Minutes
July 11, 2016
San Francisco Hepatitis C Task Force

In Attendance:
Mercedes Azcarate
Jim Banta
Shirley Barger
Dan Berrner
Misha Cohen
Jay Fournier
Ray Goldstein
Robin Roth

Absent Members:
Peter Dale
Pauli Gray
Janice Strassheim

Guests:
Orlando Chavez
Jose Luis Guzman
Miya (Masako) Wickler

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5:45 **Welcome, Introductions, Announcements**

- Glide’s Navigation program is off to a great start
- Quan Yin Healing Arts Center and Misha Ruth Cohen Foundation doing the AIDS Walk to raise funds to treat HIV and HIV/HCV
- Aaron Smith, new HCV Project Coordinator (2 ½ yrs.) coordinate data and work w/ Glide, DPH Network

6:00 **Approve minutes of 6/13/16** – moved, seconded, approved

6:10 **Reports**

- **Juneteenth**, 6/18 – Jim, Dan, Mercedes, Robin, Shirley, volunteers Lia, past CCSF students Carolyn & Ron; Glide was beside us doing testing (18 people, 1 positive), talked to lots and lots of interested people; suggestion to count materials beforehand to know how many are taken
- **Hunters View**, 6/25 – Robin, Mercedes, Shirley; block party for people moving back into the renovated Hunter’s View; lots of interest
- **Mission Wellness Pharmacy** – would like us to come back, on a Sat.

**CalHep** CalHEP member call 7/6/16

CA budget includes funding for all 4 of CalHep’s proposals:
- HBV vaccine for at-risk adults
- Rapid HCV test kits
- technical assistance for new Syringe Access Sites, or to expand existing
- HIV/HCV test counselors training, esp. in sites not funded through Office of AIDS

AB2179 to divorce HCV test counselor training from HIV test training is chugging along; needs a vote from the full Senate

MediCal – almost $1 billion for HCV treatment is in the budget

Strategic discussions about how to open access to all are happening

If a legal strategy is needed, we will need F1 MediCal patients who have been denied to be part of a lawsuit; this legal strategy has expanded access in many states; hopefully will not take a lawsuit in CA, but if it does we can do it Harvoni available to G1s on MediCal; Eclusa more for G2 & G3s

(Dan comments that the Pt. Support Pathway coming back a bit; still if no insurance)

Clearinghouse established for SAS – contact Alessandra Ross, Injection Drug Use Specialist at 916-449-5796 or alessandra.ross@cdph.ca.gov.
All are invited to Sacramento on August 9th for informational Hearing (10-12), CalHEP lunch, awards ceremony and meeting (12:30-4:30) 
Capitol Event Center, Executive Suites, 1020 11th St.
RSVP for luncheon by 4/4/16 ehuriaux@projectinform.org

NVHR HCV working group call – main topic was Best Practices in Lab Testing 
Protocols: Clinical Setting
  - Autoreflex testing should be the norm and all testers trained to do 
    immediate confirmatory testing
  - Electronic Medical Records should alert drs to test Baby-Boomers for HCV
  - test patients in the hospital & ER setting, regardless of why they’re there
Field Testing: Hepatitis C testing in a mobile unit requires creative 
methods to protect patient confidentiality, like using a white noise machine 
or curtains in the van, or headphones or screen show on liver disease, etc.
  - Facing stigma in the field
    o Adding a cholesterol test to hepatitis C testing resulted in more 
      hepatitis tests performed – the cholesterol test opened the door, 
      made testing accessible to people; less stigmatized
In SF, AIDS Foundation, Alliance Health Project (UCSF) have vans; API 
Wellness no longer doing mobile testing;
Stop Hep C SF – 2 workgroups are discussing the need for a van.

Upcoming Events
  World Hepatitis Day - 7/28
  Recruit folks for the Press Briefing – wear SFHCTF t-shirts
  Who is coming to the reception?
  So far have Shirley, Dan, Robin, Janice, Mercedes, Ray, Jim
  Resolution for 7/28 WHD (Katie Tang’s office sponsoring)

  Folsom St. Fair is Sept. 25th

Election of Co-Chairs
  2 nominees – Dan Bernner & Robin Roth - elected

Discussions
  Fundraising (website, grants) – need some funds;
  send letter to Jay asking for support from Walgreen’s
  Mission Wellness Pharmacy may be able to sponsor
  Send letter to Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
  Castro Lion’s Club might be willing to contribute
  Could use a “Go Fund Me”

  Website is growing; would like to have a page for members’ activities
    Will add a Donate button linked to a PayPal account
    Passed out End Hep C SF Mission Statement

Speakers Bureau – brief discussion; mainly postponed until next mtg
  Places to do outreach

7:17 Adjourn