

Sexually Transmitted Infection Community Coalition (STICC)

Meeting Agenda

Location: Planned Parenthood Ophelia Egypt Center
3363 Minnesota Ave NE.
Washington, DC

Date & Time: November 8, 2007, 10: 00 a.m.

Attendees: Colleen Crowley (DCSTD), Jean Wilks (DC DOH), Vicki Stovall (MD HD) Irwin Royster (PPMW); Anthony Cook (UNITY), Gwen Anderson (PGSTD), Jeremy Ogusky (MetroTeen AIDS); Vanessa Jones (PG HD); Bill Briggs (NOVAM); Grev Hunt

Meeting Called 10:15am

Agenda:

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Minutes

Review of minutes from October Meeting.

Minutes approved by voice vote

2. Coalition Subcommittee Reports

- a. Ad Hoc 501 (c) 3: There were no updates from this committee, however Ms. Crowley, did respond to an inquiry and stated that STICC is a self-governing body formed over 30 years ago during the administration of Mayor Barry. At that time there was a drive to have community advisory groups formed so that the **DOH and its** administrations could be more responsive to the public.
- b. Outreach:
 - Ms. Anderson and Ms. Jones of PG County Health Department reported that their program screened for syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea on the campus of Bowie State on Halloween and Homecoming (Oct 27 & 30).
 - Mr. Royster informed the committee about the highly successful Halloween outreach events and reported that 3,800 condom kits were distributed at three events: the High Heel Race on 17th Street, Howard University, and Freddie's Bar in Crystal City. At the High Heel race the crowds were supplied with testing information and condoms. Freddie's in No Va was very receptive to the STICC outreach efforts and encouraged further collaboration.

3. Health Standards for DC Schools

Mr. Ogusky from MetroTeen AIDS presented information on the yet to be adopted Health Standards for Washington DC schools. Of particular importance are the standards concerning health-based education. The District has requested that public comment be provided on the standards. Mr. Ogusky encourages each respective party to read the standards and consider providing a three minute testimony to the State Board on Nov 30 @ 5:30 (State Board of Education, 1 Judiciary Square). Should anybody be interested in either representing STICC or his/her own community advisory group (CPG), Mr. Ogusky has volunteered to assist in reviewing drafts and/or preparing talking points. It was noted

that in Maryland, Montgomery County had significant problems and delays in getting their standards approved, due to the negative influence of a few vocal interest groups. Given the high STI/HIV prevalence rates in the district it is hoped that CPGs involved directly and indirectly with STICC will make themselves heard. After all public comments have been received the State Board of Education will review them and vote on the standards. Mr. Royster, had copies of the Health Standards photocopied for all present.

To view the Health Standards please google “OSSE Health Standards” and it should result in the first google find, or go to www.osse.dc.gov and look for the link.

TO DO: Mr. Ogusky, the focal point on this issue, has expressed a willingness to email a version of the Health Standards that highlight the standards relevant to STI/HIV.

TO DO: Voice community support for the Health Standards by testifying and suggesting any changes that should be made (added or omitted).

TO DO: Activate community networks to testify and represent their interests.

4. Website: Discussion

- a. InSPOT: Ms. Crowley informed the committee about the InSPOT website. The objective of the website is to integrate the treatment and referral process by using the internet based referral service. Thus self-referral by STD clients will occur by them sending anonymous email postcards telling their partner(s) that they may have been exposed to an STD. A DIS may assist the client by providing internet access and facilitating the sending of the postcard. Mr. Hunt commented that the locating Testing Services page should show the geographic location of the testing sites (think google map) and their access via public transport. As a monitoring and evaluation technique, Ms. Stovall recommended modifying the STD clinic’s intake form by allowing InSPOT referred partner(s) to state that they got an email notification.
- b. STICC website: The committee had plans to visit the website using the Planned Parenthood computers but time ran out.

TO DO: The committee encourages STICC members to email all comments to Mr. Ehlman (daniel.ehlman@dc.gov) after review of the InSPOT and STICC websites.

TO DO: Have STD clinic staff consider whether modifying the intake form is a worthwhile evaluation or feedback tool for InSPOT.

STICC website: <http://www.dcstd.org/pages/home.php>

InSPOT website: <http://www.inspot.org/treatment/treatment.aspx?regionid=50&sitelvl=1>

4. School Screening Update

- a. Ms. Crowley informed the committee that currently one high school (Friendship Charter) will be receiving urine based screening for G/C in December 2007 and another high school, Coolidge, has opened discussions regarding screening in the school. The estimated positive rate is 12-16% and given that this rate is occurring in charter schools it is not unlikely that the rate will be higher in the public schools. The plan is to get as many high schools as possible to partnership with the DOH and

DCPS with the objective of having all 21 high schools in the district enrolled by the end of 2008.

- b. A team from the STD Control Program is currently in New York visiting their highly successful school-screening program.

5. Update on strategic planning/community involvement

- a. Mayor's Breakfast Policy Forum: Ms. Parker mentioned that the Mayor's Breakfast Policy Forum represents an opportunity for STICC to present our agenda. This would be a top down approach. Once the mayor is involved all the key players fall into step.
- b. PG Syphilis Outbreak: Ms. Anderson announced that PG county has seen a jump in primary and secondary syphilis and requested that the interstate community and STICC partners join in the eradication effort. The mobile testing campaign is about to begin. The focus of STD prevention and testing efforts are on high morbidity zip codes. Comments were made by members concerning the geographic and behavioral aspects of the outbreak and how the entire metropolitan triangle (stretching from Virginia to Baltimore) should be involved. The co-infection rate of syphilis and HIV is 50% representing a serious public health danger. Mr. Briggs, mentioned that internet outreach is very important to targeting the MSM community by using Craig's List and ManHunt. He also recommended that outreach occur at the Crew Club on Tuesday nite's due to the ½ price on drinks.

TO DO: Develop palm cards for syphilis and arrange distribution via Prevention Works.

6. Community Calendar/Member Announcements

- a. For Sisters Only – testing gonorrhea, syphilis, and chlamydia. **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE** – Someone to check the tests.
- b. NBC For Your Health
- c. Syphilis Stakeholders Meeting, November 20th from 2-4 pm. Cheverly Health Center, 3003 Hospital Drive, Cheverly MD 20785 (across from PG Hospital)
- d. InSPOT Training, November 14th. For more information please contact Ms. Anderson or Ms. Stovall.
- e. Out-of-the-Box and On the Screen, a training on reaching MSM through the internet. November 20th 12:30-4:30 pm at Inova Juniper. For more information please contact Mr. Briggs at NOVAM.
- f. World Ball 2007, Friday, November 16th 8 –11 pm. UDC, Building 38-B Level. Contact worldball07@yahoo.com
- g. World AIDS Day Health Fair, Annandale. Dec 1st.

TO DO: Irwin will contact Angela Simmons, the DOH point person for the booth at the fair.

7. Parking Lot

- a. STICC members involvement in a PSA campaign(s) and Advocacy Group

Adjourned 11:45 am.

Next meeting December 13, 2007 at 10:00am