



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



Visit us online: <http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

Get in touch: hivcomm@lachiv.org

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Consumer Caucus

Hybrid* Meeting

**In Person & Virtual*

Thursday, March 9, 2023

2:00PM-4:00PM (PST) **note new meeting time*

Agenda and meeting materials will be posted on
<http://hiv.lacounty.gov/Meetings>
under "Other Meetings"

REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED + SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION IN SPANISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES NOW AVAILABLE VIA CLOSED CAPTION FEATURE WHEN JOINING VIRTUALLY VIA WEBEX. CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE INFO.

If you are a person living with or at risk of HIV, we invite you to be a part of a unified effort to help improve HIV prevention & care service delivery in Los Angeles County

TO ATTEND IN PERSON:

510 S. Vermont Avenue, Terrace Conference Room, Los Angeles 90020
Validated parking is available at 523 Shatto Place, Los Angeles 90020

TO ATTEND VIRTUALLY:

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=m52fb20ae2fe29426a471cf9c62268ec4>

MEETING PASSWORD: CAUCUS

TO JOIN BY PHONE: +1-213-306-3065 **MEETING #/ACCESS CODE:** 2592 252 9847

LIKE WHAT WE DO?

Apply to become a Commissioner at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023CommissiononHIVMemberApplication>

For application assistance call (213) 738-2816 or email hivcomm@lachiv.org



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CONSUMER CAUCUS (CC) HYBRID (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL) MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 9, 2023 @ 2:00-4PM

**or immediately following the COH Meeting*

510 S. Vermont Ave

Terrace Level Conference Room A (TK11), Los Angeles, CA 90020

***Validated parking available at 523 Shatto Place, Los Angeles CA 90020**

TO JOIN VIRTUALLY BY COMPUTER:

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=m52fb20ae2fe29426a471cf9c62268ec4>

MEETING PASSWORD: CAUCUS

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- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. CO-CHAIR WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS | 2:00PM – 2:05PM |
| 2. COH MEETING DEBRIEF | 2:05PM – 2:15PM |
| 3. ED/STAFF REPORT | 2:15PM – 2:20PM |
| a. County/Commission Operational Updates | |
| 4. CO CHAIR REPORT | 2:20PM – 2:30PM |
| a. Welcome Back! | |
| b. 2023 Meeting Frequency & Schedule REVISIT | |
| c. 2023 Workplan REVIEW | |
| 5. MEMBER REPORTS (<i>Opportunity for COH Caucus members to provide updates from their assigned COH Committees and related conferences/events attended to better coordinate activities and harness feedback from a consumer perspective.</i>) | 2:30PM – 2:40PM |
| 6. DISCUSSION | 2:40PM – 3:45PM |
| a. Housing Opportunities for People Living with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) UPDATES | |
| b. February 16, 2023 HRSA Closed Listening Session | |
| • Follow Up & Feedback | |
| • Next Steps | |
| c. Opportunities to Improve Consumer Engagement | |
| 7. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING | 3:45PM – 3:55PM |
| 8. PUBLIC COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS | 3:55PM – 4:00PM |
| 9. ADJOURNMENT | 4:00PM |



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV



510 S. Vermont Ave 14th Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90020 • TEL (213) 738-2816 • FAX (213) 637-6748

HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG • <http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

CODE OF CONDUCT

We welcome commissioners, guests, and the public into a space where people of all opinions and backgrounds are able to contribute. We create a safe environment that celebrates differences while striving for consensus and is characterized by consistent, professional, and respectful behavior. Our common enemies are HIV and STDs. We strive to be introspective and understand and clarify our assumptions, while appreciating the complex intersectionality of the lives we live. We challenge ourselves to be self-reflective and committed to an ongoing understanding. As a result, the Commission has adopted and is consistently committed to implementing the following guidelines for Commission, committee, and associated meetings.

