



# Continuum of Care Committee MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, March 14, 2019, at 10AM-12PM  
Willing Heart Community Center  
555 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102

Present	Excused Absences	Unexcused Absences
1. Ann Bagchi, PhD (Phone) 2. Kendall Clark 3. Kasny Damas (non-voing) 4. Cezar Dumago (Phone) 5. Wanda Figueroa MD 6. Imad Ibrahim 7. Vieshia Morales 8. Dominga Padilla, MD 9. Mario Portilla 10. Sharon Postel 11. Lauro Rocha 12. Nancy Scangarello 13. Masiel Guzman	14. Richlyn Burnham	15. Pat Moore

**1. Welcome and Moment of Silence**

Mario Portilla, COC Chair, welcomed all in attendance and called for a moment of silence to be observed for all those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

**2. Roll Call**

Mario Portilla, called the roll. Quorum was established.

**3. Public Testimony**

Dr. Figueroa is recruiting a nurse (LP or RN) for her program.

**4. Approval of Meeting Summary for February 14, 2019**

The meeting summary from February 14, 2019 was reviewed The meeting summary was approved with edits.

**5. Standing Committee Updates:**

- **Comprehensive Planning Committee:**  
None.

- **Research and Evaluation Committee:**  
None.

- **Community Involvement Activities/Community Conversations Committee:**  
None.

**6. Old/New Business**

- The Core Service Standards for Oral Health Care will be emailed to members for review prior to the next scheduled meeting on April 11, 2019
- A Training Presentation was held during meeting sponsored by Gilead Sciences. The presentation was given by Dr. Felipe Arias, an Infectious Disease Specialist from Philadelphia. Dr. Arias spoke about the correlation between the opioid epidemic and the spread of Hepatitis C via Intravenous Drug Use as well as the potential risk of undiagnosed HIV among these populations. Dr. Arias emphasized the need for a strategy to reduce the spread of Hepatitis through screening, treatment, prevention and risk reduction of Hepatitis C.
- There were two persons nominated for the Vice-Chair position: 1) Vieshia Morales and 2) Richlyn Burnham. Prior to the next meeting, members will vote by email and the new Vice Chair will be announced at the next meeting in April.

**7. Administrative Issues**

- None at this time.

**8. Announcements**

- Kendal Clark announced that the State is proposing a \$63 million dollar cut to the HOPWA funding.
- Kendall also talked about patients who are experiencing long-term survivor syndrome, a new mental health disorder, which is being called the AIDS Survivor Syndrome (PTSD). He stated that further discussions need to occur about this disorder.

**9. Next Meeting:**

The next Continuum of Care Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 10AM, at Willing Heart Community Center located at 555 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Newark, NJ 07102.

**10. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.