



CPG

Houston HIV Prevention Community Planning Group

August 2005

The community
planning process
must
actively
seek out
community
participation.

(Guiding
Principle #6 of HIV prevention
community planning)



“ Health Departments receiving federal prevention funds through CDC were asked to share with representatives of affected communities and other technical experts, the responsibility for developing a comprehensive HIV prevention community plan using a process called HIV Prevention Com-



A CPG member's impressions of the National HIV Prevention Conference

(We interviewed Vickey McIntyre about her experience at the 2005 National HIV Conference in Atlanta, GA June 12 -15.)

How long have you been a member of the CPG?

I've been a member of the CPG since September of 2004 and an external member since 2001. I had often attended CPG committee meetings and functions prior to becoming involved in the CPG.

Why did you want to be a member of the CPG?

Because of my experience and expertise in working with youth, I realized there is a need to plan age appropriate and culturally appropriate services for youth in order to protect young people from HIV/STD. Becoming a member of the CPG would allow me to research and identify gaps in programming needs for adolescent HIV Prevention. There is a need for data collection on various aspects of youth services as well as HIV/STD issues affecting our youth.

I am willing to serve as a voice for the community to increase awareness and address the needs of young people who are at risk for and living with HIV infection. The CPG is the cornerstone of HIV prevention in Houston by influencing public HIV/AIDS policies and programs that impact HIV within our communities.

Which committee do you serve on?

I am member of the Community and Member Relations committee.

Can you tell us about your networking experiences at the National HIV Conference?

This was a wonderful experience that offered me a valuable opportunity to interact with researchers, physicians, health-care workers, community groups and non-governmental organization (NGO) representatives. A number of participants gathered to hear a range of

presentations and assess priorities for the year ahead. Representatives at the conference included people from numerous agencies and national programs that represented public and private organizations whose interaction, cooperation and coordination were crucial to successful efforts to prevent HIV and AIDS in the United States.

Was this your first HIV prevention conference?

This was my first National HIV Prevention Conference and was a remarkable experience for me. I was impressed by the courageous volunteers and seriousness of the presenters. Their passion and dedication to this cause were personified by their active involvement in the fight against the spread of the HIV infection.

Did it meet your expectations?

This convention surpassed my expectations. It allowed me the opportunity to hear from governmental and community partners in HIV prevention about effective prevention approaches and research findings among

If you have been to other conferences how did this one compare?

This national conference was unique in its sole concentration on HIV prevention and brought together a variety of individual in the HIV prevention arena.

What do you consider as the more interesting aspects of the conference?

I experienced some of the most memorable and productive parts of the conference in the exhibit hall that featured displays by HIV prevention providers and vendors from around the country. The NGO Village was interesting because it included exhibits from non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations. The conference materials were exceptional. I received a program book that contained helpful information about the conference venue and listed all conference activities by day, time, event and location. This made it very easy to decide on the subject category and pres-

(Vickey McIntyre continued)

entation to attend each day. The cultural events featured musicians and dance performances by two youth groups. The two groups were extremely talented and trained in performing arts. The Freddie Hendricks Youth Ensemble of Atlanta (YEA) performed the opening session on Sunday and HARMONY Atlanta's International Youth Chorus performed on Wednesday at the closing session.

Were there any topics that were discussed that you found interesting?

I attended several Adolescent Focused HIV Prevention Programs. However there were a variety of great topics discussed at this conference. A few of the interesting topics were as follow:

- Best Practices for Reaching and Engaging Youth in HIV Prevention and Care
- Randomized Clinical Trials of Motivational Enhancement of Substance Use Treatment Among Incarcerated Adolescents: Reduction in Sexual HIV Risk Behaviors Among African American Adolescent Females
- Adaptation of Healthy Relationships for HIV Positive Youth in Baltimore.
- School-based HIV/AIDS Education Policies and Programs
- Comprehensive Approaches to School-Based HIV Prevention and Sexuality Education
- Fifty States- K-12 School Policies on HIV/AIDS, Sexuality and Abstinence Education
- Models of Comprehensive Integration Programs
- STD/HIV Risk within the Transgender Population
- Routine HIV Testing & Care in the Correctional Setting: Inmate Experiences

Did you learn anything new about HIV prevention while at the conference?

I've always known that a comprehensive approach must be used to prevent the further spread of HIV/AIDS. This convention reminded and reiterated to me that prevention remains our best hope for a world without this devastating disease. As a community we must strengthen our prevention strategies so people at risk for HIV or living with HIV can continue to receive needed prevention services.

Do you think it was useful as a CPG member to attend? Do you think you are better prepared to participate in the CPG process?

This was a very useful experience for me as a CPG member because I believe it better equipped me to share and learn about the latest knowledge regarding HIV strategies and what works in HIV prevention.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Houston Department of Health and Human Services or its representatives.

The United States Conference on AIDS is coming to Houston September 19 - October 2, 2005

The largest and most widely attended gathering of HIV/AIDS service providers in the country – the Ninth Annual United States Conference on AIDS (USCA) – will convene in the city of Houston, Texas for the first time ever! The mission of the United States Conference on AIDS is to increase the strength and diversity of the response to the AIDS epidemic through education, training, new partnerships, collaboration and networking.

