

**US/Mexico Border Grantees Conference Call
April 7, 2003 @ 10:30 AM**

Participants:

Arizona: Ken Burton, Steve Trujillo
El Paso: America Jones, John Wiebe
VAC: Elias Cantu, George Losoya
New Mexico: Yvonne Roacho, Michelle Valverde
San Ysidro: Rosana Scolari, Maria Zúñiga, Alisa Olshefsky
OU: Betty, David, Paul, Saleem, Lynda, Marguerite
HRSA: Adan Cajina, Robyn Schulhof

Project Reports:

Arizona Border HIV/AIDS Care Project:

Trainings: Dr. Carmichael was at the Chiricahua Clinic on 3/13 and saw 5 patients with Dr. Avina later that day provided an educational in-service to Dr. Avina. Dr. Carmichael travels to Sunset Clinic (Yuma) every quarter now that Dr. Thomas is seeing most of the patients in Yuma County (SPNS patients as well as others).

Dr. Estok presented at the AZ AIDS ETC rural provider training on HIV at the U of A on March 6, 2003. .

Outreach Activities:

Yuma – YCHD, Puentes de Amistad and Campesinos Sin Fronteras continue their outreach in Yuma and surrounding communities. Outreach continues to include Marine base and bars in the area of the base.

Yuma County Health Department and Sunset Clinics have finalized their contracts with Dr. Thomas and continue to make referrals.

Santa Cruz – Mariposa Community Health Center continues their outreach to the established sites and to the outlying communities of Rio Rico and Patagonia. Cesar Grijalva and Ana Dutram continue to participate on the local radio program.

Cochise – On 3/18 the project coordinator was invited to participate in the interview process by Cochise County Health Department in the hiring of two case managers. CCHD hired Sofia Somerstein and Emma Ramirez for the positions. Sofia is a employee of CCHD and Emma comes from New Mexico where she worked as a case manager for HIV patients. Training scheduled for April 25 for both case managers on the OU enrollment modules and the MAI reporting requirements. Outreach efforts will resume upon the completion of orientation and

training of case managers. CCHD continues to work on collaborative efforts with physicians and agencies in Mexico through Dr. Garcia.

Dissemination Activities:

Preparing for the Boston College “HIV/AIDS and Families” conference in Albuquerque and the USMBHA conference in San Diego. Betty returns to OU on Thursday (4/10/03) and will develop a short outline for the presentations and email to everyone.

Project Enrollment:

Three people in Cochise County waiting to be enrolled. This will be done as soon as the two new case managers complete their training.

Local Evaluation:

The Annual Health Provider Assessment completed and Impact Consultants reported findings at the March 7 collaborators meeting. Feedback from this meeting assisted the evaluators in refining this assessment.

Announcement:

HRSA: Robyn will be doing site visit on April 30th.

Next ABHAC Project collaborator meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2003.

Camino de Vida

- **PROGRAMMATIC:** (Veronica)
- Outreach continues – Format of the Health Outreach Workers weekly meetings has been changed to include a once a month update/training. A need assessment will be conducted on April 9, 2003. A training on “How To Reach Your Targeted Population” will be conducted by Sally Meisenhelder, Training Coordinator from Southern Area Health Education Center (SoAHEC) On April 30, 2003.
- On April 10, 2003 the Ben Archer Health Center Promotoras will host a training by MUACES. The training is called Platicas in which the women talk informally about HIV/AIDS as well as other issues surrounding sexuality and talking about sex. Entire training done in Spanish.
- Camino de Vida Staff including Health Outreach Workers will attend a Cultural Competency Training on Friday May 9, 2003 coordinated by SoAHEC and given by Carlos Nejal, from Tucson, AZ.
- Continue to make progress in finalizing the carry over budget that will be used to conduct the two qualitative studies; Late Entry into Medical Care and Differences in Utilization of Medical Care.

