



MINUTES

SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT
Southern Nevada HIV Prevention Planning Group
March 19 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

SoN HPPG VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Lyell Collins, State of Nevada	Connie Rose Shearer
Preston Nguyen Tang, State of Nevada	Xavier Foster, Southern Nevada Health District
Robert Thurmond, Planned Parenthood	Leana Ramirez, Avella
Chris Reynolds, Alto Pharmacy	Cheryl Radeloff, SNHD
Tiana Jones, Planned Parenthood	

SoN HPPG VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Todd Dickey, The LGBT Center	Dana Beck, Trac-B
Pastor Philip Washington	Robert Nagele, UNLV

NNHPPG Voting Members Present

Caress Baltimore, NDPBH	Elizabeth Christenson, UNR
Gwen Taylor, ACCEPT	Jen Howell, WCHD
Heather Holmstadt, WCHD	Irene Rose, Northern Nevada HOPES
Jennifer Bennett-AETC	Lyell Collins, State of Nevada
Nedy Tollerstad	Preston Nguyen Tang, State of Nevada
Steve Daugherty, Northern NV Community Member	Robert Harding-UNR
Scott Benton	Victoria Young, AETC

NON-VOTING MEMBERS & GUESTS PRESENT

Juan Rivera Jaca, OLAS!	Monica Chaidez, Chicanos por la Causa (CPLC)
Steven Page, Northern NV	Carlana Pablo, UNLV
Renato Liboro, UNLV	Andre Wade, Silver State Equality
Christopher Mejia, AHF	Talia P, UNR
Christian Kelley	Raychel Holbert, SNHD
Samantha, OLAS!, UNLV Student	Dr. Jason Flatt, UNLV
Rachel Kaiser	Frances Ashley-CCHD
Davina Conner Otoror, Preventon Access	Kashona Carew-SNHD
Micah King, SNHD	Ayana Elliott-Gilead
Cassandra Martinez, SNHD	Samson Khouchanh, UNR, Intern at DPB

I. CALL TO ORDER - NOTICE OF POSTING AGENDA

Chair Cheryl Radeloff called the Southern Nevada HIV Prevention Planning Group meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. The Affidavit of Posting, Mailing of Agenda, and Public Notice of the Meeting Agenda were executed in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

II. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Cheryl asked for a moment of silence in memory of Joyce Castro from the SNHD office. Jennifer Howell from Washoe stated they would be sending a plant in memory of Joyce.

III. INTRODUCTIONS OF NNHPPG AND SoNHPPG GROUPS, MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Everyone introduced themselves along with their respective organizations as shown above in the attendee section.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment is a period devoted to comments by the general public on items appearing on the Agenda. All comments are limited to five (5) minutes. Chair C. Radeloff asked if anyone wished to address the group pertaining to items appearing on the Agenda. Seeing no one, she closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA (for possible action)

A motion was made by Lyell Collins, seconded by Chris Reynolds and was unanimously carried to adopt the August 2nd, 2019 agenda as presented.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Items for action to be considered by the Southern Nevada HIV Prevention Planning Group which may be enacted by one motion. Any item may be discussed separately per group member request before action. Any exceptions to the Consent Agenda must be stated prior to approval. There were no changes.

VII. REPORT/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

The Southern Nevada HIV Prevention Planning Group may take any necessary action for any item under this section. Members of the public can speak on action items after the group's discussion and prior to their vote. Once the action item is closed, no additional public comment will be accepted.

a. APPROVE MINUTES/SOUTHERN NEVADA HIV PREVENTION PLANNING GROUPS MEETING: January 22, 2021

Cheryl Radeloff stated that with the sudden loss of Joyce the January minutes have yet to be completed. She asked for an extension. A motion was made by Chris Reynolds to hold the January 19, 2021 minutes and to have them sent via email once complete. Seconded by member Preston Tang and carried unanimously approved.

b. LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS – TWO HIV RELATED BILLS: SB275 AND SB211:

- i. SB275 HIV Modernization – this bill would make HIV non-criminal which would allow to match the law to science.

