

**HRSA SPNS US/Mexico Border Health
All Grantee Conference Call
November 4, 2002**

Participants: Mari, America, Tim, Saleem, Yvonne, Michelle, Veronica, Yolanda, George, Elias, Steve, Ken, Adan, Robyn, David, Herman, Gregg, Betty, David, Mike Tarter, Barbara E., Robyn, Adan

Project Reports:

Arizona:

Trainings: Dr. Carmichael is now traveling to Santa Cruz County (Mariposa CHC) and Cochise County (Chiricahua CHC) to conduct clinics and provided educational activities for physicians and staff of the CHCs as well as community forums. Dr. Thomas is now working as the HIV specialist for patients enrolled in the project in through Sunset Clinics in Yuma County. Dr. Carmichael plan is to travel to Yuma on a quarterly bases to discuss patients and review medical charts with Dr. Thomas.

On October 16th Dr. Carmichael provided consultation to Drs. Anderson and Floyd of Mariposa Clinic on patient care.

On October 8th met with Dr. Galper of the AZ AIDS ETC to discuss their contract, reorganization of the AETC and activities under the ABHAC contract. Dr. Galper has been proactive in reestablishing the activities of the AETC in all of Arizona. Robert Castrillo will schedule the 8 core training modules for the collaborating sites for this year and next year. The AETC is scheduled to meet with the Yuma Collaborators on November 1st after the collaborator meeting to discuss additional training from the core modules.

Out Reach Activities: Yuma County – Outreach continues to occur by Puentes de Amistad, Yuma County Health Department and Campesinos Sin Frontera. Their target populations are the farmworkers, youth and housewives in the Hispanic communities in Yuma County. The house parties hosted by YCHD and Puentes are being well accepted in the community the hostess of the party is offered an incentive for inviting women and opening her home.

The Border Health Foundation has moved its office to 3365 N. Campbell Ave. due to expanded growth of their programming. They are moving forward with training and mobilization of their promotora programs in Cochise and Santa Cruz Counties.

Santa Cruz County – Platicamos Salud continues to target outreach activities to MSMs, IDUs and Latino women. Dr. Grijalva participated on the radio talk show providing educational information on HIV/AIDS and addressing questions. Outreach continues to Southeast Arizona Behavioral Health Services (SEABHS), truck stops, Tattoo Place and motels. The HIV/AIDS and STD classes continue to be offered on Tuesday from 9-11 a.m. turn out has been good. The

Youth Halloween Event and Youth Fair had good participation by the youth of Platicamos Salud and expect a good community turn out for the events.

Cochise County – The case manager and staff of Cochise County Health Department (CCHD) continue to conduct outreach activities in efforts to identify and enroll newly HIV diagnosed persons into the program.

Chiricahua Community Health Center's Dr. Avina is seeing patients with Dr. Carmichael at scheduled clinics. Patients were seen at the clinic in October who are not currently enrolled in the project. Drs. Avina and Carmichael will inform these patients of the project at their next visit.

Dissemination Activities: Barbara Estrada and Steve T. are scheduled to present on the HRSA Border projects and ABHAC Project findings at the Arizona Regional HIV/AIDS Update Conference sponsored by AmFar November 8th in Chandler, AZ.

Project Enrollment: One individual tested positive in Santa Cruz County and the individual will be outreached to enroll in primary medical care and informed of the project.

Local Evaluation: The next scheduled meeting of the ABHAC Project collaborators is scheduled for January 3, 2003.

Publications Committee: Barbara advised that only two data requests had been submitted for review by the Publications Committee. These requests were from David Barney and Tony Estrada. Concerned that these two requests would not be sufficient to warrant a special meeting session on January 7, 2003. Projects were encouraged to submit ideas for the committee to discuss in January.

Michael Tarter advised grantees that he is available to provide technical assistance with statistical methods if requested. His contact information is posted on the Border web page.

Camino de Vida:

- **PROGRAMMATIC:** (Veronica)
 - **H.O. W. Health Outreach Workers**
 - Outreach continues at the Community of Hope (homeless facility), Diersen Charities (half-way house), La Casa (Domestic Violence Shelter), and the community of Sunland Park.
 - The Health Outreach Workers as well as the Client Resource Coordinator and our Prevention Case Manager will be attending the UNIDOS 2002 Infectious Disease Conference on November 20th-22nd here in Las Cruces.
 - Working to solidify our Field Outreach Protocol and our Field Testing Process Protocol.
 - The first group level intervention with the two contracted Promotoras from Ben Archer Health Center will take place on November 13th. Two of our bilingual Health Outreach Workers will be conducting the group (Training of Trainer) for the new Promotoras.

