



Attendees: Eric Martinez, Rashiemah Birks, Carrie Hollinger, Islande Chery, Sherri Gizzarelli, Alex Ramirez, Danyelle Sheffield (HCSEF), Tiffany Canate (HCSEF)

**Evaluation
Quality Assurance
Committee Meeting**

Facilitator: Steve Hoke

Date: 7/11/24

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: Teleconference

Danyelle Sheffield
Health Planner

1. Welcome/Introductions & Moment of Silence

Eric opened the meeting and stated Steve is not able to attend today, so he will be facilitating. He also acknowledged that this is the first meeting where we are now combining the EQA and Planning Committees into one meeting. Additionally noted that this may not be set in stone, but will be the schedule we follow for the foreseeable future.

2. Review and approval of agenda and meeting minutes

The previous meeting minutes and current agenda were approved by Carrie Hollinger and Islande Chery.

3. Updates

A. Quality Assurance Plan/Indicators

Carrie reported on the performance measures that are in the CQM Plan for the second quarter. Danyelle shared her screen to show the Area 15 Performance Measures visual Carrie created:

- Viral Load Suppression: clients with a viral load of 199 or less
 - 2024 Goal: 80.5%
 - First Quarter: 52%
 - Second Quarter: 49%
 - Carrie acknowledged this goal was met last year, so as more labs come in during the third and fourth quarters, she anticipates meeting it again.
- Antiretroviral (ART) Medication: clients with ART entered into CAREWare

- 2024 Goal: 87%
- First Quarter: 81%
- Second Quarter: 81%
 - Carrie acknowledged there is a bit of a lag for the information getting into CAREWare, but as the numbers get added, the percentage will go up.
- Medical Visit Frequency: clients with two or more provider visits, at least two months apart
 - 2024 Goal: 79%
 - Quarter 1: pending due to glitch in system
 - Second Quarter: 36%
 - Carrie stated anticipating higher numbers in the third and fourth quarters as clients come in for their second visits during the second half of the year.
- Mental Health Visits: clients with at least one mental health visit
 - 2024 Goal: 20%
 - Quarter 1: 3.1%
 - Quarter 2: 3.2%

Carrie informed the group she hasn't been able to go into provider offices in June due to state meetings, but she plans to reach out to them with the hopes to go in and gather more information next week.

B. Linkage to Care

Linkage To Care updates:

Carrie stated that Alex and Channel are both in other meetings, so she will be providing the Linkage to Care updates, as well as the Test & Treat, PrEP, and PEP updates. For the month of June, eight (8) new HIV cases reported. Two (2) were linked into care, and two (2) were previous positives from another county but just moved here. There were five (5) data to care cases that were updated with recent labs and send back to the State for closure. Additionally, there were twenty-three (23) previously positives that were linked into care, and a total of sixteen (16) people were tested in June due to the after-hours testing.

C. Activity Tracker

i. Test & Treat, PrEP, PEP

Carrie reported that for the month of June there were four (4) new Test and Treat clients, and six (6) previous Test and Treat clients. There was one (1) new PrEP client, (4) previous PrEP clients, and three (3) nPEP clients. Additionally, there were 298 HIV screenings, and 95 STD screenings done in an outreach setting.

D. HIV Prevention Activities

Islande shared a couple updates on recent and future HIV prevention activities happening in the community:

- June 3rd testing event at American Best Value Inn where twenty (20) people were educated and eleven (11) individuals were tested.
- June 18th and 25th testing events at the Council on Aging of St. Lucie County where eighteen (18) people were educated and eleven (11) individuals were tested.
- July 10th testing event at the UP Center where twenty-five (25) people were educated and twelve (12) individuals were tested.
- July 18th testing event at the Sunset Inn Motel in Fort Pierce
- July 27th Back to School Expo with Indian River State College (IRSC)

Carrie shared a couple updates for Prevention, as well:

- June 27th was National HIV Testing Day, so the Department of Health partnered with Walgreens in all the different counties in the area to provide rapid HIV, syphilis, and Hepatitis C testing. All four (4) county health departments (CHD) participated, and there was a total of forty-seven (47) people that were tested and twenty (20) home test kits that were distributed.
- Martin County DOH is still conducting their once a month, late night testing event, and are looking at the possibility of offering this at the Indiantown location in the future.
- Midway Specialty Care reported they are continuing to provide mobile testing and pop-up testing in the community and have been successful doing so despite the extreme heat.

Eric asked how the home test kits work – whether the health departments in our area have enough or if there are so many given out each month. Islande answered and noted from her personal knowledge, the goal is to go out into the community and actually do the testing. But, there are instances when some clients may not be available or don't want to get tested in front of others, so they will take the home kit instead. Additionally, she shared DOH St. Lucie goes through approximately two (2) boxes a

month at a minimum, but that there are times when that number is higher. Eric thanked her for that context and shared that he has heard from the state side that certain areas have reported experiencing a shortage of home kits and condoms, and there have been communication on the potential to decrease the amount of condoms purchased. Islande shared that to her knowledge there have been no shortages of either things in our area, and that there are a lot of home kits and condoms in their logs facility, where a staff member within the Linkage department manages the supply.

E. Other Updates

Eric asked if there are any other updates.

Carrie mentioned the invitation to negotiate was released on June 20th and that it has been sent out to those on the listserv for the statewide FCPN Planning Committee.

Eric mentioned a conversation that was had during the most recent CHAG meeting on how the current climate makes it difficult to have certain conversations surrounding HIV and sexual education. He hopes that this will improve in the future, and reiterates the importance of receiving factual education from a trusted source.

4. Needs Assessment (*if applicable*)

Eric mentioned he brought a conversation to the FCPN Needs Assessment Committee suggesting to revisit the client satisfaction survey so that areas know that clients have the opportunity to share their thoughts on how they are being serviced in the community across the board – for example, medical Case Management, HOPWA, providers, etc. The Needs Assessment Committee voiced it's something they will look into and Eric says he will keep an eye on it and let us know if he hears anything additional.

5. Open Discussion

RECORDING FOR WHOLE SECTION BELOW

Eric reminded the group that Natasha and Jackie are the two co-chairs for the Planning Committee, but that because Jackie is on leave, and that Natasha and Steve could not be here today, he was filling in for them. Moving forward, he told the group they can expect the agenda to be a bit updated so that the EQA Committee has its own section and that the Planning Committee will have its own section. This will help keep it streamlined so that it's clear as to who will facilitate each portion of the meeting. He also mentioned a co-chair for the Membership Committee is still needed, and that hopefully we will be able to bring in more people interested in participating in the future.

Eric shared from the state side, the FCPN was reviewing the Integrated Work Plan and asked for new ideas or areas that could be tapped into to get increased numbers in testing, and what could be done for education. Eric mentioned having access to the 50-plus program from the National Minority AIDS Coalition and also NAAN which has the Train the Trainer program that can be done virtually or in-person. Additionally, he voiced that hopefully we will be able to receive the updated version to the 50-plus program during the upcoming United States Conference on HIV and AIDS. If this happens and Eric is able to get a copy of it, he mentioned

the possibility of holding an educational webinar where he could share the training with the group so that we can learn how the community is impacted.

Eric also shared a conversation he had with the FCPN on increasing awareness of our CPN and HIV education and testing. During this conversation, Eric learned that a lot of areas, particularly Part Bs, that also struggle with member retention and ensuring there is an engaged Planning Body. He thanked everyone for their work, collaborative efforts, and dedication to our area.

Meeting adjourned at 11:28 AM.

Notes