All participants and stakeholders should adhere to the following:

- 1) **We strive for consensus and compassion in all our interactions.**
- 2) **We respect others' time by starting and ending meetings on time, being punctual, and staying present.**
- 3) **We listen, don't repeat what has already been stated, avoid interrupting others, and allow others to be heard.**
- 4) **We encourage all to bring forth ideas for discussion, community planning, and consensus.**
- 5) **We focus on the issue, not the person raising the issue.**
- 6) **We give and accept respectful and constructive feedback.**
- 7) **We keep all issues on the table (no "hidden agendas"), avoid monopolizing discussions and minimize side conversations.**
- 8) **We have no place in our deliberations for homophobic, racist, sexist, and other discriminatory statements and "-isms" (including misogyny, transphobia, ableism, and ageism).**
- 9) **We give ourselves permission to learn from our mistakes.**

Approved (11/12/1998); Revised (2/10/2005; 9/6/2005); **Revised (4/11/19; 3/3/22)**



CONSUMER CAUCUS

Thursday, February 9, 2023 | 3:00pm to 4:30pm

VIRTUAL MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting packet is available at: <https://hiv.lacounty.gov/meetings/>

**Contact staff for verification of attendance*

1. WELCOME + INTRODUCTIONS + CHECK IN

Co-Chair Alasdair Burton welcomed attendees and led introductions.

2. COH MEETING DEBRIEF

The Caucus expressed frustrations related to the earlier HOPWA report and cited the many limitations in leveraging the Ryan White Program to eliminate barriers. Members shared that it would be problematic to include HIV-negative consumer clients in receiving RWP services when those living with HIV have challenges accessing services. Excessive documentation was also mentioned as a barrier to accessing HOPWA services. The Caucus requested that the Commission's HOPWA representative and/or his team attend the next Caucus meeting to provide an update. In July 2022, an agreement was made to provide quarterly updates. City of Long Beach HOWPA representatives were also requested to attend.

The Caucus briefly noted the open mic incident during the main meeting and staff assured that the matter would be addressed appropriately.

3. ED/STAFF REPORT

County/Commission Operational Updates.

- Resumption of In-Person Brown Act Meetings Beginning March 2023
 - Dawn Mc Clendon shared updates regarding the resumption of in-person meetings beginning in March and reminded folx that the first in-person Commission meeting will take place on Thursday, March 8, 2023. Continental breakfast will be provided for the main Commission meeting and lunch will be provided for the Consumer Caucus meeting which will immediately follow. The Consumer Caucus will be a hybrid meeting, allowing folx to join in person or virtually.
- Consumer Caucus "Closed" Listening Session w/ Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) | Thursday, February 16th @ 4-5PM
 - DMc Clendon reminded the Caucus that the HRSA closed listening session will not include staff as it is meant to be a dedicated space for the Consumer Caucus. DMc Clendon provided logistical details of all the upcoming HRSA site visits as follows:
 - February 15, 2023 @ 1:30-3:30PM | RWP Client Community Meeting for Ryan White Clients (Virtual)

- February 16, 2023 @ 1:30-2:30PM | COH Leadership (Virtual)
- February 16, 2023 @ 2:30-3:30PM | COH Planning Council Staff (Virtual)
- February 16, 2023 @ 4-5PM | Closed Listening Session w/ Consumer Caucus (Virtual)

4. **CO-CHAIR REPORT:**

2023 Workplan Review. Under the listening session recommendation, it was suggested that topical speakers be included to create an community educational component to the listening sessions.

Meeting Schedule & Frequency. The Caucus expressed that it would like for its meetings to be hybrid once Brown Act in person meetings resume and requested that lunch be provided for those attending in-person. Additionally, given the in-person meeting format for the Commission meeting, the Caucus determined it will meet at 2PM and will assess whether to meet earlier depending on when the main meeting adjourns.

2022 Ryan White National Conference. Materials and recordings are now available; click [here](#) to access.

- #### 5. **MEMBER REPORTS** (Opportunity for COH Caucus members to provide updates from their assigned COH Committees and related conferences/events attended to better coordinate activities and harness feedback from a consumer perspective.)

None reported.

6. **DISCUSSION**

HRSA Closed Listening Session Preparation

In preparation for the listening session with HRSA, the Caucus agreed to strategically coordinate its approach by developing talking points from a list of concerns provided by members. It was agreed that staff would compile the list and email it to the Caucus membership for reference when participating in the closed listening session. Kevin Stalter agreed to be the notetaker to memorialize the discussion, as staff will not be in attendance nor will the session be recorded. The Caucus agreed to debrief at its next meeting and draft a letter to HRSA, following up on the discussion and formalizing its concerns.

