



Ending the HIV Epidemic Advisory Council | Minutes

July 16, 2020 | 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Council Member Attendees: Clare Bolds, Dr. DeAnn Bullock, Brian Haile, Councilmember Sharon Hurt, Dr. Sean Kelly, Dr. Rajeev Mavath, Brady Morris, Rev. Edwin Sanders

Other Attendees: Phillip Townsend (Metro ITS), Dr. Anh Ngo (MPHD), Julie Thacker (MPHD)

Welcome and Updates

Dr. DeAnn Bullock, Co-Chair welcomed the Advisory Council to the meeting and moved to approve the Electronic Meeting. Clare Bolds, Co-Chair seconded the motion. The motion passed during a roll-call vote.

ACTION: Approval of Minutes from May 21, 2020

Clare provided an opportunity for review of the May 21, 2020 meeting of the Advisory Council and asked for a motion to approve. Councilmember Sharon Hurt made a motion to accept the minutes and Brady Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes from the May 21, 2020 meeting of the EHE Advisory Council were accepted.

Discussion: Consumer Advisory Board

Clare addressed the Council regarding the options of creating a consumer advisory board (CAB) for EHE initiatives or utilizing existing CABs.

Key takeaways from the Advisory Council discussion:

1. Take stock of existing CABs
 - Reach out to ASOs and CSOs for a list of CABs
2. Develop need and clear ask to the community
 - As EHE will have a range across the continuum of prevention and treatment of HIV, the makeup of advisors will need to change as well.
 - Ad-hoc advisory groups based on need
 - Reach out based on a specific ask: project, need, and demographic
3. Ensure that representation on these groups is as broad as possible and reflect priority populations
 - Make sure not to favor one organization over others for recruitment

Discussion: Communication Strategy for EHE

Key takeaways from the Advisory Council Discussion:

- Need a web presence for EHE

- Social media should be a key component of any communication strategy we have
 - Key for activism and issues of class and culture
 - Access and the digital divide is an issue
- We are trying to reach depths in the community
 - We need to connect with trusted community leaders to translate messages for us
- Keep messaging simple
 - Even simple messages like U=U can be difficult to translate
- Ensure our campaigns are not stigmatizing
- Challenges to address:
 - Whose voices are we missing?
 - How do we get people to use the tools we have?
 - How do we get people to buy-into the messaging?
- There is energy and opportunity for messages that advance equity that we need to capitalize on
- Next step: Proposal for a communication priority and alignment opportunities for World AIDS Day to presented at September meeting

Discussion: HIV Testing

- Last time we discussed aligning COVID and HIV testing, however discussing the logistics for that have proven challenging
 - Question: Should we be prioritizing testing?
- We should look at universal routine HIV testing policies
 - How does this translate into cost-savings?
- The original idea of testing at COVID testing centers is meeting people where they are, making it more accessible; meeting people where they are.
- How do we promote at-home testing?
 - Could we distribute at-home tests at COVID assessment centers?
 - Nashville Cares and other ASOs are offering at-home testing
 - We don't know how many tests are being sent
 - How can we help promote at-home testing?
 - Neighborhood Health would help with distribution if tests were provided
- Disease intervention specialists and early intervention specialists at the Health Department are still doing in-home testing
- Send Julie an email if you are interested in continuing this conversation between meetings

Next Meeting:

September 17, 2020
2:30-4:00 PM