

Minutes

**Evaluation
Quality Assurance
& Planning
Committee Meeting**

Facilitator: Steve Hoke

Date: 11/12//20

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: Teleconference

Monica Adelphouse
Health Planner

Attendance: Daniel Pearce, Dawn Jones, Deborah McCray, Tara Woodruff, Danyelle Sheffield, Mary Sirmons, Eric Martinez, Greg Bowman, Renella Mitchell, Jacqueline Clarke, Monica Adelphouse

1. Welcome/Introductions & Moment of Silence
2. Review and approval of agenda and meeting minutes.

3. **Updates**

A. Care Connection

Dawn: Care Connection had 8 previously positive clients enroll for the month of October, two newly diagnosed enrolled, and a total of 9 clients enrolled in Ryan White.

B. Test & Treat, PrEP, PEP

Dawn:

Indian River – Oct. Test and Treat – 2

PrEP – 1

PEP – 0

Martin – Oct. Test and Treat – 2

PrEP – 0

PEP – 0

Sept. Test and Treat – 0

PrEP – 1

PEP – 0

Okeechobee Oct. Test and Treat – 0

PrEP – 0

PEP – 0

Steve: One thing that was discussed was the clients that have gotten started on Prep, have they come back and gotten their blood work done, so that they

can get the next 30 days of Prep medication? Has a program been put together for that?

Dawn: Well, I do know the providers are having their staff follow-up with those clients. Because it is under prevention and we haven't received any funding for navigation services, none other than one of our contracted providers, I don't see navigation happening for three of the four counties anytime soon. So, the staff, the existing staff, is following up on these clients. The issues, some of the issues are, I guess, are funding insurance, to pay for the labs, and there are some mechanisms in place in some of the Health Departments that can pay for the follow-up lab. As far as the private providers are concerned, I believe they may operate on a sliding fee scale. I'm not sure what the real issue is, none other than what I'm hearing, which is that they just do not want to come back for follow-up services. Patients think that want to be on Prep and start but I guess they get tired and do not want to come in. We can formulate strategies when we do our regional meetings to see how we can continue to address it and encourage these folks when they start to continue prep services.

Daniel: I was wondering, what the demographic is: gay, white men, black men, Hispanic men, women, or all groups not returning for prep services?

Dawn: As far as I know, it's all groups. The numbers are very low for black women and men, engaging in prep services.

Daniel: I was in a meeting for Ready, Set, Prep and you can sign up to part of it from the Health department. Maybe we can contact them for a solutions. We don't see that problem in Brevard County.

Dawn: Ready, set prep is through Palm Beach County. I was just on a conference call, and we are actually waiting to receive information on that program.

Steve: I think we need to educate more so they'll now know that they need to stay on Prep in order to not become positive.

Dawn: When the providers offer Prep services, they have a whole training before they can actually start providing Prep. And they have a guide that they follow and a series of questions that they share with those clients; they have to do a mini assessment.

C. Needs Assessment

Monica: we have the foundation from the previous Needs Assessment from 2016. So, what I'll be doing is working on it just to do some quick modification, presenting it to the table on November 17th to the executive. I review to see that the questions apply to 2020 and may include things about COVID if it applies. I will also include an online format via Survey Monkey.

D. Other Updates

No updates presented.

E. Work Plan

Steve: The updated workplan was sent out to everyone by Monica.

G. Open Discussion

Steve: Are the health departments testing for STDs and HIV?

Dawn: Yes, and so are our community partners.

Mary: Midway is also going back to the Up Center to do testing.

Daniel: Have we thought about telling people that Descovy for Prep is not as harmful as Truvada?

Dawn: We have prep brochures are now available in the four counties that they distribute to the community and folks that come in for services. So the information is out there, just not sure how we can convince these folks to obtain the services, and that's something that the prevention folks, regional prevention staff in the 4 counties, contracted provided can address. I will add it to the regional meeting to discuss.

Mary: If the providers know who they are, the people that are not coming back, is there a Survey Monkey that can be sent out to those people who are not coming back to ask a question, like are you having a problem and if you're not coming back, why are you not coming back to try to get Prep?

Dawn: That would be something that the providers would have to do. Unless that is something that the outreach committee would take on. It is something that can be done as region but it is not the role of the Consortia to create a Survey Monkey for Prep.

Steve: Whole Family Health Center has someone that tracks down, just like our Care Connection, whenever someone doesn't come in for appointments and everything.

Eric: During the conference of the United States, HIV and Aids, there was a discussion pertaining to several parameters that they have picked up on, pertaining to individuals, who are not coming back into Prep. And, one of them had to do with one of the Pharmaceuticals advertisement; they made it sound like if you miss treatment that it was ok and just go back. They also saw that one of the co factors were those high risk, especially in those in substance abuse, or that they had some kind of internal family crisis. That lessens their chances of going back.

Steve: Thank you.

Monica: Martin County has been doing walk in HIV testing since July, and that they'll be having a world aids Day event in December when she has a date. Also, if anyone has any information that needs to be sent out to the body, please send it to me and I will do. Please add share in the body of the email.

Steve: We will be having out next meeting in December. The Bylaws will be at 9am, Membership at 10am, and EQA at 11am.

Meeting Adjourned