

**US/Mexico Border Grantees Conference Call
December 2, 2002 @ 10:30 AM**

Participants: John Wiebe, America Jones, George LaSoya, Yolanda Cantu, Tony Estrada, Michelle Valverde, Yvonne Roacho, Steve Trujillo, Ken Burton, Mike Tarter, Kari Maier, Rosana Scolari, Robyn Schulhof, Adan Cajina, David Barney, Herman Curiel, Tim Brittingham, Ahmad Saleem, Betty Duran, Alisa Olshefsky, Elias Cantu

Project Reports:

Arizona Border HIV/AIDS Care Project

Trainings: Dr. Carmichael updated the collaborators on his activities in going out to the CHCs to see and co-manage patients. On November 14th Dr. Carmichael saw five patients with Dr. Thomas at Dr. Thomas's office. Dr. Carmichael is optimistic that the participation of Dr. Thomas on the project will help develop community capacity in Yuma. Dr. Carmichael's scheduled clinic at Mariposa Health Center was canceled for November 21.

Dr. Carmichael attended the collaborator's meeting on November 1st and invited the collaborators to contact him to share information or concerns that they may have regarding patient care.

Dr. Galper shared at the November 1st collaborator meeting the restructuring of the AZ AIDS ETC by U of A and her responsibility as its director and the more active role that the AETC will have in Arizona. She informed the group of the position of the university's IRB and the difficulty, time for instrument approval, to have evaluation activities approved. Dr. Galper suggested to continue to have the CHCs collect the data at their sites and forward the data to Impact Consultants and the AZ AIDS ETC for analysis.

Outreach Activities: Yuma – House Parties targeting Latina women are going well. To date they have had 4 house parties with 47 women in attendance. The women range in age from 17 to 65 years of age. Their experience is that these women are open to the discussion of sex, sexuality and risk reduction. The women are offered the opportunity to test for HIV approximately 95% of these women agreed to be tested.

Outreach activities under the MAI funds reached 48 physicians in Yuma to inform them of the activities of YCHD, ABHAC and ADAP services to HIV positive individuals. YCHD has reported 95 HIV and 65 AIDS cases in Yuma County to date.

Sunset Clinics have enrolled 36 patients in the project to date and are working with the YCHD to identify and enroll new patients for services. The clinic and YCHD will work with Dr. Thomas (ID physician) to coordinate patient care in Yuma. Sunset is in the process of adding 4 physicians to their clinics. The clinic has closed the AHCCCS panel for new patients until the additional physicians are on staff. Referrals of patients with HIV/AIDS will be accepted

provided that the patient or referral source identifies the patient as positive for HIV. Dr. Wang is available 24/7 for consultation on HIV/AIDS patients.

Santa Cruz – Mariposa Health Center outreach activities continue to occur at the juvenile detention facilities 2x per week and at SEABHS 3x per week. Condoms and educational information is distributed to motels, truck stops and tattoo shops. Promotoras attend health fairs to distribute HIV educational information. Cesar G. has participated on 3 radio programs to talk on HIV counseling and testing, ABHAC and ADAP services. In September the clinic began offering HIV/AIDS educational classes at the Platicamos Salud offices each Tuesday from 9-11 a.m.

Cochise – Dr. Garcia shared that CCHD is in the process of hiring an additional case manager. Cochise County has reported 58 HIV positive individuals five new cases 3 diagnosed by CCHD and 2 moved to the county from another location. CCHD is exploring the possibility of establishing a youth promotora program. Dr. Garcia is communicating with colleagues in Mexico to provide education opportunities and conduct joint activities. They are planning a town hall on November 27th in A.P./Mexico. Activities for World AIDS Day are in the planning stages.

Dissemination Activities: Barbara Estrada and Steve T. presented on the ABHAC Project and findings at the ANFAR Arizona Regional HIV/AIDS Update in Chandler, AZ November 8th.

Project Enrollment: CCHD case manager will invite the five new cases in Cochise County to participate in the ABHAC project.

Local Evaluation: January the project will conduct the Health Provider Assessment at the CHCs.

Camino de Vida Center for HIV Services

- ❑ PROGRAMMATIC: (Yvonne)
In collaboration with the Promotores in Hatch, the HOWs conducted the first group session in Hatch, NM on November 13th.

On November 20th through 22nd all the HOWs and Veronica attended UNIDOS an Infectious Diseases Conference. Dr. Gary Sinclair presented on adherence issues.

Today, is World AIDS Day in Salem, NM a small village that is approximately 3 miles from Hatch, N.M.

Veronica will be assisting the NMDOH for the HIV Testing and Counseling Training on December 5 & 6.

Within the next 7 months Camino de Vida will be working in Collaboration with the New Mexico Department of Health, Texas Department of Health in El Paso, and Mexico to conduct a seroprevalence study.

Focus Groups facilitated by NMAETC were very informative for AETC and CDV. Many of the participants also appeared to get a lot out the conversations. The two groups were very different in composition and size. Sally Meisnhelder from SoAHEC typed up the notes and NMAETC will be compiling a summary soon.

□ LOCAL EVALUATION: (Michelle)

As of 11/25/02 we had received 20 local module 15's (Client Understanding of Disease Management). We sent out a memo on Tuesday to thank the clients who already completed it and to remind those who haven't completed it yet to do so. I hope to have some preliminary data in January.

