

LA County Hepatitis C Task Force Meeting – September 21, 2005

Attendees: Brian Risley, Alberto Mendoza, Terry Knudson, Monique Collins, Tihana Skaricic, Jan Wise, David Hirsch, Israel Amrani, Gary Barbagello, Tracey Cumberland, Beth Powers, Jill Rotenberg, Gail Collins, Eve Rubell, Cinderella Barrios-Cernik, Kashari Jones, Peter Starks, Deon Claiborne, Ricki Rosales, William Fasano, Paul Crowley, Alex Wilson.

- I) Introductions
- II) Old Business
 - a. Minutes for August were approved as amended.
 - b. Alberto Mendoza discussed the purpose of the Strategic Planning Committee and the grant that the Hep C Task Force received from the California Endowment. The retreat that was scheduled with Mike Hoff had to be rescheduled due to a conflict with the 3rd Annual Hep C Summit. A motion was made and passed to reschedule the retreat for December 14, 2005. The retreat will take place at APLA at 611 South Kingsley Drive 2nd Floor. The retreat is from 12:00 pm till 5:00 pm and lunch will be served. All members are encouraged to attend.
 - c. Brian Risley asked all members to review the revised version of the 2005 Goals and Objectives prior to the retreat. Brian states it's important for the task force to decide which goals and objectives are practical and which ones are not. Cinderella reports a revision for Goals and Objectives under Care and Support # 3. New language should state "identify guidelines of care and disseminate this information in an easily accessible format at a date to later be determined." This is an agenda item (parking lot issue) for the HIV commission of Los Angeles. JWCH information needs to be changed; Jill Rotenberg will get this to Terry Knudson. Once the resource guide is finalized it will be formatted to a PDF file and e-mailed to all task force members. Gary Barbagello reports that he has seen two different billboards advertising Hep C, as well as an advertisement in Newsweek magazine. Brian Risley commented that this could be a great marketing strategy and one that the task force might consider at a later date.
 - d. Brian Risley gave an update on planning for the Hepatitis C Summit. This event was originally scheduled for October 20, 2005. However after careful consideration, the committee decided to postpone the event until November 17, 2005. This will allow the task force to mail out all of the invitations, and work out any and all details before putting on the event. Brian also states that since we have a new venue we will be allowed to have the whole event in the Grand ballroom, which means our group won't have to relocate halfway into the event. Brian reports that our budget for this event will be over \$7,000.00, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Grants have been requested from the pharmaceutical companies of Roche, Schering Plough, Gilead and Intermune.
 - e. Alberto Mendoza reports that Gloria Molina has said yes to being a sponsor for the Summit. Dr. Haan and Dr. Sylvestre had both confirmed the October 20th date and have both not yet confirmed the November 17th date. Dr. Fielding has been asked to moderate a panel. At this year's event the task force will be honoring Dr. Neva Chaupette, Assemblyman Paul Koretz, and Homeless Health Care Los Angeles. Alberto asked the task force if we would like Pamela Anderson to give Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa an award or if the Mayor should give Pamela Anderson the award. A motion was made and passed to have the Mayor give Pamela Anderson the award. Pamela Anderson has been approached through the MAC foundation and as of yet has not responded. A yes response regarding participation from the Mayor is still pending.

Eve Rubell asked all members to consider the fees for the tables. In the past only task force members have had tables. Eve is suggesting that non-profits be given tables

for free and private for-profit companies pay a \$100.00 fee. A motion was made and passed that for this year's summit all non-profits who are members of the task force will have access to tables for free and private-for profit companies will each pay a fee of \$100.00. The new deadline for table registration is October 31, 2005. Terry Knudson will e-mail table registration forms to all task force members.

III) New Business

a. Brian Risley passed around a sign up sheet for tasks involved in this year's summit and members signed up for their preferred task.

IV) Alberto Mendoza reported that he and Ricki Rosales met with the State Office of AIDS On September 12, 2005. The purpose of this meeting is to establish a coalition with the various agencies including Drug Policy Alliance, State Office of AIDS, and the City AIDS Coordinator. Some of the items discussed were syringe access and HCV. There is going to be a regional meeting on February 23, 2005 regarding L.A.'s needs. Alberto is asking if the task force wants to be a co-sponsor for this event. Dione suggests that collaborations are always a good idea and made a motion that we co-sponsor this event, the motion passed. Alberto discussed some of the bills that are currently on the Governor's desk. After some discussion from the group, a motion was made and passed that a letter would be written on behalf of the task force in support of the following three bills—AB 296, AB 547, AB 1597.

V.) Announcements:

- b. Monique Collins announced an HIV incarceration meeting that takes place on the fourth Thursday of each month from 1:00 pm till 3:00 pm at Twin Towers. The next meeting will be on September 22, 2005.
- c. Jill Rotenberg announced a Service Provider Network meeting at El Centro del Pueblo in Echo Park at noon on Thursday October 20, 2005. This is an ongoing meeting, which always takes place the third Thursday of each month, and the location varies. For more information regarding locations please phone 213-484-1186.
- d. Dione Claiborne announces several new studies that the UCLA Care center is conducting related to HIV and Hep C including a study for co-infected individuals who are treatment naïve. A flyer was distributed to members, for more information please call 310-577-2273.
- e. Cinderella announced that the Drug & Alcohol Task Force is hosting a speaking engagement entitled "Issues Affecting Our Seniors". They are looking for a Hep C positive individual to speak on the afternoon panel who is over fifty years of age. The address is 435 S. Occidental St. at Precious Blood Church, Wednesday November 2, 2005, from 9:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m..
- f. Brian Risley announced that on Wednesday September 28, 2005 APLA is hosting a Medicare prescription lecture given by local and national experts. The address is 621 N. San Vincente, West Hollywood Park Auditorium from 6:30 p.m. till 8:30.
- g. Prior to the start of the meeting Tracey Cumberland announced a speaking engagement with dinner entitled "Testosterone Revolution" given by Dr. Gary Cohan. The address is 5160 Vineland Ave. at 6:30 p.m. on October 20, 2005. Please e-mail your reservations by October 8, 2005 to tcumberland@modernhealthinc.com.

VI) Adjourn

The next Task Force meeting will be on October 19, 2005 from 1:30p.m. – 3:30p.m.
At: 2330 Beverly Blvd., L.A., CA 90057 213-744-0724