



Hepatitis C Task Force for Los Angeles County Meeting – February 20, 2008

Attendees: Dagmar Adamec, MARRISA Axelrod, Cinderella Barrios-Cernik, Wendy Berger, Armand (Army) Cachero, Deon Claiborne, Barbara Crofford, Jasper Do, Omar Hernandez, Danny Jenkins, Aparna Kollipara, Pierre Nsilu, Dean Page, John Palomo, Brian Risley, Eve Rubell, Shahan Suzmeyan and David Treviño

I. Introductions

A. Attendees were introduced and new members were welcomed.

II. Old Business

A. 01/16/2008 minutes read and approved.

B. 2008 C-Retreat Planning Debrief – Danny and Barbara

1. 2007's C-Retreat was a pilot project
2. 2007's C-Retreat attended by over 25 participants
3. 2007's C-Retreat stats used for 2008 grant, supporting documentation
4. 2008 C-Retreats – at least two free events: Long Beach (early May) and Pasadena (July); if funding allows, a third in Los Angeles (September). Each individual event is expected to cost between \$500.00 and \$1,000.00.
5. 50 estimated participants per event; 7 – 8 support groups, each led by two co-facilitators; total of volunteer facilitators needed is 14 – 16; Facilitators will not be required to facilitate support groups at each event
6. Facilitator training to take place 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., April 16, 2008, prior to HCTF-LAC monthly meeting; Facilitator volunteers – MARRISA, Army, Shahan, Brian, Barbara, Dean, John, Dagmar, Pierre, Aparna and Omar
7. Each HCTF-LAC member agency is requested to contribute support (i.e. planning, printing materials, packet preparation, etc.)
8. Next C-Retreat Planning Meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2008 at 12:30 p.m., prior to the general HCTF-LAC meeting.

III. New Business

A. Discussion and vote on the involvement of the HCTF-LAC to become a member of LAC Viral Hepatitis Coalition, as proposed by Los Angeles County's new Viral Hepatitis Coordinator, Pierre Nsilu, based on CDC contract and LA County Public Health objectives. The purpose of the Coalition is to unify the efforts of the LAC Viral Hepatitis Coordinator with established HCTF-LAC, the former Hepatitis B Task Force and other community stakeholders to achieve concerted goals in hepatitis EPI and control, advocacy and to share information at a more rapid rate. It is expected that 60+ individuals/agencies will participate in this coalition. The Coalition is funded for five years, with the aim of outlining and meeting mutually identified viral hepatitis objectives within a 12-year period. The Coalition will meet two times a year. After facilitated discussion, the unanimous voting outcomes were:

1. HCTF-LAC will participate as a member in the LAC Viral Hepatitis Coalition, with the first meeting to be in April or May 2008. Pierre emphasized that his participation in the Coalition is strictly as a member and not to dictate terms or directives from LAC Public Health.
 2. A Memorandum of Understanding, which outlines HCTF-LAC's expectations, responsibilities and relationship with LAC Department of Public Health and OAPP as an autonomous Task Force and as a member of the Viral Hepatitis Coalition, will be created for further discussion at next Task Force and Coalition meetings.
 3. The HCTF-LAC will retain its autonomy from LAC Public Health and keep its name, until the HCTF-LAC decides whether it, like the Hepatitis Viral Coalition, wants to embrace all hepatitis as part of HCTF-LAC's mission statement, while keeping its current focus on HCV.
- B. Proposed date for 6th Annual Hep C Summit is November 21, 2008 at the California Endowment. The theme of the Summit will involve Addiction and HCV.
 - C. As part of HCTF-LAC's new collaboration with CalHEP, a group of Task Force members will travel to Sacramento on March 12 for Hep Advocacy Day, that will include a training by Diane Sylvestre, MD, and team visits to CA legislator offices.

IV. Announcements

- A. Brian handed out flyers to his APLA HIV Matters Community Update on CROI 08, featuring several top HIV clinicians.
- B. 04/12 – 04/13/2008 – NBC / Telemundo Health and Fitness Expo (Convention Center). Volunteers are requested to table this event; volunteer agencies will be able to place their agency's materials on the display table. Giveaways are also requested to draw Expo goers to the Hep C Task Force for Los Angeles County's table. Barbara suggested that the C-Retreat Flyers be provided. Eve suggested that Viral Hepatitis Coalition information be provided, also.
- C. 05/16/2008 – Dean announced that Beacons of H.O.P.E. and American Recovery Center are hosting their 2nd Annual Hepatitis Awareness Day. He is requesting that HCTF-LAC table this event again this year.
- D. Deon presented February 2008's Clinical Trials list, reviewing each of the studies.
- E. Cinderella announced that HIV D&A Task Force is hosting a training at Precious Blood Church (on Occidental) regarding the risks surrounding Household Products.
- F. MARRISA, RN, is looking for a Hep-related job position.

Mark your calendar for next month's meetings:

Wednesday, March 19, 2008

C-Retreat Planning Meeting

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

General Task Force Meeting

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

2330 Beverly Blvd., 2nd Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90057

Street parking available