San Francisco Hepatitis C Task Force

February 8, 2016

In Attendance:  Absent Members:  Guests:
Jim Banta  Dan Berrner  Colleen Brannon
Shirley Barger  Misha Cohen  Katie Burk
Peter Dale  Jay Fournier  Janice Strassheim
Ray Goldstein
Pauli Gray
Theresa Hughes
Robin Roth

5:30  Light dinner

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements
member Jay Fournier has accepted a position with the SF chapter of the
American Liver Foundation
Melinda Mossad is no longer working for Gilead
Comments on how the pharma companies are laying off community educators
CCSF Hepatitis ABCs offered 3 Saturdays: 3/26, 4/9, 4/16

DPH Katie Burk
– working with local physicians to see what it would take to eliminate HCV in SF.
In formative stage.  Will have working groups.  Invites SFHCTF to participate.
Theresa is on steering committee.  Isaac Jackson is too.  Will talk about it at the
Summit; Annie Leutkemeyer will speak to it at the end of Summit.  Will do larger
community stakeholder meeting.  Called the Hepatitis C Elimination Initiative.

Approved minutes of 1/11/16

VOTE ON NEW MEMBERS (Mercedes and Janice)
Both Mercedes and Janice were voted in – welcome!

Reports
CalHEP quarterly call – Shirley
successful in 2 budget proposals for funding for CA DPH
funded 5 programs, including SF DPH
determining best practices from these demonstration grants
ongoing funding for Syringe Exchange
many MediCal restrictions loosened
Project Inform got HBV added to CA formulary
Need more budget advocacy
purchase rapid kits; training for HCV test counselors, support for
HCV treatment; bill to allow direct training of HCV test counselors without having
to already be HIV test counselors
•Legislation being proposed to change law about landlords not allowing drugs on
premises for special waivers; affects possibility of having a Safe Injection Site
•proposing CA have its own Task Force on HCV strategies
•CA Physician HCV Testing Honor Roll available; surveying the 70
• IOM report on eliminating HCV
• Hep on the Hill happening
The Institute of Medicine is working on new report:
National Strategy to Eliminate hep B & C in US; due in 2017

Eradication = totally gone and needs no more attention
Elimination = no cases but needs ongoing prevention efforts;
  usually means reductions to a certain level
  elimination “as a public health concern”
Elimination is possible because:
  - no animal host
  - medically feasible
  - depends on social & political will (& IOM report will help in this area)

The media attention on cost has been further stigmatizing VH
We’re no longer talking about a “Silent Epidemic”

**NVHR membership call – 2/1/16**
report on how the Federal ban on Syringe Access was changed to allow federal
money to be spent on SA staff, material, supplies, everything except the syringe
(cheapest part of supplies)
Republicans moved to compromise because of heroin epidemics
CDC will provide guidance to open funding streams

Appropriations – 2016 budget only added $2.6 M to total of $34M
  - Obama had asked for such more, but at least it’s an increase
will ask for 2017 budget to be $62.8M
2016 DVH will spend on:
  - f-t VH coordinators for all states
  - better surveillance & detection
  - PWID and HCV & HBV

**Updated brochure** passed around, as well as old one
  - some revisions made;
  - Outreach activities discussed
  - Glide posters will be shared at a future meeting

**SF Hep TF website** is currently being redone; will be done by end of Feb.
  - will coordinate with QR on the new brochure

**SF Hepatitis C Summit 3/10/16** – Theresa and Colleen
sent out 400 invitations; 74 have already registered
will send out reminder invitations w/ outline of agenda;
  - goal is 150 attendees; need 125
2/16 summit planning mtg - on agenda
  - Draft agenda passed out, discussed, revised
  - Invitation list discussed