HPG group was amenable to review and decide whether to support the bill. Lyell Collins stated he was fine to offer a letter of support, seconded by Robert Harding; yet Leana Ramirez stated the bill should be reviewed before endorsing it. Connie Rose Shearer and Chris Reynolds agreed stating there are some changes to be made.

Andre stated that Senator Harris is planning a meeting at the end of March and all amendments were due by Monday, March 22. Working with the coalition is to ensure language is what it should be for public health. Andre posted the link for the Sign-On in Support Letter:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfQfDOexwZs0Y2sOddif0r9Qx7iY11VLR81IRhqaPsa9sbG6Q/viewform?gxids=7628>

Advisory Task Force on HIV Exposure Modernization website:

http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/HIV/dta/Boards/HIV_Modernization_Task_Force/

Jennifer Howell suggested that everyone can respond individually.

Lyell withdrew the motion to offer the letter of support.

Cheryl asked if we were voting on the entire bill or each proponent. Suggested to change the language removing AIDS and replacing with HIV. Chris Reynolds made a motion to support the bill on the intent as we know it; seconded by Robert Harding; approved by a unanimous vote. (Lyell, Leana, Tiana, Xavier, Connie, Cheryl, and Preston) – Motion carries; Jennifer and Cheryl will put out a letter and submit to the group.

- ii. SB211 - Testing for HIV – Change in that clinicians screen all demographics for HIV – to be presented March 23, 2021.

Here are the main points the bill requires:

- a. The bill requires that a physician, physician assistant, APN or midwife who provides or supervises the provision of emergency services in a hospital or a primary care to a patient who is at least 15 years of age to ask the patient if they wish to be tested for STDs including, without limitation, HIV. If the patient answers in the affirmative, the providers are to help the patient obtain a test.
- b. Exceptions for the test or the referral for the test include if the patient is being treated for a life-threatening emergency, has recently been offered or undergone such a test or lacking the consent to testing.
- c. If provider does not comply with the requirements they are subject to professional discipline with the reason that the age 15 and over is from a 2019 recommendation from the US Preventative Services Taskforce which recommends clinical screening for adolescents and adults ages 15 to 65 for HIV. They also recommend younger and older individuals should be screened who are at risk.

It should be on the website where individually you can either support or disfavor of the bill.

Lyell stated there will be amendments to the Bill by requiring emergency rooms to do testing, if asking too much it may result in pushback from hospital associations. Also, the Bill was never written as an STD bill, but an HIV bill, but it now sounds like it's targeting STD not HIV. Per Jen, the bill was submitted as in equal measure offering both especially regarding HIV so people will be screened for HIV and get care, and for STDs simply because of the burden of the disease in the state. On the MPAJ call earlier and there was opposition due to the punitive nature of not offering the test, as it was changed to not being a misdemeanor; however, providers could receive a sanction from their licensing body. Some providers don't follow the Nevada Revised Statutes.

Leana Ramirez made a motion to support the bill and its intent and idea as we did for the previous bill. Chris Reynolds seconded the motion.

Provide a letter with consequence to it; there is no sanction for clinicians who don't follow the guideline of the statute.

HIV needs to become part of all clinician/healthcare provider dialogues with all clients.

Leana Ramirez motioned to support bill in intent and idea; seconded by Lyell Collins.

Robert Harding questioned why only HIV instead of all STIs. Jennifer Howell stated the bill is not submitted as HIV; making language that HIV is as consistent with STI.

Leana Ramirez was amenable on her first motion now with the amended language that HIV and STD have equal language; Chris Reynolds seconded. Northern NV and Southern NV all voted yes, motion carries. The drafts will be created and sent out to NELIS and the group, and all were encouraged to reach out individually.

- iii. Cheryl Radloff asked everyone to review the attached senate bills and share with organizational contacts, work colleagues and personal contacts.

VIII. **INFORMATIONAL ITEM/DISCUSSION ONLY**

a. **Update: Legislative Considerations/Efforts and NNHPPG and SoN HPPG possible letters of support and individual action - (Jen NNHPPG)**

PrEP Bill - still a BDR - which would allow pharmacists to dispense PrEP medication under a standing order from the Chief Medical Officer for the State.

