OKLAHOMA HIV & HEPATITIS PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

Oklahoma HIV & Hepatitis Planning Council
Monday, May 04, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Tulsa Health Department North
5635 M.L.K. Jr Blvd, Tulsa, OK 74126
Virtual Access: Microsoft Teams

10:10 call to order.
Introductions & Icebreaker Ryan Ochsner, Community Co-Chair

Roll Call & Approval of Minutes Ryan Ochsner, Community Co-Chair
Motion: Michelle Lewis Second: Kathy Ackerman In favor: 18 Motion passes

Updates & Guest Presentations

OSDH & SHHRS Updates Amber Rose, MS, Director, OSDH SHHRS

Integrated prevention & care plans-remove specific language that references harm reduction. CDC Hep team said to deprioritize certain topics & prioritize others, basically scrubbing harm reduction activities. Anticipate the same with HIV plan.
Injury prevention has large amount of fentanyl test strips to get into the public's hands. Will review & revise hepatitis plan accordingly.
Lentocillin webinar coming up. Bicilin shortage through Q4 2027. Public health should prepare for Q1-Q2 of 2028. A lot of barriers though OK state purchasing rules, price has doubled, limiting the purchase quantities while competing with other private providers as well.
Bills we're concerned about waiting on floor vote – HB1219 PRIDE bill seems to be moving this year – can't be there as state agency nor can provide resources to any local organization. HB2012 harm reduction bill to sunset this week.
Outbreak response: things have slowed down in OKC. Focusing on Shawnee – have not seen a lot of HIV but high syphilis morbidity. Making progress – same factors to overcome. Not accessing care so this is the only testing they are getting.

HIV Data Update Raffaella Espinoza, MPH, OSDH SHHRS

New HIV Cases in 2024: 327 new diagnoses reported, with an 8.0 per 100,000 rate, showing a 14% decrease from 2023.
Disparities in Diagnoses: Black African Americans had the highest rate at 25.8 per 100,000, with females 5.8 times higher than white females.
High-Risk Age Group: The 25-34 age group saw the most diagnoses, and males peaked at 92% in 15-24 year-olds.
Social Determinants' Impact: Areas with ≥17% poverty experienced a 3.7 times higher HIV rate compared to low-poverty areas.
HIV Care Metrics: By 2023, 82.6% of new cases linked to care within one month; 64.9% achieved viral suppression in six months.

Integrated HIV epidemiologic Profile will be published but will transition to a dashboard, soon to be published online for public review. Demographic breakdowns, trends, interactive map.

SPTHB – Syndemic Strategies Robbie Bright, MSHIM, Program Coordinator, SPTHB

Discussed Indigenous HIV/AIDS Syndemic Strategy.
NativeTest.org - Native Test program (nationwide)-provide self-test kits & other free resources such as PrEP/PEP info, pregnancy tests, sexual healthcare navigation
CEDAR (Controlling Epidemics by Designing Accessible Responses) resources for data sharing templates, supporting policies and documents, CLIA waivers.
Do not need an expensive dispenser; a bookcase would work to provide those materials to the community.
Presentation with QR codes for resources, more information, and training is attached to these minutes.

Codes Program Brandi Williams, Sr. Manager, Orasure Technologies

New packaging-more environmentally conscious, more discreet, and easier for distribution. Self-test includes info packet with before/after testing info, testing device, buffer solution, testing stand. Takes about three business days to receive the product.
Oral swab, 20-minute results w/confidential call center support.
Same test used by professionals.
CODES allows customers to distribute self-test kits anywhere. Customer purchases codes to distribute through surveys, health fairs, partner services, vending machines, direct to sites. Client redeems on www.oraquick.com for testing kits. Customer receives weekly data on distributed kits. Allows for state-wide distribution, zip code restrictions, and inclusion of personalized materials.
Results are great so far – reaching the untested, linking to care and ART, high consumer satisfaction, rapid distribution of materials and ease of execution.

Business

Community Builder Jennifer Sharp & Winston Lewis, OHHPC Voting Members

P&P Manual Updates Dawn Kluesner, OSDH Co-Chair, M&P Subcommittee
Motion: Michelle Lewis Second: Kathy Ackerman In favor: 19 Motion passes

Subcommittee Updates Donald Rose Jr., Community Co-Chair

Diagnose – HCV & HIV Testing: Winston is community co-chair. Considering screening at SUD facilities.
Prevent – Faith and HIV: created flyer to recruit and evaluate strategy & effectiveness. Faithfully Fit event June 20 for education and connection.
Prevent – Harm Reduction & Viral Hepatitis: working to fill community co-chair. Focusing on peer navigation, HCV navigation, coaching in light of the future end of harm reduction bill.
Prevent – PrEP and PEP: developed marketing materials, providing educational presentation. Robbie is leaving the committee – need a replacement. Walgreens is

partnering w/Tulsa Cares & Variety care for community testing day June 26-27, 9am-3pm come & go. Neha distributed flow chart cards across the state, mostly rural but soon the cities. Provider toolkit is finished and will be printed soon. Have basic trainings soon for providers & others.
Treat – HIV and HCV Treatment & Retention: survey coming to capture info from across the state (takes 5 minutes). Will share results w/OHHPC. Watch for email.
Respond – Cluster Detection and Response: looking for two community co-chairs. Developed fact sheets & a Google drive to share them. Finalized mission statement.
Trauma Informed Approaches: Planning new workshop schedule & facilitator development. Working on next steps.
Membership & Policy: Updated Articles I, V, & VI in policy manual.
Advocacy and Education – ad hoc: HB 4423 (dies but hoping to raise again), SB 1328 (died), HB 2941 (sent to governor to sign), SB 904 (on agenda for floor vote), HB 2978 (failed in committee). No movement on HB 2012 so looks like it will expire. SB 65 to protect test strips despite HB 2012 ending (eligible for floor vote). Not sure how HB1219 will affect CBOs. HB 4063 shell bill shucked, HB 2012 no movement.

General Updates Donald Rose Jr., Community Co-Chair

Donald Rose officially resigns as OHHPC Co-chair. Send nominations for his replacement through May 31st. Vote for new Co-chair by July 1 and announce at the August meeting.
Voting members keep an eye out for the Integrated Care Plan.
Red Rock is sending out home test kits.
AWOKC – registration is open. Contest for team & individuals that raise the most money and biggest team of walkers.

Wrap-up & Adjourn

Closing & Evaluations Donald Rose Jr., Community Co-Chair
Motion: Vincent Burnett Second: Kathy Ackerman In favor: 15 Motion passes
Closed at 2:31 pm.

Next Meeting:
August 03, 2026 | 10:00am – 2:30pm – OKC TBD