Topics of concerns to be included in the talking points are:

- Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA)
- Merging the EHE Steering Committee with the Commission
- Treatment and training of new and returning unaffiliated consumer members
- HRSA funding constraints, i.e., EFA
- Impending homelessness for those aging with HIV
- Siloed nature of funding versus current needs. I.e., a 35 year old law is no longer serving the needs of people living with HIV.
- Consumer voice needs to be amplified & integrated into EHE efforts
- HRSA's lack of understanding of the long-term impact of PLWH
- Immigrant access to services when documentation is not available

Concerns were shared that having these conversations are retraumatizing because HRSA does not have intentions of improving the RWP legislation to make it more consumer-centered.

A suggestion was made to think broadly when it comes to requesting legislative changes and think from collective impact perspective in how these changes can impact other jurisdictions.

Overview of Draft Oral Healthcare Service Standards

Erika Davies and Kevin Stalter, Standards & Best Practices (SBP) Committee Co-Chairs, presented an overview of the Oral Healthcare Service Standards. A final review will be held at the SBP Committee's next meeting before it is submitted for approval. Any feedback up until that time is welcomed.

The Caucus shared concerns about how dental providers treat PLWH. The SBP Co-Chairs shared that it will be reviewing its Universal Standards and Patient Bill of Rights to address some of those concerns.

AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING

- 2023 Workplan (standing)
- HOPWA Quarterly Updates
- HRSA Closed Listening Session Debrief
- Opportunities to Improve Consumer Engagement (standing)

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lilieth Connelly thanked the Caucus for creating a dedicated platform for consumers
- Damone Thomas shared that he has a television available for anyone who may need one
- Shellye Jones announced the 2023 HIV/AIDS Conference for Women: "A Woman's Voice" in San Diego; flyer forthcoming

8. ADJOURNMENT

Consumer Caucus Workplan 2023

Adopted 1/12/23

3/9/23 Updates Highlighted

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT: To identify activities and priorities the Consumer Caucus will lead and advance throughout 2023.

CRITERIA: Select activities that 1) represent the core functions of the COH and Caucus, 2) advance the goals of the 2023 Comprehensive HIV Plan (CHP), and 3) align with COH staff and member capacities and time commitment.

CAUCUS RESPONSIBILITIES: 1) Facilitate dialogue among caucus members, 2) develop caucus voice at the Commission and in the community, 3) provide the caucus perspective on various Commission issues, and 4) cultivate leadership within the caucus membership and consumer community.

#	GOAL/ACTIVITY	ACTION STEPS/TASKS	TIMELINE/ DUE DATE	STATUS/COMMENTS
1	Create a safe environment for consumers (<i>people in need of HIV care and prevention services</i>)	Motivate members to challenge their environment Increase awareness of the caucus in the community	Ongoing	
2	Advocacy: <i>Work with the Public Policy Committee to identify opportunities for consumer involvement to support HIV-related legislation</i>	Advocate for items the Caucus prioritizes	Ongoing	<u>Suggestion:</u> In response to DHSP's request to reassess COH activities to be more responsive and action oriented in meeting the needs of the community, coordinate a series of listening sessions as part of the CC meetings to evaluate and provide feedback on RWP services. Invite topical SMEs to present. Draft letter to HRSA based on closed listening session outcome?
3	Comprehensive HIV Plan (CHP): <i>Participate in advancing the goals of the CHP to ensure the consumer voice is prioritized</i>	Participation in CHP implementation	Ongoing	
4	Leadership and Capacity Building Training: <i>Identify training opportunities that foster and nurture (PLWH & HIV-neg) consumer leadership and empowerment in COH and community.</i>	Continue soliciting ideas from consumers for training topics	Ongoing	CC was invited to participate in the January 23 OPS Committee meeting discussion re: the development of the 2023 training plan. The plan will be finalized for presentation at the February 23 OPS meeting and will be made available to the CC and entire membership. The 2023 Training Schedule has been finalized and is now available on the COH's website; click here to access.