AB192 to add Gonorrhea and Chlamydia, Hepatitis B & C to the requirements same as syphilis; testing in the 1st and 3rd trimester and syphilis first trimester/ first visit and third trimester upon delivery.

NELIS/Nevada Legislature "Share your Opinion with Your Legislators"

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/81st2021/>

b. **Overdose Prevention Programs Presentation – Robert Harding**

There is pending legislation, BDR 978 – see PREZI link

Overdose prevention, also known as consumption sites or safe injection sites, is like harm reduction with the main goal being to provide a clean safe space for somebody to use pre-obtained substances in the care of someone who can provide overdose prevention and lifesaving intervention if needed. These sites vary from clinical, sterile concrete and metal spaces with dividers to some being homier, almost warm, all providing sterile and clean, unused supplies. The benefit is that communities have seen a reduction of people using in the streets.

Within the presentation research is included along with links if anyone is interested in specific details. In summary, the safe sites provide syringes and sharps containers, methamphetamine and crack pipes and some sites offer testing supplies such as fentanyl strips. The US federally still doesn't approve of these, but 9 states besides Nevada that have legislation on this subject now. Philadelphia tried to open a site, but an attorney tried to stop it by issuing a cease and desist through the Supreme Court who ruled in favor of the Philadelphia project. The Supreme Court stated it is not a violation of federal laws and thus sent it down to a lower court. Unfortunately, the lower court states it conflicts with what is broadly known as the crack house statute containing odd legalities regarding physical building spaces for safe injection sites.

Regarding Nevada, Assemblyman David Orentlicher, who is also a law professor at the UNLV Boyd School of Law, has worked with harm reduction entities, Trac-B, Rise and UNLV. He has

put together legislation for the syringe service bill regarding protection of records, retention schedule of records, maintain and protect persons using the program. The BDR went in beginning of March so it may not make this session, but it is trying to allow a pilot program to be implemented. The pilot can only be in communities or counties with $\geq 100,000$ population such as Clark and Washoe. The hope is overall benefits to the communities so the programs can be introduced statewide. A study was done involving an overdose prevention program and it showed no crime in the area and no increase in crime around the facility. Some areas showed a reduction of theft crime, improperly discarded needles, and public nuisance crimes. If the BDR gets through to legislation, it can be pushed into the session. There are supporters to make it happen.

Chris Reynolds thanked Robert for the presentation and asked if he would speak to the Southern Nevada Harm Reduction Alliance leadership committee.

c. Statewide and Jurisdictional Subcommittees/ Joint Ad HOC Committees – Leana (see attachment titled *SNHPPG Committees*)

Southern NV has been working with ad hoc committees to ensure we make an impact this year. Some things rolling and we're out in the communities and invite Northern NV to join some of the committees. Chairs are currently held by Southern NV, yet the committees would like to have chairs held by Northern NV. A review of committees and chairs was referenced.

UPDATE ON CONDOM ASSESSMENT

Access to condoms including Medicaid access and insurance coverage along with education for patients, pharmacy, and providers to inform what is available and how to access the condoms.

An invitation to join committees was made and interested persons can email Leana. You don't have to be a member to be on a committee, only to be a chair.

Goals for the committees – Immediate, medium, and long term and the pie in the sky goals. By the next meeting, if each chair would present their goals/visions for the committee and community and implementation/actions to bring the goals/visions to fruition. Community representatives are encouraged to participate as well. The committees may overlap each other, but it's a good way to get the word out so we can make changes in our communities and keep moving forward for positive impact.

Jen would like to send an email out to see who's interested in participating.

