. Standing Business

- Ryan White Program Part A/MAI Recipient Report

Carla Valle-Schwenk

Carla Valle-Schwenk, Office of Management and Budget – Miami-Dade County (OMB), reported on Ryan White Part A/Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Program (RWP) updates:

- About 80% of Ryan White Program funds were spent in the Fiscal Year ending on February 28, 2022. Funds were underspent due to program changes in response to COVID-19.
- A substantial carryover request will be submitted, and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has indicated large carryover requests will be allowed.
- Approximately 8,400 clients were served in the last Fiscal Year.
- Subrecipient contracts are being finalized. All agencies are providing contracted services.
- The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) announced an outbreak of meningococcal disease; agencies should have received notification. A meningococcal vaccine is available from FDOH.

- Prevention Committee (PVC) Action Items

PVC Members

- New Member

Mónica Bahamón, MPH, FOCUS Program Director at Jackson Hospital Emergency Department submitted an application for membership. Ms. Bahamón introduced herself and members voted to accept her membership.

Motion to accept Mónica Bahamón as a member of the Prevention Committee.

Moved: Grechen Mills

Seconded: Roseline Monestime

Motion: Passed

Members welcomed Ms. Marqués as a new member.

- Vice Chair Elections

Dr. Angela Mooss accepted the nomination to serve as Prevention Committee Vice Chair.

Motion to accept Dr. Angela Mooss as Prevention Committee Vice Chair.

Moved: Grechen Mills

Seconded: Roseline Monestime

Motion: Passed

- 2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan (IP)

- Draft Jurisdictional Planning Process Narrative Review

Dr. Robert Ladner presented the IP Section II: Community Engagement and Planning Process (draft). The draft does not include the community feedback which will be presented in May. The draft is written as if it were presented in August; some activities are still pending.

The draft includes:

- The Role of the Planning Council;
- Collaboration with Ryan White Program Part A through F;
- Engagement of people with HIV; and
- Other Strategic Plans to be incorporated;

Regarding the Planning Council (Partnership), there is a broad range of representation, however greater participation by people with HIV is needed. Members are asked to direct interested parties to staff for additional information on membership.

Staff has conducted 13 of 15 listening sessions. Compiled responses will be brought to the next meeting. The listening sessions have captured feedback from a wide range of people with HIV, both inside and outside the Ryan White Program service system. Participants have been encouraged to continue to be part of the IP development process.

The IP guidance requires certain stakeholders to be a part of integrated planning and recommends others. The draft indicates which required and recommended stakeholders have contributed (or are contributing) and which are still missing. Dr. Ladner noted staff may convene an IP Stakeholder's Council via Zoom in order to ensure all categories of stakeholders are represented and to gain the largest community buy-in. Dr. Diego Shmuels suggested to send a brief survey to the Partnership listserv indicating specific categories of stakeholders needed and requesting participation.

There have only been about 20 Community Engagement survey responses collected, which is less than desired. The survey is open until the end of April and staff will continue to push for greater participation.

- Draft Resource Inventory Review

Dr. Ladner presented the Miami-Dade County Resource Inventory for care and treatment services and for prevention services. He noted that the tables presented are to show members all available resources; when the inventory is incorporated into the IP, it will be in a more concise format.

A review of the tables indicates the county receives substantial funding to cover a broad range of services and prevention measures. Members were asked to consider what is missing and, if there are so many prevention efforts, how is it that people are still not aware of PrEP, HIV testing, and the availability of services.

- Discussion: Addressing Topics of Concern: Poverty, Housing, and Mental Health

Staff noted that although the IP cannot hope to solve the crises of homelessness, poverty, and mental health-related issues, those issues play a significant role in the lives of people with HIV and people at-risk and need to be addressed in some fashion.

Amaris Hess noted that the issue of housing is much larger than the obvious problems of finding affordable housing.

With respect to the housing issue, members discussed that even persons with housing vouchers find they cannot be housed because they do not have the resources to move or are otherwise hindered by the bureaucracy of the housing process. Landlords may not accept vouchers, based on a background check. It should be acknowledged that getting someone from homelessness or a treatment center to stable housing is a labor-intensive process for both homeless persons and agency staff who assist them. Persons who are marginalized, such as persons leaving a treatment center or leaving incarceration, are especially vulnerable. There are also issues of paying for and coordinating moving expenses and finding affordable furnishings. Members discussed that perhaps food pantries or a warehouse for free furnishings could be established. Basic life training is needed to help people understand how to complete a lease and how to negotiate and ask questions without being talked down to. Ultimately, the barriers which are largely unseen are just too much for many people who simply give up, therefore perpetuating the cycle of homelessness.

Kira Villamizar, FDOH, noted the state DOH is drafting an IP goal framework which the committees will review at the next meeting.

IX. New Business

There was no New Business.

X. Announcements

Staff displayed the AIDSNET.org homepage which features the FDOH meningococcal outbreak notices in English, Spanish, and Creole.

Sam Quintero of Janssen Infectious Diseases & Vaccines introduced Wanda Vazquez as the new Janssen representative for Miami.

Next Meetings

Mr. Goldberg announced the committees will meet jointly on May 9, 2022 at the Miami-Dade County Main Library and via Zoom.

XI. Adjournment

Ms. Sarmiento adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.