

## **Hepatitis C Task Force for Los Angeles County Meeting – May 16, 2007**

*Attendees: Israel Amrani, Lauren Burwell, Armand Cachero, Deon Claiborne, Danny Jenkins, Nadene Krawitz, Mark Malek, Dean Page, Meghan Ralston, Brian Risley, Daniel Rivas, Eve Rubell and David Treviño.*

### **I. Introductions**

**A. Attendees introduced and new members were welcomed.**

### **II. Old Business**

**A. The 04/18/2007 minutes were read and approved as corrected.**

**B. Danny Jenkins presented a SAMHSA grant update:**

1. Six-month timeline for completion of the proposal was reviewed.
2. Deadline for the grant proposal is October 2007.
3. Danny recommended that the TF focus on the 2008 Summit details/topics, so that the proposal can be tailored accordingly, with the emphasis being the addiction aspect, as this is a major theme for SAMSHA.
4. The topic of when to start Hepatitis C treatment within the context of recovery was identified as an important topic for the 2008 meeting.

**C. Eve Rubell reviewed the C-Retreat minutes:**

1. C-Retreat scheduled for September 15, 2007.
2. Event to be held at Cri-Help, Inc.
3. Preliminary Agenda was reviewed and amended at the C-Retreat meeting. Discussion results include changing the invocation to a guided meditation session, including a session on "How to Be an SO," extending the panel discussion session by 30 minutes, thus, extending the event by 30 minutes: 9 am – 5 pm.
4. There was discussion regarding the idea of Advocacy: personal vs. political.
5. Fund raising will need to be addressed.
6. Assistance will be needed in creating the Participant Packets.
7. Event Volunteers will also be needed for the day's activities.
8. "Cater" for the event to be decided.
9. Registration options discussed.

### **III. New Business**

**A. Jasper Do, CSUN graduate student, will be Interning for the HCTF-LAC, under Eve Rubell's (HHCLA) supervision. Jasper is developing a Survey for HCTF-LAC participants to complete. The survey will measure participant's experience regarding attending an HCTF-LAC meeting.**

**B. Participating Agencies on the HCTF-LAC Letterhead – discussion. There are no guidelines set in the By-Laws. Recommendation for quarterly review of the participating agencies list. One suggestions for inclusion on the "list" are: 1) to follow the "voting criteria" – representation at an HCTF-LAC meeting three times within a six-month period, and/or 2) distinguish between agencies that contribute time vs. financial support to the Task Force.**

**C. Meghan Ralston, BREATHE LA – TB Coalition Program Coordinator, presented information regarding the TB Coalition, explaining the organization and its mission. She is requesting representation from the HCTF-LAC at meetings. As the TB Coalition meetings conflict with the Task Force's meetings, Meghan will return at July's HCTF-LAC meeting to present an overview and update of the TB Coalition's June meeting.**

**D. Brian Risley will schedule a presentation by Dr. Laveeza Bhatti, who will provide the HCTF-LAC with a medical update regarding Hep C medications.**

E. *Brian Risley is working on having an increased presence of HCTF-LAC within the HIV-LA Publication.*

IV. Announcements

- A. *Deon Claiborne provided the UCLA CARE Center May 2007 Clinical Trials flyer. Men are now being accepted into the Gray Study. Also, there are two doctors who are available for Hep C, HIV and Co-Infection presentations: Dr. Mo and Dr. Battacharya.*
- B. *Nadene Krawitz announced that Hep Team LA has eight events throughout LA County, including free vaccinations. The adult vaccination program is the most successful prevention – boosters given at one year. Nadene also announced that the Twinrex combo treatment duration is reduced, although the dosage remains the same. Finally, Vaccine Grant Awards have been presented to the LA Mission and the HHCLA's Needle Exchange/Harm Reduction Program.*
- C. *Army Cachero will attend the Coping with Hope X – HIV at Any Age at UCLA PAETC on Thursday, May 17, 2007, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1800, LA, CA 90024, free, one-day symposium for service providers and mental health professionals addressing the mental health needs of people living with HIV/AIDS.*
- D. *Dean Page – Saturday, May 19, 2007, Hep C Awareness Month event, American Recovery Center, 2180 W. Valley Blvd., Pomona, CA 91767, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Pamela Houston and David Michael Treviño to table this event on behalf of HCTF-LAC.*

The next Task Force meeting:

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm C-Retreat Sub-committee Planning Meeting

*RSVP to [dtrevino@hhcla.org](mailto:dtrevino@hhcla.org) by Monday, June 18, 2007, for Pizza headcount.*

*Include your favorite topping – Chicken is not on the list of topping choices.*

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Regular Task Force Meeting

at:

Homeless Health Care Los Angeles

2330 Beverly Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90057

213-381-0515