Texas Host Committee

A Host Committee of community volunteers has been established to help the conference reflect the spirit of Texas. It will also sponsor special events for enjoyment of the conference participants. The 2005 USCA Texas Host Committee along with the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) are offering opportunities for individuals, corporations and agencies to showcase their products, services or information.

We want the rest of the country to know that we care about and support efforts to decrease the spread of HIV/AIDS. To successfully portray Houston and Texas in the manner that we would all like to see it portrayed, there will be a celebration of life to remember those who have died over the years as a result of this pandemic; also there will be a Texas Size and Style B-B-Q for the event participants (and CBO/ASO staff who wish to purchase tickets). Please contact the Texas Host Committee should you have any questions or need additional information. We look forward to your attendance, participation and support.

For information contact:

Marlene McNeese-Ward
Co-chair, Texas Host Committee
713-794-9307

or
Brenda Thomas
Co-chair, Texas host Committee
713-794-9113

The National Minority AIDS Council

The National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) was founded in 1987 to develop leadership within communities of color to address challenges of HIV/AIDS. Today, NMAC is an association of more than 4,000 AIDS service providers, hospitals, clinics and other groups assisting individuals and families affected by the AIDS epidemic. For the last five years, NMAC has operated the largest annual conference on HIV/AIDS held in the United States. The conference is of such prominence that 10 federal

health agencies and 14 prominent national organizations co-sponsor the content of the meeting.

The Ninth Annual United States Conference on AIDS will be held

September 29-October 2, 2005

Hilton Americas Hotel

1600 Lamar Street

Houston, Texas 77010

For room reservations, please call

800-222-9923 or 713-739-8000

Fax: 713-739-8007

To register contact NMAC at

202-483-6622

or visit

www.nmac.org

Volunteers Needed !

The Texas Host Committee needs to recruit approximately 250 volunteers to help with the conference. There are many areas where assistance is needed such as assembling conference packets, monitoring workshop and sessions as well as helping with

onsite registration. If you volunteer you will be allowed to attend one day of the conference for free. To volunteer, contact Sharon Carter at 713-873-4157 or sharon_carter@hchd.tmc.edu.

Look forward to seeing you at the 2005 United States Conference on AIDS!
Call (202) 483-6622, or visit us online at www.nmac.org, for more information.
Registration Deadline: September 2

Place
Stamp
Here

Houston Department of Health and Human Services
Bureau of HIV/STD Prevention
Community Planning
5th floor
8000 N. Stadium Dr.
Houston, Texas 77054

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

**Cut along dotted line.
Fill out the reverse side.
Fold, Stamp and Mail!**

CPG Members

Jesse Carter
 John Foreman
 Nelson Gonzalez
 Lanita Hale
 Ray Hill
 Jim Hutchinson
 Barbara Joseph
 Leonard Kincaid
 Tina Megdal
 Beau Mitts
 Terence O'Neill
 Jereme Scott
 Sister Mama Sonya
 Amana Turner
 Steven Walker
 Soroj Bahl
 Frederick Ezeka
 Brenda Harrison
 John Humphries
 Vanesia Johnson
 Tanya Makay

Vickey McIntyre
 George Worthington
 Samuel Robinson
 Terinee Townsend
 Ray Watts
 Gloria Moreno
 Marlene McNeese-
 Ward
 Pat Carroll*
 Linda Hollins*
 Jan Risser*
 Darcy Padgett*

* external member



There were more persons living with HIV/AIDS in Houston than in any other metropolitan area in Texas as of the end of 2003. www.tdh.state.tx.us/hivstd/stats/pdf/qr20034.pdf

Call 713-794-9020

To learn where to go for HIV and STD testing, support, information and treatment.

For the calendar year 2005 the Houston HIV Prevention Community Planning Group is scheduled to meet the fourth Thursday of each month from 3 to 5 p.m. at 303 Jackson Hill. Please call 713-794-9375 for more information.

Name _____
 Mailing address _____
 Phone(s) () _____, () _____, () _____
 E-mail _____

How would you like to get involved?

You can become involved with the Houston HIV Prevention Community Planning Process in many ways depending on the amount of time you have to contribute and your current desire for involvement. Check any that might interest you. We will contact you soon!

Non-voting participation:

Attend meetings, spread the word about CPG meetings and events, volunteer to help community members attend meetings and help in many other ways. Just ask!

You can also become a voting member of one of the CPG sub-committees such as:

- Prioritization Committee** - this committee helps the Houston Department of Health and Human Services select the populations that will receive priority for HIV prevention funding in Houston.
- Prevention Resources and Needs Committee** - this committee helps the Houston Department of Health and Human Services identify the needs of the community for HIV prevention.
- Quality Assurance Committee** - this committee evaluates the effectiveness of the HIV Prevention Community Planning Process.
- Community and Member Relations Committee** - this committee helps the Houston Department of Health and Human Services promote the CPG, recruit new members and address membership needs.

You may also want to consider Full CPG membership

Full CPG membership - Full membership requires you be a member of at least one committee and attend the main CPG meeting each month, serve as a liaison to your community and act as a constructive voice for the concerns of your community.