



## **Hepatitis C Task Force for Los Angeles County Meeting- March 18, 2009**

**Attendees:** *Israel Amrani, Barbara Crofford, Armand (Army) Cachero, Jasper Do, Jennifer Felderman, Susan Hathaway, Danny Jenkins, Michael McCrory, Dean Page, John Palomo, Paul Prosser, and Brian Risley*

**I. Introductions:** Attendees made their introductions.

### **II. C-Retreat Planning Meeting Update**

#### **A. Recap of C-Retreat Meeting**

1. Danny Jenkins gave an overview of the things discussed in the C-Retreat Meeting. The C-Retreat is an event for people living with hepatitis C to learn about the next steps and the Hepatitis C Summit.
2. On April 8, 2009, the Task Force will conduct a site visit to look at the breakout rooms for the C-Retreat
3. The Task Force is looking for agencies willing to provide raffle prizes to clients attending the C-Retreat.
4. The Task Force indicated the site of the C-Retreat must be located near bus and Metrolink lines. Jasper Do mentioned there is a Metrolink station in Lancaster and Jennifer Felderman added the Metrolink train does go through Palmdale.

### **III. New Business**

#### **A. 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hepatitis C Summit- Preliminary Meeting**

1. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hepatitis C Summit is set for Thursday, November 19, 2009 @ The California Endowment.
2. The Task Force discussed the idea of having a performer or live music during lunchtime at the CA Endowment's courtyard. Brian Risley will ask CA Endowment whether or not there can be entertainment in the courtyard.
3. The Task Force would like to have a celebrity or elected official speak at the Summit. Possible candidates include Natalie Cole and Mayor Villaraigosa. Natalie Cole has made public appearances. Paul Prosser will provide the Task Force with the contact information for Natalie Cole.
4. Brian Risley discussed the idea of having a program for the Summit and people can buy a page in the program.
5. Michael McCrory voiced a request to have breakout sessions for pharmacists at the Summit. He also indicated there should be CEUs for pharmacists and training sessions.
6. Barbara Crofford indicated some clients with HCV are diabetic and cannot eat the foods served at the previous Summit, especially breakfast. She would like the Task Force to take this matter into consideration while planning for the Summit.
7. The Task Force would like to have breakout sessions for coinfection issues with planning things. On May 12- 14, 2009, Brian Risley is holding the Treatment Education Training at CA Endowment which includes a coinfection module.
8. The Task Force is looking for nutritionists who work with clients coinfecting with HIV and HCV.

9. Possible themes for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hepatitis C Summit include the following:
    - Future of Hepatitis C with Medications and Treatment
    - Mental Health: Coping with Hope
    - See the Future Now
    - Rapid Testing (OraSure)
    - Supplements and Hepatitis C
    - Liver Healthy Diet
    - Advocacy for Coinfection (HIV/HCV)- advocate for themselves, empowerment to ask for more services
    - Planning for the Future- long-term goals, emotional well-being, motivation, breakout sessions with advocacy and psychosocial
    - Coinfected, Now What?- clients coinfecting with HIV/HCV need to know they can live, which to treat first, where to go with their energy
  10. The Task Force will need to go through the LA County Department of Health in order to offer CME at the Summit (Contact Person: Jennifer Sales, new medical director of OAPP). Brian Risley indicated asking the Department of Health for permission to offer CME at the Summit is labor intensive. At the previous Summit, many nurses were asking why the event did not offer any CME credits. He also indicated continuing education credits should be offered through other agencies. Asking permission to offer CME requires paperwork and all things planned, including abstract, bios, etc. Jennifer Felderman will ask how to get CME through the County so more people can come to the Summit. Michael McCrory will look into who sponsors CE credits at Walgreens' trainings.
  11. The Task Force will need to focus on fundraising for the Summit- grant request. TBTECH- next deadline is the end of March for any project after May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  12. Brian Risley indicated the Task Force would need to find an agency with 501(3) K status because Homeless Health Care can no longer be the home for the Task Force. He also indicated the Task Force will need to submit a budget to APLA for approval. The Task Force will need to submit grants where the awarded money will go to the TF administrators. Money will be raised through APLA. Danny Jenkins indicated it is a bad time for the Task Force to move into Cri-Help, better option at APLA.
  13. Jennifer Felderman indicated there are about 5 conference rooms at OAPP. She will check with OAPP to see if the Task Force can hold their meetings there.
  14. The Task Force's Resource Guide will be put into HIV LA. The HIV LA, with the Resource Guide, will be ready for distribution in mid summer. A committee will be formed to update the content in the Resource Guide.
- B. Task Force Co-Chair nomination discussion/nominations open**
1. The following Task Force members were nominated as TF Co-Chair:
    - MARRISA AXELROD (declined)
    - ARMAND (ARMY) CACHERO (declined)
    - BARBARA CROFFORD (accepted, but may have to step back for treatment)
    - MEGHAN RALSTON (declined)
    - DAVID TREVINO (declined)
  2. The Task Force nominated Barbara Crofford with a unanimous vote, congratulations to Barbara!
  3. Brian Risley will be moving into an ambassador role with the Task Force and fundraising.
  4. Danny Jenkins moved that the Co-Chair nomination to be closed, Michael McCrory seconded it.

#### IV. Announcements

- A. Armand (Army) Cachero is asking everyone to join the Newsom for California Exploratory Committee, visit [www.GavinNewsom.com](http://www.GavinNewsom.com) for more information.
- B. Homeless Health Care Los Angeles (HHCLA) is seeking a Community Assessment Services Center (CASC) Assessment Specialist. Interested candidate should contact HHCLA @ (213) 744-0724.
- C. Michael McCrory is looking for an urologist that is a transgender specialist. Please contact him at (323) 810-0096 or michael.mccrory@walgreens.com
- D. Dean Page is looking for an urologist that accepts Medi-Cal. Please contact him at (626) 332-3509 or kostasgreekusa@aol.com
- E. AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) is seeking a full-time Treatment Educator. Excellent benefits. Please contact Brain Risley, (213) 201-1547 or brisley@apla.org, for more information.
- F. Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT) is seeking a full-time Substance Abuse Counselor and a Treatment Advocate. Both positions require candidates to speak at least one Asian language.
- G. HIV Matters. West Hollywood Park Auditorium. Park at the West Hollywood Parking Lot between San Vicente & Santa Monica Blvd. 6:00pm to 7:00pm-dinner following by event.
- H. Adult Viral Hepatitis Coalition Meeting: Thursday, June 25, 2009. 1:00pm to 4:30pm @ St. Ann's (by Occidental). The Hepatitis Prevention Plan will be presented to the Task Force for feedback.

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

***Wednesday, April 15, 2009***

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

**General Task Force Meeting – 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**C-Retreat Facilitator Training – 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA)  
The David Geffen Center  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor- Founders Room  
611 S. Kingsley Drive  
(between 6<sup>th</sup> St. and Wilshire Blvd.)  
Los Angeles, CA 90005**

**(Parking is available behind the building at Geffen Center, on the street via meter, or at 3550 Wilshire Blvd- use Ardmore & Wilshire entrance- and will need to walk north on Kingsley for 1/2 block)**