

Philadelphia HIV Integrated Planning Council
Comprehensive Planning Committee
Meeting Minutes of
Thursday, November 17, 2022
2:00-4:00p.m.

Office of HIV Planning, 340 N. 12th Street, Suite 320, Philadelphia PA 19107

Present: Keith Carter, Debra D’Alessandro, Gus Grannan (Co-Chair), Gerry Keys, Clint Steib, Adam Williams

Guests: Sanzida Anzuman (AACO)

Staff: Beth Celeste, Sofia Moletteri, Mari Ross-Russell

Call to Order/Introductions: G. Grannan called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. He asked everyone to drop their introductions into the chat with their name and area of representation.

Approval of Agenda: G. Grannan presented the November 2022 agenda for approval. **Motion:** K. Carter motioned, A. Williams seconded to approve the agenda via a Zoom poll. **Motion passed:** 4 in favor, 1 abstaining.

Approval of Minutes (October 20, 2022): G. Grannan presented the previous meeting’s minutes for approval via Zoom poll. **Motion:** K. Carter motioned, C. Steib seconded to approve the October 20, 2022 meeting minutes. **Motion passed:** 4 in favor, 2 abstaining.

Report of Chair:

No report.

Report of Staff:

S. Moletteri reported that OHP had finished entering the Consumer Survey responses into the system. They would now work on cleaning the data and running a preliminary analysis.

Additionally, S. Moletteri reported that there was an issue with her computer, so she may have issues with screensharing.

Action Items:

— 2022-2026 Integrated Plan Concurrence —

M. Ross-Russell explained that they had received the updates to the Integrated Plan language which addressed the concerns brought up within the HIPC meeting. The concerns were around rapid tester training, especially training for those not receiving AACO funding. Rapid tester training was addressed under Workforce Development; Goal 1; Objective 1. Additionally, the language for rapid testing did not appear within the plan, so this was added under Diagnose; Goal 1; Objective 2. She explained that G. Grannan had also brought up another concern around harm reduction. The harm reduction concern was addressed under Prevent; Goal 2; Objective 1.

All these changes were highlighted within the distributed plan. The plan was distributed via email to the entire HIPC, and OHP heard back from members via email that the updates resolved their reservations for concurrence. During the HIPC meeting, members also voiced that inclusion of training language would resolve any reservations and that they would concur with the plan.

K. Carter felt that the changes represented all their concerns. He asked about next steps if they approved of the language. M. Ross-Russell said, if they were comfortable and they did not have additional concerns, OHP would hold a roll call vote for concurrence. Then, OHP would issue the letter of concurrence that the co-chairs would sign. G. Grannan asked if the CPC co-chairs would sign the letter as opposed to the HIPC co-chairs. M. Ross-Russell explained that HIPC co-chairs would sign the letter of concurrence, as was required by HRSA and the CDC.

A. Williams asked if roll call would be performed at the next HIPC meeting. M. Ross-Russell responded that CPC would vote. OHP reviewed the HIPC discussion and notes, and as decided by HIPC, the final vote for concurrence would be forwarded to the CPC to expedite the concurrence process. The final draft would be sent to the HIPC prior to CPC's vote for concurrence.

G. Grannan was curious to see the outcome around his reservation regarding harm reduction. However, as it stood, he concurred with the plan.

Motion: A. Williams motioned for HIPC to concur with the modified 2022-2026 Integrated Plan, K. Carter seconded.

D. D'Alessandro: in favor
G. Grannan: in favor
A. Williams: in favor
G. Keys: in favor
K. Carter: in favor
C. Steib: in favor

Motion passed: The vote for concurrence with the 2022-2026 Integrated Plan was passed. 6 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

S. Moletteri said that they voted for concurrence, so they would send the letter to all three HIPC co-chairs (L. Diaz, S. Heaven, and E. Thornburg) to sign off on HIPC's concurrence with the 2022-2026 Integrated Plan. A. Williams thanked everyone for their patience and hard work around the plan. C. Steib said it was important to offer input and pushback around these plans. K. Carter agreed and thanked A. Williams for his work on the plan.

C. Steib asked if there was any movement on the PA's State Plan and their request for concurrence from HIPC. M. Ross-Russell said that she talked to the Project Officer (PO) for the State of PA and their own PO, and they found that a letter of concurrence was not required. The State of PA's PO had misread the guidance.