- **Training of Providers**
 - We have been working with the NMAETC in coordination two focus groups. Tier 1 will take place on November 18, 2002 at 6:30pm, which includes dinner for those providers, and their ancillary staff who currently care for HIV positive individuals and Tier 2 will take place on November 19, 2002 for those providers as well as ancillary staff who do not see HIV positive individuals. The goals of focus groups is to identify education and training needs of HIV/AIDS healthcare providers as well as identify methods of training that are effective for HIV/AIDS healthcare providers.
- **Dissemination**
 - The presentation on October 9, 2002 at the Bi-national Health Council (Juarez, MX, El Paso, TX, and Las Cruces, NM) was well attended. Thank you Dr. Weibe for collaborating with us and presenting the La Fe SPNS project.
- **LOCAL EVALUATION:** (Michelle)
 - I have been playing with the in-house data (from the CdV clients) quite a bit; looking at the barriers and social support by ties to Mexico; presenting issues; number of border crossings, etc; I'll present some of this information in D.C.
 - Jennifer Felderman and I plan to work with our local Module 13 data (importance of getting tested) this month; our "N" is up around 120 already for this fiscal year which means we may have as many as 250 by the end of the fiscal year.
 - Module 15 (client understanding of disease management) is going out today! We are not quite sure what the response will be to this module - we'll keep you posted.
- **DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES:** (Michelle)
 - **In-House Data Collection:** Time Sequence Modules are scheduled to be completed this month and Yvonne will be collecting modules on the newly diagnosed clients that have entered into care this month as well.
 - **Outreach Testing:** The following are the latest numbers as of November 1, 2002 for FY3:
 - Total Number of Tests: 129 (GOAL: 150)
 - Total Number of Contacts: 238 (GOAL: 500)
 - Rate of Return: 86% (92/107)

Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe:

- * We have collected Time 2 data (including the barriers module and Time 2 QOL measure) from 87 people so far, and we continue to collect Time 1 data as new patients are seen.
- * We have entered local modules for these individuals.
- * However, we are still working out access problems with the internet connection at the clinic. As soon as these are resolved, we should be able to quickly enter remaining multi-site modules.

Trainings/Conferences:

October 9th

Dr. Armando Meza, Dr. Jaime Anaya, Pharm D, Ms. America Jones RN, and Ms. Jessica Ojeda, caseworker completed the West Texas HIV Assembly Membership Orientation and were

inducted as voting members. The Mission of the Assembly is to identify the needs, prioritize services and develop a comprehensive plan to deliver services for persons infected and affected by HIV in the West Texas HSDA. The Assembly advocates for equal access to services through resource management and community collaboration.

October 28th, 29th

Ms. America Jones RN and Ms. Cristina Ramirez RN attended a Nurse Preceptorship Training in Houston, Texas sponsored by the AIDS Education and Training Center. The objectives of the AETC Internship Program was to provide up-to-date information from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) on HIV care and management guidelines, converse and listen to area HIV/Health Care Providers about their practice and agency, and receive continuing credit hours in a clinic known as the first freestanding HIV clinic in the nation.

October 30th

Ms. Rosa Vasquez RN and Mr. Octavio Llamas PWA from International AIDS Empowerment provided a presentation to six classes at Ysleta Middle School. The audience consisted of approximately 120 children ranging from ages 12-14. The topics included HIV prevention, treatment, and personal testimony by Mr. Llamas.

MEDIA

Channel 4 News interviewed America Jones RN and a peer advocate at the La Fe CARE Center regarding the proposed decrease in State funding to the Texas HIV Medication Program (ADAP). Emphasis was made on the impact the decrease funding would have on the health of the clients who rely on this program for medication assistance. The segment was aired on October 31st at 6:00 and at 10:00pm.

San Isidro Health Center:

Programmatic/Dissemination:

- To be added by Rosana
- ML Zúñiga gave a presentation to the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)(October 22, 2002) on US/Mexico Border, HIV/AIDS, and the Southern CA Border HIV/AIDS Project. The focus of this presentation was on transborder activity and medical care seeking behavior as reported by SPNS participants. Presentation outline and So CA Border Project overview were distributed to participants. A follow-up letter was received by NASTAD to indicate inclusion of US-Mexico border issues on an upcoming Latino policy statement to be issued by this organization.

Evaluation:

- Chart review was completed on 10/30/02. A total of 84 charts were reviewed.
Several logistical challenges presented as the chart review process took place. As a result, a new one-page information tool has been drafted to improve communication and logistics during future chart

reviews. The tool will be presented to local SPNS partners for review and provided to multi-site partners as well.