- Yvonne and I attended the first planning meeting for the International AIDS Vigil, Two Nations One Heart. This year a contest will be held between all New Mexico, Texas, and Chihuahua for all Graphic Design students interested in creating a the logo. The Vigil will take place on June 27, 2003 (National HIV Testing Day).
- **LOCAL EVALUATION:** (Michelle)
 - The presentation for the CdV Board on March 4th went very well. The Board members asked questions and discussed some of the topics that were raised.
 - Veronica and I will be presenting to the CdV staff toward the end of this month. We will be sharing more data with them than we did in our last presentation.
 - We've all worked together to develop a newsletter for the Community Health Center partners, La Clinica de Familia and Ben Archer Health Center. Kari, Veronica, and I decided that rather than trying to do a presentation for them at this point in time, it makes more sense to start sending them a brief and informative update biannually in a hard copy format. What we've developed is colorful, concise, and some of the basic data related to Goal 4 (provider training and education) is incorporated. We will share this with Betty and David at the sight visit and send a copy to Robyn.
 - We are also submitting a very short piece for the next issue of the New Mexico Border Health newsletter. We hope to be able to follow-up this introductory article with several more brief pieces over the next 2 years.
 - As we begin to disseminate more of the data locally, we must always keep in mind that CdV is the only provider of its type in southern NM and our in-house n (clients) is very small. This means we have to be especially careful about what we present and how we present it. We plan to discuss this with David and Betty at our next site visit.
 - I almost have the first draft of the HOW article #1 ready so the local team can start providing their input. We plan to write at least 2 articles about the HOW's: the first one will be a description of the HOW model in detail and the second article will focus more on the evaluation.
 - Our Graduate Research and Evaluation Assistant is making progress on the barriers literature review and she will be starting a literature review about building agency capacity/integrating HRSA Care Act resources/new/rural. The topic about building agency capacity is not related to any one specific goal, but is rather an overarching issue that is important to address.
 - Data: Outreach data cleaning is wrapping up. This fiscal year, 271 tests have been administered, rate of return is 86% ; 563 individuals have been contacted. In-house data collection: n = 76 and a total of 10 Change Forms C have been submitted. Veronica's goal is 80 by end of this fiscal year.

Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe:

- Virginia Longoria and Christopher Johnson each presented posters at the Society of Behavioral Medicine in Salt Lake City. Topics were HIV knowledge, substance abuse, and medication adherence.
- Data entry was interrupted during network maintenance at La Fe. It is back on track, and should be completely caught up early this week.

- We have received supplementary funding from the UTEP State Tobacco Settlement Funds that will allow us to work on a secure web-based data storage and entry system that will benefit the SPNS project.
- Looking forward to site visit with OU this month.

Testing

Month Year 2003	Pre Test Counseling	Post Test Counseling	Result Negative	Result Positive	New Clients Enrolled @ LFCC
January	28	21	27	1	4
February	29	21	26	3	3
March	27	26	25	1	1

- The Texas Tech clinic will be referring out approximately 230 of it's current clients to the Le Fe clinic or Planned Parenthood. Funding will not be transferred from Texas Tech to La Fe or Planned Parenthood to support these clients. Title II and State supplementary funding to La Fe actually decreased because there are now three service providers in the area. John and America will meet to discuss if these clients should be enrolled in the SPNS project or not. We are looking at 100 new clients over the next 2 to 3 months.
- In order to cover the additional work loads, we have interviewed an RN and are working on getting an additional Ryan White Case Manager.

Travel/Training

On March 4, 2003

La Fe CARE Center staff attended an educational dinner lecture sponsored by Glaxosmithkline Pharmaceutical with Gary S. Reiter, MD, medical director at Holyoke Hospital and director at River Valley HIV Services of West Massachusetts, lecturing on promoting and obtaining adherence in the HIV patient.

On March 12, 2003

La Fe CARE Center staff attended the second of two educational luncheon lectures sponsored by Glaxosmithkline Pharmaceutical. The lecture was on resistance testing and medication sequencing in the HIV patient.

On March 13, 2003

La Fe CARE Center staff attended an educational luncheon lecture sponsored by Roche Pharmaceutical. The lecture was to introduce the staff to two new medications, Fuzeon / T20, the

facilitator recommended that these medications be salvaged for HIV and AIDS patients with developed resistance.

On March 20, 2003

La Fe CARE Center staff attended an educational luncheon lecture sponsored by Solvay Pharmaceutical. The lecture was on Androgel, a testosterone replacement gel, and Marinol, an appetite stimulant for the HIV and AIDS patient and antiemetic to stem nausea and vomiting in the cancer patient.