Connie Rose thanked SoN HPPG for welcoming her and her ideas. She is very excited.

d. Empower Change – HIV Testing and Training Program - Cheryl

The training will be held next week, January 28-29, 2021 at The Center. It will be a hybrid training via Webex and in person; however, on the last day attendees are required to attend in person to practice running of the controls, finger sticks, and running the test. This portion of the training should be 1-3pm. The next training will be held in May, TBD.

e. The Center's Youth HIV Advisory Group update – Robert Thurman

Christopher Delaney will email updates.

f. Public Health Initiatives and Updates – Jen (NN HPPG)

- i. NV Integrated HIV Plan - Lyell – in discussions with Part A of the program and starting the process for the unmet need for Ryan White which is a requirement under Ryan

- White. The CDC and HRSA will have guidance in June. If the focus is on unmet need, a needs assessment should be done at the same time.
- ii. Current Plan - Elizabeth – working on annual report for 2020 monitoring which should be complete by end of this month then will discuss with the internal work group regarding presentations and engage stakeholders. If you have received a request, please complete the survey. Lyell stated they had to repull the data due to changes made wherein error were identified. The surveillance programs working on the profile had changes to make in the data due to this.
 - iii. HIV Modernization Coalition/ Task Force – Steven – Next meeting is Tuesday, April 6 at 5:30pm and it is open to the public. The bill was already discussed during the legislation topic. The Task Force is meeting Wednesday, March 24 at 5pm.
 - iv. Harm Reduction Coalition – Awareness Day is August 31, 2021.
 Next meeting – March 26 at 10:30am
 If agencies are hosting events for Awareness Day, SNHRA will promote them via FB landing page. SNHRA will collect proclamations, meeting with the mayor via virtual meeting, speaker panel and an interview with a person who is dealing with substance use issues and concerns about overdose from their view, and then with a family member to hear from their view point.
 Summer Series – kickoff May 7 with Harm Reduction Awareness Day; hosting workshops on safer injection, wound care, and hepatitis prevention.
 - v. Collect 2 Protect (C2P) – Testing kit mailers for those who don't have access to health facilities or transportation, free except for gonorrhea and chlamydia tests have a fee. Working to allow kit pickup at community partner sites.
 Washoe County has a mail order condom distribution program available statewide.
<https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/programs/collect-2-protect/#:~:text=Collect2Protect%20is%20a%20simple%2C%20convenient,testing%20kits%20are%20also%20available>. Received approximately 300 inquires with about 100 in state. Packages cost about \$3 to mail for budgeting purposes. Many were sent to the Las Vegas area.
 Valentine's Day social media post was done and there were over 50 requests.
 - vi. OD2A/L2A – Overdose 2 Action and Linkage 2 Care – it's part of a large grant where we give Narcan™ (Naloxone) trainings and kits to our community, and academic detailing to providers. L2A has a team that works with CCDC and community members who have reported overdose or substance use who would like assistance in varying capacities to resources whether it's rehabilitation, housing, or medical care. If the group is interested, we could get a presentation on the programs.
 Chris Reynolds added that in February for National Black Awareness Day, the consortium partnered with L2A for an outreach in West Las Vegas providing ARTAS prevention services and take-home HIV testing kits. It was a great event and good to be in the community again. We not only did testing, but connections to get people on PrEP, treatment services and other referral services with Trac-B.
 - vii. COVID – Vaccines will be available for all persons age 15 and over with an underlying condition starting March 22, and starting April 5 anyone 16 and over will qualify to receive the vaccine. Cheryl stated there may be an opportunity to offer STD/HIV testing at the COVID testing sites, but it is still being explored. COVID funding will not offer anything related to HIV/STD testing.
 - viii. Rapid StART – Raychel – During the recent, two-day learning session, Raychel and Cheryl presented a storyboard, collaborated with other organizations and will be

gearing up with the Rapid StART Academic Detailing. Several members were involved in this session, so we welcome your feedback.

Prevention isn't just about testing and that is what Rapid StART is about; it's an initiative to start positive persons on antiretrovirals as soon as possible. Currently there are three providers in Southern NV doing Rapid StART; SNHD, Huntridge and UMC.