At the HIPC meeting, M. Ross-Russell updated the group that there was also concern around Dr. Obiri's response letter for PA's epidemiological data. Dr. K. Brady was in the process of crafting a response letter to Dr. Obiri.

Other Business:

None.

Announcements:

K. Carter announced that on Friday, there would be a webinar on HIV, COVID-19, and MPV.

C. Steib announced that November 20th was Transgender Day of Remembrance.

C. Steib also announced that World AIDS Day was December 1st. On this day, Penn CFAR would host the Red Ribbon Award and honor L. Diaz and J. Williams. D. D'Alessandro asked if the awards were in person this year. K. Carter and C. Steib were unsure. K. Carter shared an email in the chat for D. D'Alessandro to ask for more details.

D. D'Alessandro noted that she was just getting over COVID-19—she reminded everyone to stay masked at big events. G. Grannan agreed, saying that conferences could often cause spread of COVID-19, so staying masked at such events was important.

D. D'Alessandro announced that yesterday, there was a Resources Roadmap to Recovery webinar that took place. She mentioned that PA State's DDAP's (Department for Drug and Alcohol Program) recently appointed Medical Director presented. The Medical Director, M. Lynch, was a true harm reductionist. G. Grannan was hopeful that there would be more harm reduction approaches and mentality. C. Steib said that on the PA State's level, there was another presentation around syringe exchange. G. Grannan said that last session, PA decriminalized drug testing in a broad way. This bill was useful but did not decriminalize syringe access throughout the state.

K. Carter noted that people could purchase syringes at pharmacies—therefore, he asked where the line was drawn for legal versus illegal. G. Grannan said that outside of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, it was legal to buy them but not legal to have them.

C. Steib added that the person who presented on syringe exchange at the PA State level was R. Scotti. G. Grannan explained that she worked for Vital Strategies but had an office in Harrisburg as well for legislative coordinating. He said if people were interested in what was happening across the state, he suggested everyone look up the Pennsylvania Harm Reduction Network and sign up for their mailing list.

K. Carter asked G. Grannan if syringes for insulin were legal. G. Grannan said they were, because people have prescriptions for the syringes/insulin. K. Carter asked how they would go about changing the legislative language to protect people purchasing syringes. G. Grannan said that R. Scotti and the Harm Reduction Network would work on/discuss this within their next session. Politically, it was unsure which party would lead the House, so this might influence progress in harm reduction policy.

C. Steib announced that the PA Governor signed a law to criminalize HIV and STIs in relation to spitting on a police officer or other actions that could transmit HIV and other communicable diseases. This was House Bill 103 if anyone wanted to look further into the bill. G. Grannan said that this would further prevent people from accessing testing. C. Steib said that this was punishable by up to 5 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. G. Grannan said this would likely be weaponized by sex workers and PWUD like the other existing HIV Felony law.

D. D'Alessandro said the Hepatis C Allies of Philadelphia's Advisory Group made a statement opposing the bill. She did not realize that it was signed into law on November 3rd and was upset to hear the news. She added that the law was not based on science and only contributed to stigma. G. Grannan agreed, noting that even those who were undetectable could still be charged under the HIV Felony Law and the new HB 103. He mentioned that there were advisors who offered information on the impact laws could have on public health.

G. Grannan reported that he was trying to get more information on the opposition against HB 103. D. D'Alessandro shared an ACLU link that spoke on the bill.

A. Williams said this would especially affect protesters, especially in the case that people were pepper sprayed in the face and expelled fluid as a natural respons. G. Grannan agreed.

G. Grannan asked if Prevention Committee would meet this month. C. Steib said they would not, because it was the day before the Thanksgiving holiday. G. Grannan said if Prevention Committee did not meet in December, CPC could discuss and look at the bill in a more comprehensive way.

Adjournment: G. Grannan called for a motion to adjourn. **Motion:** C. Steib motioned, A. Williams seconded to adjourn the November 2022 Comprehensive Planning meeting. Motion passed: all in favor. The committee adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sofia M. Moletteri, staff

Handouts distributed at the meeting:

- November 2022 CPC Meeting Agenda
- October 2022 CPC Meeting Minutes
- FINAL DRAFT 2022-2026 Integrated Plan Goals & Objectives