On March 26, 2003

La Fe CARE Center staff attended an educational luncheon lecture sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical. The lecture was on Atazanavir, a protease inhibitor and its use in treating HIV and AIDS. Also discussed the upcoming presentation for nurses on April 18.

March 29, 2003

America Jones RN conducted an HIV 101 presentation for the Providers of the Center for Pulmonary and Infectious Disease Control (CPIDC) out of UT Tyler at the Region 19 in El Paso, as per the request of the Texas/Oklahoma AIDS Education and Training Center. The target audience consisted of medical providers, nurses, social workers, and outreach workers from El Paso. Information on the CARE Center services was also provided.

San Ysidro Health Center:

Program

- Currently working with advertising firm to develop a social marketing campaign. They have conducted Focus Groups for sever different regions. The advertising firm obtain the Focus Group participants feedback on different ads (7 to 8) and brochures (5). They will analyze the results from the Focus Groups and develop a finalized set of ads and brochures from San Ysidro to review around the end of this month.
- Rosana made two presentations at the National AIDS Update Conference – Implementing HIV services targeted to Latino’s and Services along the US/Mexico Border. It worked out very well because Wayne Saucedo was presenting as well. Rosana was contacted by a project in Miami and they will be coming to San Diego to take a tour of San Ysidro. There are a lot of similarities with the US/Border population and some very dramatic differences. Service providers will have to be very creative in addressing some of these problems.
- Wayne Saucedo conducted site visit to a program in the area and visited SYHC as well. The program is designed to track individuals who are HIV+ and receiving TB therapy and link them with service providers on either side of the border.
- Still making plans for US/Mexico Health Association. We should find out soon if our abstracts have been accepted or not. Mari will also be contacting Wayne Saucedo about doing a presentation as well.

- Rosana met with Fred Molitor, an evaluator with ETR (Educational Resources, Training and Research) Associates about a new grant they are applying for from NIAAA. It is the first bi-national grant that will fund HIV prevention case management and outreach services on both sides of the border. The project also has an evaluation component. It is an exciting opportunity. The application is due April 25th and would start Oct. 1st.

Evaluation

- The Access database is ready and two trainings have been completed on using it have been completed. Over 100 entries have already been made to it. Use of the California Form (CIS) has been discontinued because they were filled out sporadically and the information was incomplete, most of the information was already gathered and we do not have the evaluation staff resources to maintain and analyze. Information already gathered will be retained. We will get overview information from the counties when needed. We have changed the timelines for when some of the SPNS data will be collected. The Barriers and ? module will be collected at Time 2 rather than Time 1.
- Five new case managers have completed their training. We expect this will increase enrollment into SPNS.
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Valley AIDS Council:

- Site Visit:
 - University of Oklahoma (National Evaluators) conducted a site visit to Valley AIDS Council (VAC) in Harlingen, Texas on March 12, 2003.
 - Present: Dr. David Barney, Tim Brittingham, Ahmad Saleem, Marguerite Keese.
- Dissemination:
 - Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) and Charles R. Smith (SPNS Director) attended the 15th National HIV/AIDS Update Conference (NAUC) in Miami, Florida from March 28-April 3, 2003.
 - Poster Presentation: "Proyecto Juntos: Social Marketing Campaign."
 - SPNS Partnership Meeting has been scheduled for April 29, 2003 in Pharr, Texas at Nuestra Clinica Del Valle.
- Clinical Capacity:
 - Valley AIDS Council received the Telemedicine equipment that will be used by SPNS Physicians at VAC, Nuestra Clinica Del Valle (NCDV), and United Medical Centers (UMC).
 - Telemedicine training is scheduled for Monday, April 14, 2003.
- Publication:
 - University of Texas Health Science Center-San Antonio (UTHSCSA) will conduct qualitative interviews with clients in Harlingen, Texas on April 15, 2003.
 - VAC received a copy of the Data Agreement developed by OU for use when data requests have been approved by the Dissemination Committee.
- Social Marketing:

- Phase IV of the Social Marketing campaign aired on English and Spanish television from February 3, 2003 through March 3, 2003.
- Technical Assistance:
 - Dr. Herman Curiel will conduct a second workshop for SPNS staff in Harlingen, Texas.
 - Tentatively scheduling workshop for late April or early May 2003.