5	<p>Consumer Recruitment & Participation in COH: <i>Identify activities to increase consumer participation at Consumer Caucus/COH meetings, especially individuals from the Black/African American, Latinx, youth, and indigenous communities.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identify mechanism for retaining Caucus members -Recruit members that are not part of Ryan White contracted agencies or consumers of Ryan White services -Recruit members that need HIV care and prevention services -Develop an award ceremony to recognize individuals that volunteer their time to serve/participate in the Caucus 	Ongoing	<p>Question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Why would anyone come to Caucus meetings? -Why won't providers recruit? -How can we get providers to encourage their clients/patients to attend? -What is the incentive for unaffiliated consumers to attend meetings?
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2023 Training Schedule

- All trainings are open to the public.
- Click on the training topic to register.
- Recordings will be available on our [website](#) for those unable to join live trainings.
- Certifications of Completion will be provided.
- All trainings are virtual.

Topic	Date
<u>General Orientation and Commission on HIV Overview *</u>	March 29 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<u>Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Process & Service Standards Development *</u>	April 12 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<u>Tips for Making Effective Written and Oral Public Comments</u>	May 24 3:00 - 4:00 PM
<u>Ryan White Care Act Legislative Overview Membership Structure and Responsibilities *</u>	July 19 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<u>Public Health 101</u>	August 16 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<u>Sexual Health and Wellness</u>	September 20 3:00 - 5:00 PM
<u>Health Literacy and Self-Advocacy</u>	October 18 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<u>Policy Priorities and Legislative Docket Development Process *</u>	November 15 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<u>Co-Chair Roles and Responsibilities</u>	December 6 4:00 - 5:00 PM

**Mandatory core trainings for all commissioners.*



Los Angeles County HOPWA Program

Housing Opportunities For Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) is a federally-funded program that provides assistance with housing and supportive services for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. The program goals are to maintain stable housing, reduce the risk of homelessness, and increase access to care. Services are provided countywide.

Housing Information and Referral – Locates vacant units within the County of Los Angeles and maintains a user-friendly website that includes rental listings, housing resources, and additional community resources.

Housing Specialist/Crisis Housing – Performs comprehensive assessments and housing plan to address barriers to finding and sustain stable housing. Emergency and transitional housing for clients homeless or at-risk of homelessness.

Short Term Financial Assistance – Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) program provide short term financial assistance to maintain housing and Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) provides move-in grant to help households with first month's rent, security deposits and utility switch on fees.

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) – Funded through four housing authorities, operates similarly to a Section-8 voucher program. Households who remain eligible after 12 months may convert to the Section-8 program.

Scattered Site Master Leasing – Households living in units leased by a non-profit agency scattered throughout multiple buildings and receive supportive services.

Residential Service Coordination – Households living in affordable permanent housing (PH) receive supportive services and linkages to other community resources.

Legal Services – Assists with evictions, issues related to eligibility for public benefits, and informs tenants of rights regarding fair housing laws.

Animal Advocacy – Teaches tenants' rights regarding service animals for emotional support as well as supportive services for animals.



HOUSING SPECIALIST, CRISIS HOUSING OR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Antelope Valley (SPA 1) – Tarzana Treatment Center (661) 948-8559
- San Fernando Valley (SPA 2) – Tarzana Treatment Center (818) 342-5897
- San Gabriel Valley/Pasadena (SPA 3) – Foothill AIDS Project (909) 482-2066
- Hollywood/ Metro/Westside (SPA 4/5) – Alliance for Housing and Healing (323) 656-1107
- Downtown Los Angeles (SPA 4) – JWCH Institute Inc. (Wesley Health Centers) (213) 285-4260
- South Los Angeles Area (SPA 6) – APLA Health (213) 201-1637
- East LA/Great Whittier Area (SPA 7) – Foothill AIDS Project (909) 482-2066
- Greater Long Beach area (SPA 8) – Alliance for Housing and Healing (562) 294-5500

LEGAL SERVICES

- Inner City Law Center (213) 891-2880

ANIMAL ADVOCACY & SUPPORT

- PAWS/LA (213) 741-1950

For more information please contact, **CHIRPLA** at **(877) 724-4775** or visit their website at www.chirpla.org.

You may also contact the **HOPWA Hotline** at **(213) 808-8805** or via e-mail at lahd-hopwa@lacity.org.