



**Research & Evaluation Committee
MEETING SUMMARY**

Monday, September 19, 2022, from 10:01 AM to 10:50 AM
 Videoconference via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86359953177>
 Teleconference: (929) 205 6099 / Meeting ID: 863 5995 3177

| PRESENT | EXCUSED | UNEXCUSED |
|--|---------|--|
| 1. Ann Bagchi, PhD/DNP (Chair) 2. Corey DeStefano (Vice-Chair) 3. Kasny Damas 4. Sharon Postel (Non-Voting) 5. Debbie Mohammed | | 6. Natalie Muhammad 7. Providencia Rodriguez 8. Warren Poole |

Guests: Denise Brown

PC Support Staff: Carla-Ann Alexander and Victor Peralta

1. Welcome and Moment of Silence

- Dr. Bagchi called this meeting to order at 10:01AM. A moment of silence was observed for those who have passed on from HIV and COVID-19, as well as those living with both viruses.

2. Roll Call

- Peralta conducted roll call. Quorum was established later in the meeting.

3. Public Testimony

- There were no public testimonies.

4. Review Action Steps

| Action Steps | Responsible Party |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Administrative Mechanism | Recipient's Office/NEMA Support Staff |
| 2022 Epidemiologic Profile Report | State of New Jersey |
| 2022 Needs Assessment Draft Summary | Consultant |

5. Approval of the Meeting Summaries from July 18, 2022, and August 15, 2022

- The meeting summaries from July 18th and August 15th were sent out electronically. The meeting summaries were both motioned to be approved. The prior meeting summaries for July 18th and August 15th were approved.

6. Updates from other Committees—PC Support Staff gave the updates.

- **Continuum of Care (COC)**
 - The COC last met on September 8, 2022.
 - Members completed the Section 5 Situational Analysis and submitted this section to the CPC.

- Members reviewed/submitted the following service standards: Substance Abuse Residential and Substance Abuse Outpatient.
- The next COC meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 10AM via Zoom.
- **Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC)**
 - The CPC last met on September 9, 2022.
 - Members worked on the 2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan.
 - The next CPC meeting will be held on Friday October 14, 2022, at 9:30am via Zoom.
- **Community Involvement Activities Committee (CIA)**
 - The CIA last met on August 24, 2022.
 - Members discussed nominations and requirements for Co-Chair and Secretary.
 - A discussion took place regarding recruitment and engagement strategies.
 - Alexander gave an overview of all NEMA committees.
 - The CIA's next meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2022, at 5pm via Zoom.

7. Old Business

- Needs Assessment Report—Sharon Postel
 - The NEMA 2022 Needs Assessment draft summary of results is still being worked on.
 - One takeaway from the survey results is that non-virally suppressed individuals are not receiving medical care. Top issues include no updates in CHAMP with correct viral load information, substance abuse, not attending medical visits, and not coming into care due to other conflicts. One recommendation given at the last COC meeting was to have an automated feed of viral load data from agency EMRs to CHAMP. In terms of following up with clients, looking into individual agencies and considering what systems they have in place is a step. Postel mentioned that these issues are not going to be an easy fix, but something that needs to be focused on. Getting non-virally suppressed individuals into care should be prioritized.
- Final 2022 Epidemiologic Profile Report—Sharon Postel
 - The request for the data was sent out.
 - The State Health Department published data from June 2021 on their website.
- Administrative Mechanism—Sharon Postel
 - The assessment was sent to the Recipient's Office and awaiting a response. Once received by Support Staff, Postel will create a report.
- National HIV/AIDS Strategy 2022-2025
 - The NHAS At-A-Glance document was emailed to the committee. This section summarizes their goals, objectives, and strategies.
 - The two key goals for Ryan White Care and Treatment are linkage to care within thirty-days (NEMA is at about 75%) and viral load suppression to 95% by 2025 (NEMA is close to 90%)
 - Postel stated that it is time to narrow down who specifically is not being virally suppressed, what are the other issues currently, is the data being uploaded correctly, and how can we get people to remain adherent to their medications? The challenges for the populations are the youth aged 18-24, adolescents aged 25-34, along with others.
 - Bi-monthly reports, with the help of Clinical Quality Management Workgroup, are submitted to the State Health Department using HIV Care Continuum Coordination (H4C) Tables. Postel can share this data with the committee if requested.
 - Mohammed suggested that having and LGBTQ+ friendly services are a clinic level will be helpful. She shared a link for the "Annual and durable HIV retention in care and viral suppression among patients of Peter Ho Clinic" and "Same-Day Medical Visit Increases Viral Suppression, Peter Ho Memorial Clinic" <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30676360/> and <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33373385/>
- Review/update calendar/workplan for FY 2022-2023

- The updated workplan will be emailed to committee members from Support Staff.

8. New Business

- Unmet Need Framework—Sharon Postel
 - This is a requirement for the FY22 Grant Application.
 - The information is based on HIV surveillance data provided by the State's Health Department. This information gets reported to the CDC and HRSA. The data presented was from 2019.
 - Indicators:
 - Late Diagnoses
 - ❖ Newly late diagnosed individuals coming into the system who have had a diagnosis of AIDS with a CD4 under 200.
 - ❖ Surveillance data shows 21% of individuals coming in for HIV testing for the first time are diagnosed with AIDS.
 - ❖ Based on CHAMP data, the percentage of people coming from Ryan White has decreased.
 - Unmet Need
 - ❖ Number of people living with HIV diagnosis who have not had a medical visit or lab test.
 - ❖ Surveillance data shows an unmet need of 25.9%.
 - In care, not virally suppressed
 - ❖ Number of people living with diagnosed HIV who are in care and whose most recent viral load test result was 200 copies or more.
 - ❖ Surveillance data shows 22.4%.
 - It was required to establish three priority populations. The Unmet Need Framework's priority populations were based on age rather than race, ethnicity, or gender. The ages listed were 13-24, 25-34, and 35-44. A reporting template chart for the target populations was shown to the committee.

9. Administrative Issues

- There were no issues.

10. Announcements

- There were no announcements

11. Next Meeting

- The next REC meeting will be held on Monday, October 17, 2022, at 10AM via Zoom.

12. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.