

# **DC Greater Washington STD Community Coalition Meeting**

## **Minutes**

*Location:* DCPCA  
1411 K St NW 4<sup>th</sup> floor conference room

*Date & Time:* April 12, 2007, 10:00 a.m.

*Attendees:*, John Heath, Tranita Gillis, Colleen Crowley, Daniel Ehlman, Melissa Sellevaag(DCSTD); Anne Wiseman (MTA); Irwin Royster, Keanna Faircloth (PPMW); Stephen Hazel (NOVAM); Precious Calloway, Arsie Solomon (MEE Productions); Martha Andom ( Arlington Co Health Dept.); C. Anita Robinson (co-chair)

Meeting Called 10:15am

### **1. Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes**

**Minutes approved without change by voice vote.**

### **2. Coalition Subcommittee Updates:**

a. Outreach Subcommittee update: Ms. Sellevaag reported that the outreach subcommittee met at the end of March and discussed several outreach options. One idea was to use mobile vans to conduct outreach at various “hot spots” throughout the city. Contact has been initiated with a cbo regarding the mobile unit. The subcommittee decided it would also like to participate in youth PRIDE by providing testing. The Youth PRIDE coordinators suggested that the coalition team up with a cbo providing testing that day. Mr. Hazel of NOVAM reported that his agency will be there testing on their mobile unit and we can partner with them. Ms. Sellevaag also reported that DOH will have a presence at Black Pride and Capitol Pride but the department is still working out the payment details so nothing is confirmed at this time.

b. Ad Hoc 501 (c) 3: Mr. Ehlman sent his regrets from Mr. Linsky who was unable to attend the meeting. The Ad Hoc committee has met and is making progress on the steps required. Mission statements will be reviewed and voted on today, the DC Bar has been contacted and they will be able to find the coalition a pro bono law firm to assist on the articles of incorporation. Mr. Ehlman requested that coalition members continue to identify possible board members. Finally he stated that a final version of the name will need to be decided on.

Mr. Ehlman distributed three possible mission statements for the coalition to review and vote on. He requested that members return the mission statements with their choice circled. He will share the results at the next meeting.

c. Public Policy Subcommittee: Mr. Ogusky reported via email that he submitted the op-ed piece to several newspapers for publication in April and has not heard from them at this time. He stated that if he does not hear from them by the week of 4/16 he will move forward with submission to other publications.

### **3. Discussion: School Based Screening Project Update and Next Steps:**

Mr. Heath reported that the process continues to move forward. Meetings have occurred with key stakeholders and support has been obtained in all cases. There has not been a meeting with Dr. Janey of DCPS at this time but a letter is being sent from Dr. Pane of the Health Department to Dr. Janey to obtain his support. Mr. Heath is hoping that the letter will prompt a meeting. Mr. Heath expressed some concerns related to the political uncertainty of the mayoral takeover of the schools and the potential impact it could have on the project. He requested a meeting of the subcommittee to discuss next steps and is optimistic that the project will move forward in September with implementation.

### **4. Essay Contest Update:**

Ms. Sellevaag reported that funding for the essay contest has been secured through Gen-Probe and Amerigroup. The awards ceremony is set for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11am and we are still securing items for the goodie bags. If any member has items they would like included or could donate please let Ms. Sellevaag know. She did report some concern on the involvement of the school students as it has proven challenging to obtain access to the schools to promote the contest. Ms. Sellevaag reported that the flyer went out through the HIV/AIDS office at DCPS as the contact people in student services are no longer working there. Mr. Heath requested that the coalition help to promote student involvement. Coalition members reported that they will discuss the flyer with their students and youth and encourage involvement.

### **5. MEE Productions**

#### **Precious Calloway and Arsie Solomon**

Ms. Calloway thanked the Coalition for time to share about the “Be on the safe side” campaign. The campaign is a social marketing campaign funded by the Department of Human Services and Income Maintenance Administration to raise awareness about teen pregnancy, change norms and values related to discussing teen sex, promote abstinence and encourage parent/child dialog around teen sexual health. They are in the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the campaign. Ms. Calloway explained that they train peers to do education and outreach in the community, conduct focus groups to test all marketing tools, hold community forums to encourage dialog around teen sexual health, and create and market materials to help educate teens and parents about the risks related to teen sex. The campaign engages community partners to distribute the materials through resource centers and spread the word about events related to sexual health throughout the community.

Ms. Calloway stated that the next community forum is on May 9<sup>th</sup> and participation by community members is encouraged. Publicity for the forum will occur through radio and print media. At this time they have over 200 community partners.

## **6. Community Calendar/Member Announcements**

- Mr. Hazel announced that NOVAM will be having a battle of the bands at Little River United Church of Christ on Sate April 21<sup>st</sup> from 6-10pm. In addition their annual fundraiser is that night at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria. NOVAM also has a case management position open, contact Mr. Hazel for more information.

-Elva Anderson sent information on the CNMC “Kicking off the summer health fair” on Friday June 15<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to contact Elva regarding having a table at the event.

-Mr. Royster announced that PPMW will be having a candidates forum on Thursday April 26<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. The youth have invited the Ward 7 candidates to discuss how they plan to decrease the rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea in Ward 7.

-Dr. Robinson announced that the Society for Adolescent Medicine has an annual award that is given to an organization working with youth and young adults. She is seeking potential agencies to be nominated for the 2008 award.

## **7. Meeting Evaluations**

Adjourn at 11:25am.

**Next meeting May 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at DCPCA**