Project Data Collection Activities

As of March 17, 2003 there are 211* unduplicated records in the Local Evaluation database. There was an increase of 6 from the last reported amount of 205 unduplicated records.

- A total of 1,126 forms have been entered into the National multi site database as of 03/28/2003. The following table summarizes this data:

Module	Start Date	Totals Reported Previous Month				New Activity Since last Report				Totals to Date			
A - Demographic	030101	194				10				204*			
B- Lifestyle	030101	172				10				182*			
C- Change	030103	0				8				8*			
D- Risk Factor	070101	Time				Time				Time			
		1	2	3	Total	1	2	3	Total	1	2	3	Total
		177	58	0	235	10	6	4	20	187	64	4	255*
E -Quality of Life	070101	Time				Time				Time			
		1	2	3	Total	1	2	3	Total	1	2	3	Total
		146	54	0	200	13	8	2	23	159	62	2	223*
F-Barriers to Care	110101	146				14				160*			
G -Client Satisfaction	070101	84				10				94*			

* Data quality assurance activities have identified records that should have not been in the database. We are working with VAC data entry and OU staff to remove these from both the Local and National databases.

Critical Incidents

None reported at this time.

Other Evaluation Activities

- Site visit was made by the University of Oklahoma in Harlingen on 3/12/03. Discussion over data quality identified the following: 1.) Discrepancy between the number of cases reported by the National and Local Evaluations. (Based on National data set of 2/28/03) 2.) Missing data on Demographics Module A in variables v105a-v105d. UTHSCSA will be assisting OU in quality assuring the National data.
 - Submitted Memo on 4/1/03 to Project Data Entry Specialist for data maintenance on items identified at the 3/12/03 meeting.
- Change Module was implemented on 3/12/03. Data entry staff at VAC were given instructions on use of Change form and have begun using it.
- We continue work on qualitative interviews. More client interviews will be scheduled in April and qualitative software “askSam” has been ordered.
- Tickler Report was submitted on 3/17/03 to United Medical Center in Eagle Pass to identify missing Modules and due dates for time sequenced Modules. The Tickler Report will be submitted on monthly bases to assist UMC with data submission.
- We are awaiting approval from the IRB for revised Consent Form to comply with HIPAA requirements for Protected Health Information to be implemented on April 14, 2003. We cannot enroll any new clients until we receive this approval.
- Second draft of paper on Training Intervention has been completed.
- UTHSCSA and VAC staff plan to begin work on the Social Marketing Intervention in April.
- Tim notified of problems with URN numbers coming through.
- Working with VAC on a Social Marketing paper.
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Evaluation Center Updates:

- Data Agreement: All authors must sign and return to Evaluation Center. Authors should include a list of data items needs for their evaluation related to the article they propose to develop. Once received, David will remit the requested data to the authors. The first draft of the proposed article should be ready for review by the Dissemination Committee at the Border Grantees Meeting in El Paso to be held in August. Please send your signed data agreements to OU this week if possible.
- Reminder that all projects should be collecting new medical chart review consent forms from clients who did not sign during the first chart review and for all new clients enrolled in SPNS. Plan to conduct next chart review in September 2004. Since the Informed Consent form has to be approved by IRB, changes to the original form will not be made. The OU IRB will not approve the inclusion of identifying information on the consent form. Betty suggested that you may write their name on the back of the form and send OU a copy of the front side of the form only.
- Next all grantees meeting is August 6 & 7th in El Paso. We will be sending out the logistic information in an email shortly. Make sure to leave your calendars open.
- Upcoming site visits:
 - Completed: Valley AIDS Council – March 12, 2003
 - San Ysidro Health Center – April 8-9, 2003
 - Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe – April 15-16, 2003
 - Camino de Vida – April 17, 2003

Arizona Border HIV/AIDS Project – May 19-20, 2003
HRSA at OU – June 12-13, 2003 (Adan Cajina)

HRSA Updates:

- HRSA staff had a Border Health working meeting this morning. Goodwill visits have been conducted in Harlingen, Brownsville, El Pas and New Mexico. This shows there is a lot of interest in Border health issues.
- Adan is getting prepared for the El Paso visit next week.
- Robyn had nothing to add.