

**Community Health Services Advisory Committee  
CHIP | Health in All Policies Action Team  
Meeting Minutes  
WEDNESDAY, March 6, 2019**

**Members Present/Representation**

Richard Ragan | Co District 1  
 Carol Thunstrom | Co District 4  
 Carrie Dickson | Co District 7  
 José Tori | County at Large  
 Eugene Nichols | County at Large  
 Jill Stewart | County at Large  
 David Muhovich | City of Saint Paul  
 Hanna Getachew-Kreusser | City of Saint Paul  
 Kerri-Elizabeth Sawyer | City of Saint Paul  
 Regina Rippel | City of Saint Paul  
 Thomas Kottke | City of Saint Paul

**SPRCPH Staff:**

Gina Pistulka | Clinical Services Manager  
 Julia Wolfe | Planning Specialist  
 Kari Baha | Health Educator  
 Cathy St. Michel | Administrative Support

**Guests:**

Alexis Yannerly | Student  
 Brian Eckman | Student  
 Andrew Cherland | Student  
 Dillon Blaido | Student  
 Neil Opare-Addo | Student

The meeting was called to Order at 5:30 p.m. by Gina Pistulka. Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and introductions were made.

A motion was made by Thomas Kottke and seconded by Gene Nichols to approve the minutes as written for January 2, 2019. The motion was approved by affirmation of the committee.

| Agenda item:  | Speaker/Discussion:  |
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| Title X Updates,<br>Gina Pistulka (Clinical Services Manager), Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health | Title X is a federal program that provides family planning and preventive services. Low income families are a priority. Clinic 555 has been a grantee since 1970, and Title X funds 75% of the Sexual Health Clinic’s services. Title X allows us to provide voluntary family planning services without coercion, sexually transmitted disease screening, pregnancy testing and screening. PrEP, nPEP, Hepatitis C screenings and syringe exchange is a risk reduction program. Important in all of what we do is to be culturally competent for people of any context to feel as if they belong and are welcome to receive services.<br>Federal expectation is that we use a sliding fee scale where people pay what they are able. Fees are based on income and family size. Clinic 555 sees many clients who are unable to pay, but we provide service regardless. Minors can claim parent’s insurance, but we will also provide services outside of parent’s knowledge. National reporting of statistics is compared to other Title X recipients across the nation.<br>There is a collaborative planning and education piece. Clinic staff invite clients to review educational materials. We are designing information that is readily digestible, and are looking to add materials in the next year. |

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|              | <p>91% of the patient population is below 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL). 74% below 100% of the FPL. 54% of clients are men, which they are proud of. It is unusual to see this proportion of men participate in health care. The primary location is 555 Cedar street, and they will also do STD and HIV screening in the community.</p> <p>The only purpose in having clients show an ID is to verify that the person is who they say they are. They strive to maintain confidentiality, and the ID is not to elicit whether someone is legally documented. They used to be able to do anonymous testing but they no longer do that, except for needle exchange. The same HIPAA rules apply as with any other clinic. If a client is undocumented they will receive services and staff document that the client did not use an ID. Staff do not ask about legal documentation.</p> <p>On February 22, 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a final rule to revise regulations governing Title X family planning program. Several states have joined to file suit. The new regulations greatly affect family planning clinics. Two recipients of Title X funds are Planned Parenthood and Ramsey County. Planned Parenthood has joined the lawsuit in the state effort to oppose the changes.</p> <p>Gina reviewed each change and the impact on Clinic 555, as shown in her presentation slides.</p> <p>Clinic 555 receives \$750,000 in funding from Title X, which is about 75% of our funding. To comply with the new regulations we would need to have a very separate physical space and billing for Title X services if a facility provides pregnancy termination services or refers to agencies that do. The regulations do not preclude an organization giving options counselling. These requirements are onerous for the providers.</p> <p>Our applications have to mirror what the priorities are for federal regulations during the grant program. These priorities do not always line up, and this will affect programming at Clinic 555. Hennepin County is providing services without Title X funds. Title X is meant to supplement services, even though for Ramsey County it provides a large percentage of our funding. A lot of our patients are uninsured or below poverty. Planned Parenthood has said that they will reject Title X funds if these regulations are in force. If we accept Title X funds, Clinic 555 cannot offer services contrary to the new regulations to any patient, even patients with insurance or who self-pay.</p> <p>We submitted our proposal for renewed funding at the end of January and expect to hear in April if we are funded. We may receive gap funding, but are not sure how that will look. The situation is causing some anxiety about funding.</p> <p>We invited the state to come and speak to this committee, but they were not able to attend tonight. We do not know at this time how the state may respond to this gap in funding to clinics, especially outstate. The state has already submitted the budget, and this type of funding is not in the budget.</p> |