- ix. Public Health Detailing/ Academic Detailing – Cheryl – persons trained on how to start new academic detailing programs much like drug reps visit providers but instead of talking about drugs, it will be about public health programs. Cheryl and another colleague completed the training through San Francisco, and an organization out of Boston and Harvard. We want to expand the PrEP and PEP academic detailing. Several DIIS from Southern and Northern NV have been trained in Academic Detailing. If anyone or organizations are interested in Academic Detailing, it can be requested. There is a cost associated with the training so funding should be considered. NarCAD holds an institute which runs about \$75 and also check out their website which hosts a wealth of resources.

g. Community Outreach and Listening Session with Olas! – Leana

Juan – Olas! LGQTB Latin Collective - hosts different events every Friday at 6:15pm at The Center for the Latin community but all are welcome. Olas! would like to participate, be a resource and community resource to the group.

Leana and Cheryl attended an Olas! meeting on February 26. They spoke to members to gather information on what is out there, and what perceptions were about, and overall to collect more information from the community.

Three questions were written on giant post it notes and invited everyone to write down what they wanted, needed, knew, etc.

1. Access – Where do you get:
 - Condoms – The Center, AHF, UMC
 - Testing - The Center, AHF, SNHD, doctor
 - PEP and PrEP – Huntridge Family Clinic
 - Medications – Doctor, Walgreens, Walmart, Boca Pharmacy
2. Barriers – What are some barriers in your healthcare:
 - Testing limitations – STI only once per year
 - Transportation
 - Work hours vs. Clinic hours
 - Free Care/Cost of treatment
 - Hormone management
 - Transgender sensitivity – healthcare forms, pronouns, office staff knowledge/training
3. Absence – What is missing in our community for prevention and care:
 - RESPECT
 - STI education in schools including resources for LGBTQ+ students
 - Free healthcare services
 - HIV education
 - Sexual laws
 - Healthcare systems need changing
 - Weekend hours for healthcare

Very eye opening and insightful. It was great to hear how our community partners offered so much to our community. These are all goals that any of the sub-committees can take on.

Thanks again to Olas!

h. Agency/Organization Updates – Robert Harding

Gwen – Hosting HERR (health education risk reduction) groups via Zoom and if clients want to join, she will send email notifications. Meetings are every Wednesday from 3-5pm. First and third Wednesdays are informal; chatting with clients and allowing them to vent. Second and fourth Fridays have speakers from pharmaceutical companies, doctors, etc.

Gwen is with Accept.org. which was founded in 1995 through her church after two parishioners died from HIV/AIDS related illnesses, but no one wanted to tell the pastor, Gwen's husband. They started HIV education and prevention from 1955-1999, then created a 5013C in 1999 and began working with Jen. Funding for prevention started to dwindle so they applied for intervention/care funding and secured grants from Ryan White and CARE. Services expanded in 2018, and now we offer non-medical case management, health education, risk reduction groups and transportation for clients to obtain services whether doctor visits, food banks and the like. Positive Action is the other program and is not Ryan White. It is a substance abuse coalition and we work with the grade school children grades 4th and 5th, teenagers from the juvenile detention center, and we do a 12-week positive action program for the younger kids and 6 sessions with the teenagers. It has been a blessing and we are celebrating 25 years.

Planned Parenthood – Tiana Jones – partnered with SNHD and doing iCircle which is the free oral HIV testing kits. Early stages and trying to figure out where to be. A friend has been assisting me because with COVID and the restrictions, it's harder for the younger generation to get to testing places. Tiana has started "bar" outreach, a more mobile approach because the epidemic isn't just from 9-5. Gwen asked if the kits were home, self-tests and if Planned Parenthood in the North was offering the same. The kits are home, self-collect. Unfortunately, there is no connection with the North Planned Parenthood; sometimes there's a crossover with C4, C3 work, but it depends. It was suggested to reach out to Trac-B, and Connie from HIV Modernization stated they have a monthly newsletter and asked if Tiana would like to do a blog with her. Davina is starting a program in which she seeks out sex workers to offer condoms, and other items they may need including testing kits. She asked for a partnership as these interactions take place late in the night and are a bit dangerous. They will connect offsites.