Multi-site Data: 7/1/01- 10/02/02

- 1) Number of HIV + persons enrolled: 125
- 2) Number of persons enrolled through HIV testing: 1612
- 3) Number of results through HIV testing
 - HIV positive- 23
 - HIV negative- 1128
 - Inconclusive- 2
 - Total- 1153

Local Data:

- 4) Number of outreach contacts (estimate):
 - 1446 in database + 2112 yet to enter
 - Approximate total = 3558

Valley AIDS Council:

- Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) conducted home visits in efforts to obtain signatures from patients for the Medical Chart Review Consents.
 - This service was provided for patients who had problems with transportation and could not make the trip to Harlingen.
 - This service was also provided for patients that did not have another scheduled appointment with physician this month.
- Janie Delgado (Data Entry) was unable to submit data for this month since the computer went down.
 - Dale Schweers (UTHSCSA) provided technical assistance in order to get the database running again.
- Valley AIDS Council (SPNS) requested carryover funds from Year 2 to be used for Social Marketing Campaign continuation.
 - Request is pending approval from Grants Management.
- Carol Ybarra (Data Profiler) provided Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) with updated numbers for SPNS 2002 on Excel chart.
 - SPNS 2002 numbers project data from January to September.
- Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) contacted Belinda Zamora, LVN (Nuestra Clinica Del Valle, NCDV) in regards to the Medical Chart Review.
 - Scheduled the Consultants to review the medical charts from NCDV in Pharr, Texas on Friday, November 1st.
- Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) contacted Connie Villareal (United Medical Centers) from Eagle Pass, Texas in regards to the Medical Chart Reviews.
 - Scheduled the Consultants to review the medical charts from UMC in Eagle Pass, Texas on Thursday, November 7th.

- Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) contacted Jim Odom (Brownsville Community Health Center, BCHC) in regards to the Medical Chart Reviews.
 - Scheduled the Consultants to review the medical charts from BCHC in Brownsville, Texas on Wednesday, October 30th.
- Consultants finished reviewing the medical charts from Valley AIDS Council in Harlingen, Texas on Thursday, October 31st.
- Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) scheduled meeting at VAC in Harlingen for all SPNS Staff to discuss topics for publication.
 - Preparation for SPNS Grantee's Meeting in Rockville, Maryland in January 2003.
- Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) attended AETC Training/Dinner held on Wednesday, October 23, 2002.
 - Dr. Fernando Garcia presented: "Post-Exposure Prophylaxis"
 - SPNS Staff in attendance: Charles R. Smith, Libby Benavides, and Monica Ruiz.

Evaluation: (Yolanda)

- Presented VAC data at Partnership Meeting in late October
- Continue to work on data quality issues
- Finishing up local data change module form
- Scheduling Qualitative interviews for December
- Working on Systems Intervention paper for dissemination
- Developing Perceptor Model which will result in publication

Multi-site Evaluation:

1. Medical chart reviews will be completed in November. Took longer than expected to complete all the reviews, primarily due to the number of locations where charts need to be reviewed. Waiting for all final extraction forms to be submitted to the University of Oklahoma for entry into data system. This was a learning process. Many variations in how medical charts are documented, thus quality of data may be an issue. Held de-briefing with reviewers for NM, AZ, and CA. Important to document lessons learned during initial review to reduce potential or similar problems in YR-05. Tim will write to each project requesting a 1-2 page summary on the projects lessons learned during the medical chart review process.

2. Grantees Meeting: Dissemination Committee will meet on January 7, 2003 at the DoubleTree Hotel from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Filming for the HRSA CD-ROM will occur on January 7, 2003 at the DoubleTree Hotel. The Grantees Meeting will be held on January 8-9, 2003 at the Parklawn Building. Need reservation confirmation from San Ysidro and some extra information from El Paso. Betty asked grantees to submit recommendations for possible speakers. Steve suggested that Howard Lerner be invited to provide an update on the Border Initiative that he was appointed to. Adan will contact Howard Lerner and invite him to present at the grantees meeting.

HRSA Updates:

Adan informed grantees that a new SPNS Bureau Chief has been hired. She is Dr. Lois Eldred who will meet with the grantees during the January meeting.

Robyn asked Steve if a draft of the Border Conference Proceedings was available. Steve said he planned to have that completed by the January grantees meeting at which time he would make the proceedings available to HRSA staff and grantees.

January 6, 2003 Grantees Conference call was cancelled due to meeting in Washington, DC.