

C2P Los Angeles Coalition
Care & Testing Subcommittee

March 19, 2013

AIDS Project Los Angeles

Meeting Minutes

In attendance:

- **Co-chair:** Grissel Granados
- Maggie Babb – Bienestar
- Lenee Richards – Planned Parenthood
- Hilda Sandoval – AltaMed (phone)
- Natalie Sanchez – AltaMed (phone)
- Miguel Martinez – CHLA
- Martha Chono-Helsley – RLA

I. Announcements and External Meeting Updates

a. Planned Parenthood

- Will be hosting a clinic without walls in collaboration with St. John's on May 20th from 11am-3pm

b. Bienestar has a new center in Van Nuys and the director is Simon

II. National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

- a. CHLA had an Open Mic event through their HIV prevention programs and in collaboration with Project Legacy. There were about 35 participants in attendance
- b. Downtown Magnets High School had a health fair where agencies can table. C2P is supporting this event through the Schools subcommittee.
- c. REACH LA participated in the DMHS event and had a kiki day for their youth
- d. PPLA also supported the DMHS event and had their youth advocates talk about the day at different schools
- e. Bienestar had HIV testing all day at all of their sites
- f. C2PLA received proclamations from the city of Los Angeles, the county, and board of supervisors, and other entities recognizing the day. This was a great accomplishment for the coalition.

III. STI Testing – The question asked was: what is your agency doing to link youth to STI testing?

- a. AltaMed and PPLA currently provide STI testing at their sites. Children's Hospital is currently in the process of being able to provide multiple morbidity testing and APLA was just approved earlier this week to start providing multiple morbidity testing.
- b. AltaMed mentioned that they do not have STI testing at their location where they have their CDC-funded services and that it is a struggle to get youth who are interested in getting tested for everything to test for HIV without testing for other STIs as well. They are interested in being able to provide STI testing however they received messaging from the county that it would not be possible. CHLA offered to provide them with the letter they drafted to request multiple morbidity testing. Paulina Zamudio will be invited to talk more about how sites can provide STI testing through their DHSP contracts.
- c. REACH LA does not currently provide multiple morbidity testing however they are interested in partnering up with PPLA to have "suitcase clinics" also referred to as "clinic without walls." L. Richards will be following up with RLA to see how they can collaborate. Bienestar was also interested in setting up a formal partnership with PPLA

to refer their clients to get tested for STIs as they currently do not provide STI testing either.

IV. Youth Standards of Care: HIV Testing

The "Testing" section of the Comprehensive HIV Plan was reviewed and areas were identified where recommendations could be made for working with youth.

- a. The plan talks about providing HIV testing based on geographical data, which is great, however this should also include targeting specific subpopulations of young people (ex: YMSM, trans youth, etc.). The LTC data from ATN 093 as implemented in Los Angeles, showed that about 60% of the youth who were newly diagnosed young men were infected through sex with other men.
- b. Youth continuously voice their need and desire for STI testing and the STI rates continuously show a high representation of youth; therefore integrated testing should be a best practice for all county funded contracts. If they are not providing STI testing themselves there should at least be a protocol to actively link youth to STI testing at the nearest clinic.
- c. Young people should receive a basic level of counseling during their testing visit. The conversation does not always have to be directly about their HIV risk behaviors but can be a positive conversation about sexual health and sexuality. Counseling should be opt-out for youth.
- d. When youth test positive for HIV they should be referred to a Linkage to Care specialist or a peer navigator that will ensure that the young person is linked to care.
- e. HIV testing providers should have adolescent development training if they are working with youth in order to best meet their needs.
- f. School based clinics should provide STI testing, including HIV testing.
- g. LA County should have a youth-specific Partner Services protocol to ensure that youth are appropriately linked to Partner Services in a manner that is respectful of the unique situations youth may be in.
- h. Next meeting will focus on Linkage to Care. Raenisha Brown will be present and an invitation will be extended to the TLC+ Workgroup to participate. Maggie will invite Eddie from AHF. Craig Vincent-Jones will be invited once again.

V. Nominations

- a. There are still openings for co-chair of the C&T subcommittee. Participants agreed to co-facilitate meetings and rotate. The first person to volunteer was Martha.

VI. Next C&T meeting: May 21, 2013

Next working group meeting: April 26, 2013