Renato Liboro, UNLV Department of Psychology, research lab is CHAMPION Mental Health Lab (Community Health, Advocacy for Minority Populations, Immigrants, Other Newcomers). The lab is partnering with many organizations within HPPG and if any organization is interested in doing research with CHAMPION, to please reach out. Research is very important in what we do.

Jason Flatt – Research in the LGBTQ+ aging space and people aging with HIV, but also at risk for dementia. Submitted for a grant, still waiting to hear back, that will focus on community based, participatory research, and building an advisory board while conducting research with the community. Happy to support the HPPG organizations and try to find students to assist so please keep them in mind. Currently working with Dr. Libaro on two projects approved by UNLV Institutional Review Board; one project is about HIV and resilience among middle age and older men who have sex with men, and the other project will be on HIV resilience among older adults. Side note – Dr. Libaro prefers his nickname Ranger.

Cassandra Martinez – PrEP navigator with SNHD – we have PrEP linkage for people who have no insurance for \$20-\$60. If the client doesn't have funds, they can make payments; but they will not be denied services. This includes the labs, provider visit, and medication. They can help anyone who needs the help. Cassandra works with all clients with a focus on transgender individuals, sex workers and Latino immigrants and Spanish speaking as well.

Chris advised that the BioMedical HIV Prevention Summit is the end of March and will be virtual. Registration closes today, March 19. (www.biomedicalhivsummit.org) The conference will cover current PrEP strategies and future strategies as well as possible vaccines. The NuvoRing is coming back and looking at different microbicides and all topics related to HIV prevention. Jen Howell will be participating this year although Washoe isn't doing PrEP and asked if anyone would speak with her regarding PrEP afterwards.

Gwen – Nevada Faith and Health Coalition – started about nine months ago. Tory from Ryan White Part B helped get it going and Kelly Morning, information in the chat. If any organization wants to reach out to the faith community, please contact Kelly. Meetings are every 2nd Tuesday, 4-6pm.

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Washoe Public Health District – Sonya Smith – new supervisor for the Washoe Public Health District HIV Program. She was a DIS, then worked in the TB program, and then a supervisor overseeing the COVID testing.

i. Past and Upcoming Trainings: STI Update AETC, Public Health Detailing Institute, etc – Cheryl

Victoria Young – Training within primary care and Stigma and Training on PrEP within Primary Care – held annual update trainings on February 22 and March 6.

Next trainings – April 27 and May 12 with NV Primary Care Association - one training is about HIV and stigma and the other about stigma and addressing stigma in primary care. The other is an advanced PrEP Implementation into primary care settings. Pacific AETC-Nevada training list: <https://paetc.org/about/local-partners/nevada/?ER2=55>

EHE Initiative – next work group is Monday, April 5 from 12-1pm. Open invitation. Email Victoria to receive invitation victoriay@med.unr.edu

PowerPoints from STI updates trainings – can those be available to everyone – Victoria will ask if the presentations are available to those who did not attend the trainings.

Cheryl and Sandi will notify/update the group for Southern NV trainings, and Jen will do the same for Northern NV.

NV Modernization Coalition is partnering with Gilead on a cultural competency training May 20 and 21.

Academic Detailing Training - Several DIIS from Southern and Northern NV have been trained in Academic Detailing. If anyone or organizations are interested in Academic Detailing, please

contact Cheryl Radeloff at radeloff@snhd.org. There is a cost associated with the training so funding should be considered.

NarCAD holds an institute which runs about \$75 and check out their website which hosts a wealth of resources. Jennifer Bennett offered assistance with bringing in presenters for the trainings.

j. Location of past SoN HPPG agendas and minutes - Cheryl

Southern Nevada past agendas and meeting minutes can be located here:

Jen Howell will post location of Northern meeting minutes

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gwen – having a fundraiser on April 30 and donations are welcome. She loves this group and would like to get to know everyone better.

Cheryl – Thanks to all for attending the joint meeting. Well overdue and hopefully joint meetings can be more frequent. We are stronger together than separate. Hopefully we can get our rural colleagues more involved with prevention.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Jen Howell asked for a motion to adjourn.

Member Robert Harding motioned to adjourn, and Preston Tang seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.