



## Hepatitis C Task Force for Los Angeles County Meeting – January 21, 2009

**Attendees:** Barbara Crofford, Jasper Do, Danny Jenkins, Michael McCrory, Dean Page, Meghan Ralston and David Treviño –  
**New Members:** Haley Bevacqua, Annette DeGarge, Jennifer Felderman, Baldomero, Gonzalez and Alice Haliburton

I. **Introductions:** Attendees made their introductions and new members were welcomed.

### II. Old Business

#### A. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Hepatitis C Summit debrief

1. Dean stated that the Summit was great although the numbers were down from last year; Jennifer and Meghan noted that there were conflicting events on the same day.
2. Danny would have liked to see more media involvement; David suggested sending the media a SAVE THE DATE flyer for the next Summit.
3. Barbara voiced her concern that one of the doctor's presentation delivery came across as condescending, and Meghan agreed. Barbara also indicated that Dr. Bhatti's presentation could have included more information regarding co-infection.
4. Dean noted that the trend now is to treat early (for a better chance of achieving SVR), which did not seem to be noted in the presentations. The progression of HCV from one stage to the next could probably be described in more depth.
5. For the next Summit, Meghan suggested a consumer panel of individuals from a broad spectrum of "dealing with HCV + status" i.e. in treatment (including treatment issues), refused/non-treatment, holistic/homeopathic therapies, with other health issues, women with children).
6. Pharmaceutical companies are "walking a tight rope" (Advocacy ↔ Opportunity) regarding their ability to provide previously offered support.
7. Barbara stated that Personal Experience (such as Danny's "diary" presentation regarding his journey through treatment) was a positive component of the Summit.
8. Danny has committed to working on drawing in the media for next year's Summit.
9. We need a big celebrity draw – Greg O. of ZZ Top

#### B. Task Force Co-chair nomination discussion / nominations open

1. Brian's position is opening. Danny provided an overview of the main responsibilities (meeting planning, coordination of the C Retreats and Summit) of a co-chair, noting that this position allows for a flexible time commitment. He indicated that the co-chairs usually compliment each other with regard to leadership strengths. The TF is a self-propelled organization, and co-chairs work with delegated volunteers to accomplish the goals, which have been set.
2. Nominations were opened with the following:
  - i. Meghan Ralston – by Barbara
  - ii. David Treviño – by Dean (Declined)
  - iii. Army Cachero – by Barbara
  - iv. Barbara Crofford – by Meghan (Declined)
  - v. Marissa Axelrod – by Michael
3. Nominations will remain open until the next monthly meeting, February 18, 2009, at which time nominations will close and voting will take place. Brian will act as Coalition TF ambassador.

### III. New Business

#### A. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Hepatitis C Summit debrief

1. 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hepatitis C Summit is set for Thursday, November 19, 2009, at California Endowment.
2. Danny has committed to drawing in the media and will contact APLA public policy department regarding assistance in contacting a potential celebrity keynote.
3. A theme needs to be decided upon, so that the rest of the planning can fall into place – suggested theme deadline is at February's meeting.
4. Michael voiced a request for Pharma CEs. CEs in general will help to draw more participants.
5. Michael also suggested "poster presentation" – kiosk-type set-ups, which would allow for more direct and personalized information for visitors to these set-ups.
6. Meghan suggested a "call for submissions," including consumers, for potential presenters and workshops at the 2009 Summit. Possible workshops could include challenges to accessing treatment and other HCV services, a focus on needle exchange and treatment centers and minority outreach.

B. 2009 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter C Retreat

1. Danny gave an overview of the C Retreat concept for the benefit of new members.
2. After attending the Adult Viral Hepatitis Coalition meeting in December, several TF members voiced the need to focus on a C Retreat in the Antelope Valley, SPA 1. This is an underserved population with limited services, some of which are being cut.
3. There was a suggestion to host a provider event (with CE credit) prior to the C Retreat, which will serve as training for providers to be updated with the latest information regarding treatment and other services they may wish to incorporate in their service offerings. This will also help generate consumer referrals to participate in the Retreat, ultimately leading to more participation at the 2009 Summit.
4. Danny will use Survey Monkey to gather information, which will help in planning the Provider Training Event.
5. Meghan indicated that a good day to train is Sunday morning, between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. March 22, 2009 was selected as a target date. Santa Clarita will be investigated for a training site – although the Antelope Valley is the target area, it was brought to the TF's attention that most of the service providers live in the Santa Clarita area.
6. Barbara and Danny will take lead roles in the planning of this event.
7. The C Retreat target date is April 18, 2009, with April 25, 2009 as option 2.
8. Michael will look into how Walgreens can help support this event.
9. Other funding sources will need to be identified.
10. Danny will work on a grant for the April C Retreat.
11. Planning meeting will take place prior to next month's meeting, Wednesday, February 18, 2009. Lunch will be provided at 12 noon, and planning will take place until 1:30 p.m. RSVP to Danny at [dannyjenkins411@msn.com](mailto:dannyjenkins411@msn.com).

C. 3-year visioning of the Task Force

1. Danny started the discussion of looking forward to the Task Force's future as it relates to working with the Adult Viral Hepatitis Coalition and CalHEP, indicating that the TF may want to consider approaching Hepatitis in general vs. only on HCV.
2. More discussion to follow at February's meeting.

D. Task Force Letterhead update

1. David suggested that the TF Letterhead be revisited, as it has been over a year since it was last updated.
2. Agencies listed on the TF letterhead include those, which provide some type of support throughout the year and/or have representation at the monthly meetings for a significant portion of the year.
3. A phone tree was suggested to follow up with registered TF membership to follow up on their status to continue to participate.
4. Danny also saw this as an opportunity for a membership drive.

E. David is leaving the Task Force

1. David has accepted a new position at Homeless Health Care Los Angeles, which will take him away from his administrative duties for the Task Force.
2. The administrative position will need to be filled by February's monthly meeting.

IV. Announcements

- A. 07/24/2009 – Meghan – SAVE THE DATE 1<sup>st</sup> Southern California Harm Reduction Summit, The California Endowment, 1000 N. Alameda St., LA 90012
- B. 11/19/2009 – 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hep C Summit, The California Endowment, 1000 N. Alameda St., LA 90012

V. Adjourn

***Mark your calendar for next month's meetings:***

***Wednesday, February 18, 2009***

***C Retreat Planning 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.***

***(RSVP to Danny Jenkins at [dannyjenkins411@msn.com](mailto:dannyjenkins411@msn.com) for lunch)***

***General Task Force Meeting – 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.***

***2330 Beverly Blvd.***

***Los Angeles, CA 90057***

***(213) 381-0515***

***Limited street parking available due to construction – Carpooling recommended***