

**Connect 2 Protect Los Angeles**  
**Homeless Youth Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**  
**February 13, 2013**

**Members Attending in Person at the LA Gay & Lesbian Center:** Jeffrey Lim (CHLA), James Moran (LAGLC), Cassie Najarian (Colors), Dave Reynolds (TVFS), Pandy Percival (JWCH); **Via conference call:** Milton Smith (CHLA), Sara Train (LAGLC)

**Update from Research and PrEP Working Groups**

Jeffrey Lim completed training on February 6, 2013 on the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (see SCO #121). People were receptive and the turnout was good. Organizations working in PrEP research are trying to share recruiting best practices and avoid overlap. 6 of the 7 LA-area studies include a preventive behavioral component for those enrolled in the trial. There is availability of additional training for specific agencies, including coalition members.

**Update from LAHSA Homeless Count**

Dave Reynolds (SF Valley), James Moran (Hollywood) and Cassie Najarian (West Hollywood) all participated in the general homeless count conducted by LAHSA during the last week of January 2013. The Youth Count occurred earlier and no agencies present were aware of any volunteer recruitment for the youth count. It was also noted that some of the LAHSA count volunteers were driven in police cars.

*Future SCO ideas:* (1) partnering with LAHSA Youth Count Planning Committee to improve methodology of 2015 count and (2) improve gender markers collected (Currently: M/F/Unknown)

Milton Smith will follow up with LAHSA regarding the gender methodology and Jeffrey Lim to learn more about background of Planning Committee

**Update on SCO #121**

See updated and completed action steps for SCO. Coalition partners continue to report challenges contacting agencies who attended this summer's Showcase to provide follow-up support. There fore a networking component among service providers and youth and service providers will be an important focus of the Capacity Building Summit in April.

The Summit will be held at the LA DWP Customer Service Center (4030 Crenshaw Blvd, LA, CA 90008; Contact: Brenda Baldwin, 213.367.9673) before the C2PLA Working Group's general meeting to increase outreach efforts coalition-wide.  
Coalition

Suggested topics and themes for this and future Summits include: Life Skills Development, Health and Wellness, Stigma and Discrimination, and Barriers to

Services. Each agency present will talk with clients and conduct informal needs assessment between now and next meeting.

**Update on SCO #123** [previously numbered as #122]

See updated and completed action steps for SCO. Pandy Percival provided flyers to members on an HIV vaccine trial for MSM occurring in the LA area. Subcommittee members were largely unaware of the trials and concerns on coordination with PrEP studies and service provides, including C2PLA members, were raised. Pandy also reported that the vaccine trials do not have an educational or behavioral component. This SCO will be slightly amended to include “PrEP research studies and vaccine trials” to ensure agencies understand how to support youth who are recruited for multiple trials.

**IDs and HIV Testing**

The LAGLC and many other county agencies are under increased pressure to require identification to get tested. It was suggested this is related to many of these agencies being publicly-funded, that it is harder to link those without ID to care, and the state’s move to confidential, names-based reporting only (no more anonymous.) Subsidized IDs are now \$8 and a receipt that one recently applied for the ID will suffice for Financial Screening Officers with linkage to care.

The Subcommittee will connect with the C2PLA Care and Testing Workgroup at the next Working Group meeting.

**Trends and Incidences**

Given the highly fractured nature of the LAPD by region/precinct, continued tensions with homeless youth in certain parts of the city continue to be an issue. Milton Smith will invite LAPD Officer Sandra Moura to the next (and subsequent) Working Group meetings as she has been identified as an ally able to make change at LAPD.

**Community Announcements**

April 10 is National Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness Day—C2PLA will be supporting and individual agencies are encouraged to market and participate as they can.

The Village Family Services is still recruiting LGBTQ and allied youth to be Youth Advocates with their DMH-funded Project Q. Contact Dave to find out more.