

## HIV Prevention and Care Board Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2022; 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

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### MEETING COMMENCED AT 07:00 P.M.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Alicia Belay, Valentina Asiedu, Jolene Keplin, Carsen Beckwith, Jennifer Pelster, Isabelle Haring, Cassandra Plante, Randy Woehl, Abiola Fashanu, Alexi Murphy, Tara Zettel, Christopher Wegner, Brynn Hastings, Jason Lane, Gordana Cokrlc, Lindsey VanderBusch

### WELCOME AND CHECK IN

- Introductions and icebreaker

### UPDATES FROM THE NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (NDDOH)

- At-Home Test Collection
  - Binx Health provides at home test kits which test for HIV, HCV, HPV, Chlamydia (CT), Gonorrhea (GC), Syphilis
    - Commando, ad agency, providing a LGBTQ2S+ focused media campaign
    - [Nddoh.mybinxhelath.com](http://Nddoh.mybinxhelath.com)
  - Update as of 6/16/22
    - 139 test requests, 36 returned and tested
    - Of these, 3 positive for CT or GC
      - 2 rectal CT, 1 oral GC
      - All 3 report STI testing with providers using urine only
    - PrEP: 41 ordered, 13 tested; 4 individuals initiated PrEP through Canopy
      - Others using program to have free labs as no insurance coverage
    - Spatial Analysis
      - Seeing rural uptake as was the hope with the program
      - Field epidemiologists working with local health units in rural areas refer clients to this if services unavailable
- TAVIE Red
  - HIV specific app supporting people living with HIV in their health journey
    - Can help provide better support and education, improve their healthcare journey
    - A fully digital platform will help address the rural healthcare challenges of people living with HIV

- Ability to function as an online support group while maintaining anonymity
- Currently in procurement process with NDDoH
- Please review program and provide any feedback as able

## PEER-TO-PEER UPDATE

- Have met with 3 other community members along with Canopy and came up with an idea of what peer navigator training will look like. This was approved and sent out to AIDS United
- When this is sent back and implemented will begin the process of training

## FEEDBACK MEETING OVERVIEW

- **Stigma reduction** has remained a key priority
  - Includes reduction in healthcare settings, schools, community events, etc.
  - Handling of contact tracing thoughtfully while integrating cultural humility
- **Education** felt like it was missing, especially related to awareness
  - Desire to find ways to meet, educate youth populations, meeting people where they are and how to educate if we can not be in schools
- **Building Relationships** appeared as a key theme
  - Includes relationships with nontraditional partners (churches, social services, tribal health, etc) as well as partnerships already existing (harm reduction sites, counselling and testing sites, etc.)
- **Priority Communities**
  - Includes indigenous, youth, black/African American and New American/Foreign Born/Immigrant (NFI)

## MENTIMETER SURVEY

- Do these themes reflect the key areas for the state thus far?
  - 9 Yes, 0 No
    - Feedback stressed need for education in youth, sex education, provider education in rural areas, population specific education
- What has changed since initial planning that we may want to add to the plan or work on as a board?
  - Increasing in-person education, meeting as a board in person, teen pregnancy appears to be on the rise in some areas

## LET'S TALK PRIORITIES

- Stigma
  - Creating resources on sexual education to destigmatize conversations among young populations would be a good project for the board and speaking with/at schools
    - Participants from board: Jason, Cassie
- Education

- Creating and sharing on social media – perhaps a TikTok
    - Participants: Jason, Cassie, Tara, Isabelle
- Building Relationships
  - TAVIE-Red – what were the boards thoughts on this information from NDDoH
    - Need to push for PLWH to receive services for free phones, etc. so they can get access to programs and services like this that require technology
    - Will have some board members try out the app to give feedback
    - Participants: Randy, Jason, Jason
- Priority Communities
  - Outreach to indigenous communities, rural outreach – Developing a list of community leaders/partners
    - Jolene, Tara
  - Mobile Education Unit – Tara Zettel
    - Hoping to have this deployed and at the college (Dickinson State) during the harvest festival (9/17/2022) with free HIV testing and STI outreach
      - Looking at partnering with food trucks/etc. for incentives for testing
      - If any board member interested in helping with this event, or just visiting, reach out to Tara

#### **RECRUITMENT, IN-PERSON MEETING AND NEXT STEPS**

- Looking at end of September early October for an in-person meeting
  - Watch emails for information, travel reimbursement will be available
- Would like to reach out to recruit more board members
  - During outreach, education and conversations, give the information on the board and make them aware of the opportunity to serve

**MEETING CONCLUDED 08:30 PM**

Meeting Notes Transcribed by:

Brandy Chap, Administrative Assistant