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|   | <p>Our funding is not dependent on winning the lawsuit. We do more screening and preventive care, so we are not affected in the same way as Planned Parenthood. If you have any other thoughts as this plays out in the news please contact public health.</p> <p>When the Attorney General files suit, we will get a copy of it. The committee requested an update and a copy of the suit when it is filed. The committee would also like to know about state level options and what action we can take in the meantime.</p> <p>Gina will find the contact at the state. Members also encouraged those who want more information about services to take the tour of Planned Parenthood clinic on Vandalia and University.</p>  |
| <p>Elections,<br/>All</p>                                 | <p>The next agenda item is election of new leadership. After brief discussion, Kerri Elizabeth Sawyer was nominated as the Chair, and Richard Ragan was nominated as Vice-Chair. Both positions were approved by affirmation of the committee. Thank you, Kerri and Richard, for serving in these roles.</p>  |
| <p>Topics to be Considered for 2019 Meetings,<br/>All</p> | <p>The Doula program and the deteriorating status of African American mothers.</p> <p>Alzheimer’s-friendly communities, and promoting partnerships in the community to be more dementia-friendly.</p> <p>Climate change issues and chemical warfare - who is taking control and what options there are to prepare.</p> <p>The future of healing and prevention - what can we do when the bottom falls out and we cannot solve problems in a conventional way. Teach people what they can do to keep themselves healthy. Kari Baha hosted a Community Healing event in November to bring community members and cultural healers together by providing a space for the opportunity to collaborate, increase social connectedness, and expand the continuum of healing-centered engagement and mental well-being.</p> <p>Hearing from the mayor’s office as to their vision of a thriving equitable community. Ikram Koliso, New College Savings Account Program Manager from the City of Saint Paul Office of Financial Empowerment is a potential contact at the mayor’s office.</p> <p>Special population designation for the autistic community. There is a white paper on it nationally, and we have an opportunity to put a group together and take the issue up with the Wahls administration.</p> <p>Tobacco 21 and teen vaping, and legislation surrounding this topic. We can talk about tobacco prevention/cessation in teens.</p> <p>Immunization and how to educate the community about vaccine.</p> <p>The census and how it affects public health funding.</p> <p>There was mention of a sleep study at the University of Minnesota. Sleep and the effect on overall well-being.</p> <p>Indian health funding being reduced. Know the impact, how much funding will be reduced, and the plan to provide services to the</p> |

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|                 | Indian population if the funding is reduced. What is the safety net? Betty McCollum and Peggy Flanagan are very dedicated to this topic in Minnesota.  |
| Updates,<br>All | <p>Robbinsdale and Arden Hills are taking up T-21 and restriction of menthol. There is a second reading in Robbinsdale on March 19, and in Arden Hills in March.</p> <p>Shoreview passed this legislation, and the other cities are following a similar format.</p> <p>Healthy Communities and Social Services are partnering to host a variety of activities in May for Mental Health Awareness Month. Kari will provide more information to the committee as the date gets nearer.</p> <p>Julia Wolfe is working to provide healthy aging forums. They are being designed in partnership with the community. One was hosted at Hallie Q Brown Community Center in Roseville, and the next one will be June 18<sup>th</sup> for the Indian population. A web page for healthy aging is being planned for Ramsey County website.</p> <p>David Muhovich is hoping that six students from Uganda will be able to attend the April meeting.</p> |

Minutes taken by: Cathy St. Michel

Motion to adjourn (7:30PM) passed by affirmation of the committee.

**Next meeting:** April 3, 2019 – Community Health Services Advisory Committee