

## LA County Hepatitis C Task Force Meeting – July 20, 2005

*Attendees: Brian Risley, Alberto Mendoza, Terry Knudson, Monique Collins, Gary Barbagallo, Darrell Lind, Maryanne Rowerdink, Tracey Cumberland, Tihana Skaricic, Ricki Rosales, Eve Rubell, MARRISA Axelrod, Jan Wise, David Hirsch, Susana Morales, Leticia Ponzarizni, Peter Starks, Tom Donohoe, Deon Claiborne.*

- I) Introductions
- II) Old Business
  - a. Minutes were reviewed, amended, and approved.
  - b. Tracey Cumberland reports that there was still a need for volunteers for the N.B.C. Health Fair. Alberto Mendoza and Leticia Ponzarizni said that they would be willing to help out with this event. At this time Alberto Mendoza and Tihana Skaricic will work Saturday morning. Peter Starks will work Saturday afternoon. Tracey Cumberland and Peter Starks will work Sunday morning. Leticia Ponzarizni and Terry Knudson will work Sunday afternoon. Brian Risley reports that he is still working on acquiring a donation of water bottles to hand out at the NBC Health Fair in August. Tracey Cumberland reports that PX Pharmacy will print out Hep C Task Force labels for these water bottles. Terry Knudson will find out whether or not there will be free parking available and will report back to the seven volunteers.
  - c. Terry Knudson reports that the Hepatitis C Resource Guide is almost ready to begin printing, and should be completed by next week. Brian Risley and A.P.L.A. will print up cover sheets for the directory. Darrell Lind requested that a copy of the Resource Guide be e-mailed to him as soon as it's completed. After discussion the group decided that all members should be e-mailed a copy of the Resource Guide.
  - d. Brian Risley asked members to review the revisions to the bylaws from June Membership vote. The group voted that these revisions be adopted.
- III) New Business
  - a. Brian Risley and Alberto Mendoza asked the group to vote to amend Bylaws article III, section 2 again on a new consideration: Should E-mail voting by members be allowed or do they need to be present to cast a vote? After much discussion from the group it was decided to table this issue until the language can be clarified. Eve Rubell states she will ask Cinderella Barrios-Cernik about this.
  - b. Alberto Mendoza asked the group to vote on whether or not the Hepatitis C Task force would like to continue meeting at Homeless Health Care or be moved to Drug Policy Alliance. After discussing the pros and cons regarding such a change the group voted to stay at Homeless Health Care.
  - c. Brian Risley asked which members wanted to be included in the Summit Planning Committee. Tihana Skaricic, Monique Collins, Eve Rubell, MARRISA Axelrod, Brian Risley, Alberto Mendoza, and Terry Knudson asked to be included. Donna Gracon although not at this task force meeting will also be on this committee. Members were asked to vote on either Thursday October 27, 2005 or Thursday October 20, 2005. The group voted for the October 20<sup>th</sup> date.
  - d. Eve Rubell reported on the California Hepatitis C Task Force 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference which is slated for April or May 2005. The California Task force is asking our Hepatitis C task force to help them to facilitate the event in the Los Angeles area. After much discussion by the group it was decided that we could not help out with the facilitation of this event, however we may be able to help out with registration on the weekend of the event. Eve Rubell will keep us posted on Any updates regarding the California Hepatitis C Task Force conference.

- e. Eve Rubell reports that Homeless Health Care can cover \$500.00 toward the cost of the brochures and that the remainder of fees will have to be provided by other sources and or agencies. The group decided that 2,000 brochures would be adequate to have printed up and that of these 500 will be in Spanish language and 1,500 will be in English language.
  - f. Marrisa reports that the web site for the Hepatitis C Resource guide is being revised and should be up and running soon.
- IV) Subcommittee Breakouts: The various subcommittees met with each other and reported back to the meeting. Due to time constraints each subcommittee had very little to report. However it was decided by the group that some of these subcommittees overlap each other and might serve a greater purpose to merge these subcommittees. Eve Rubell suggested that Public Awareness become part of Prevention and Education, Prevention and Surveillance become part of Policy and Advocacy.
- V) Announcements
- a. Tom Donohoe is encouraging all task force members to attend a monthly task force for HIV & Mental Illness which is held at The Village Gay and Lesbian Center 1125 North McCadden St. on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 9:30AM until 11:30AM.
  - b. Tracey Cumberland reports two upcoming dinner and educational lectures that are held at PX Drugstore 5160 Vineland Ave. North Hollywood, CA 91601. The first lecture is entitled "Drug-to-Drug Interactions and Tolerability Issues" Wednesday July 20, 2005. Presented by Harold Kong, Pharm. D. The second lecture is entitled "The management of Chronic Hepatitis C and Treatment Options" Wednesday July 27, 2005. Presented by Val Peacock RN, BSN. Both of these events begin at 6:30 PM. Space is limited so please RSVP to 818-769-0313.
  - c. Brian Risley reports an upcoming lecture and dinner given by HIV Matters at the West Hollywood Park on Wednesday August 17, 2005. There will be physicians at this lecture giving the information and findings on the International AIDS conference, which recently took place in Brazil. This dinner starts at 6:30 P.M. and the lecture begins at 7:30 P.M. the parking in West Hollywood Park is free for this event.
  - d. Deon Claiborne reports that there are currently no Co infection of HCV/HIV clinical trials open, however there will be soon and she will keep us updated on these. She also passed out a flyer regarding a clinical trial for HIV clients that begins enrollment in July 2005. Last but not least Deon reports an upcoming seminar on October 28, 2005 at the Roosevelt Hotel from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. This conference is entitled "Tough Decisions Made Easier" with staff priority given to MPS, NPS, PAs, & Nurses.
  - e. Eve Rubell reports that all of the Enterprise Foundation trainings are free except for the Non violent crisis intervention training which has a ten dollar fee.
  - f. Darrell Lind from Catalyst Foundation announced the collaboration with Homeless Health Care. The services offered include primary care, diagnosis, and treatment for those persons living with Hepatitis C virus. There will be 50 slots available. For an appointment or for more information call 661-948-8559. Services are offered on Mondays from 10:00AM until 2:00PM.
- VI) Adjourn

The next Task Force meeting will be on August 17, 2005 from 1:30p.m. – 3:30p.m.  
 At: 2330 Beverly Blvd., L.A., CA 90057 213-744-0724