I am beginning to prepare the IRB renewal application that needs to be submitted in December. We plan to add a qualitative piece. We will probably focus on late entry although we've talked about exploring MSM under-reporting.

Kari and I are working on an abstract for the National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS that will be held in Albuquerque in late May. We want to include capacity building and research/evaluation in whatever we do.

We started working on the presentation for the January meeting; we want to get it done early due to the holidays.

I submitted a data request form to David focusing on some of the Barriers data but I wasn't sure about a couple of things so I asked him not to post it yet. He'll post it once we've ironed out the loose ends.

Veronica, Yvonne, Tracy, and I summarized our experiences with the medical chart reviews. Please let us know if there is anything else we can do.

□ DATA COLLECTION NUMBERS UPDATE:

In-House: 71 total, approximately 7 pending; Time-sequence modules are in progress.
 Outreach: 146 Tests administered (Goal 150); Rate of Return: 83%; 314 contacts (Goal 500).

Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe

Testing

Month Year	Pre Test Counseling	Post Test Counseling	Result Negative	Result Positive	Enrolled @ LFCC
November 2002	28	22	26	2	4

Trainings/Conferences:

November 5th: Glaxo Smith Kline provided a luncheon seminar to the staff regarding sequencing HAART medication and resistance development.

November 8th: Ms. Nadine Thomson FNP-c taught a pediatric advanced life support (PALS) class in order to maintain status as an American Heart Association PALS provider.

November 11th, 12th: Ms. Nadine Thomson FNP-c attended the Dallas AETC Nurse Practitioner Preceptorship re: HIV 101 for health care providers. She shadowed Dr. Gary Sinclair and Dr. Phillip Kaiser in the Amelia Court AIDS Clinic (Parkland Hospital). She attended didactic lectures on HIV/HAART. The preceptorship was a great learning experience and it initiated discussion regarding a possible site visit to our facility.

November 13th: Ms. Nadine Thomson FNP-c and Dr. Jaime Anaya (pharmacist) met with Jason Womble from Roche Pharmaceutical to discuss upcoming potential project to switch clients with triglycerides > 700 from Kaletra to Invirase.

November 14th: Ms. Nadine Thomson FNP-c met with Kelly Stinson from Agouron pharmaceuticals regarding Zoloft and Viracept, products used for depression and HIV/AIDS. Patient information handouts on depression, anxiety, and bipolar disorder were obtained.

November 15th: Ms. Nadine Thomson FNP-c taught a class or the UTEP Nurse Practitioner students regarding HIV/AIDS in Women.

November 20th – 27th: 17 Clients participated anonymously in the Primary Care Outreach National Depression Screening. After review of the results by Nadine Thomson FNP-c, two clients were started on anti-depressants and 5 were referred for further mental health evaluation with Rosa Luna LMSW-ACP.

Evaluation:

*Data collection continues. Internet access has been re-established from the clinic and data entry has resumed.

*We submitted a data request form regarding depression. We'd like to work with the depression items that Tony and Barbara identified and validate them against a questionnaire measure that we're using with our group.

San Ysidro Health Center

- Social Marketing campaign site visits are scheduled for this week with all partner sites
- Rosana and staff attended and presented at the Bi-National HIV/STD Conference held in Tijuana, Mexico

- Rosana will submit an abstract for the AMFAR Conference to be held in March 2003 in Miami, Florida. Abstract on *Development and Provision of HIV Services along the Border*
- San Ysidro has received a Prevention for Positives Grant from San Diego County, Title I
- November was AIDS Awareness Month – Project hosted an educational event on November 20th, which had 231 attendees (the majority were women). 36 of the participants agreed to HIV testing.
- Nutrition Counseling is important for HIV clients, therefore, San Ysidro hired a Mexican physician to develop protocols on HIV nutrition counseling. These have been completed and Rosana offered to make the protocols available to other SPNS grantees. Betty asked if Rosana and the physician would like to present the protocols at the Grantees Meeting in January 2003. Rosana and the physician will present their protocols at the Grantees Meeting.

Evaluation:

- 12 new HIV testers were trained at Clinica del Pueblo
- 3 new promotoras will be working in the Valley
- Vista Community Clinic has a new outreach worker who will focus on Latino MSM
- Project has completed 3500 outreach forms but have decided to only keep data on only eight variables on the form. Therefore, they are modifying their data set to enter only the eight variables which will take some effort and time.
- Project has noted a slow down in data reporting for the month of November, attribute this to medical chart reviews and holidays
- Project lost data on 12 – 15 cases that was submitted via the internet. This was caused due to local internet problems which are being corrected.
- Project has enrolled 137 HIV clients – HIV tests provided are 1200 with 26 which were identified as HIV positive

Valley AIDS Council

- Forwarded copy of the Data Request and Plan Form to SPNS staff.
 - This form needs to be filled out and submitted for publication purposes.
 - This needs to be done in preparation for the SPNS Grantee Meeting in Rockville, Maryland scheduled for January 2003.
- Reviewed the Local and National “Change Forms” sent by UTHSCSA.
 - Forwarded comments and suggestions to George Losoya (Evaluation Coordinator) via email.
 - UTHSCSA (Yolanda Cantu, Evaluation Director) conducted conference call to review the Change Form.
- Medical Chart Reviews conducted in Eagle Pass, Texas on November 7, 2002.
 - Fe (Consultant) traveled to Eagle Pass to conduct the medical chart reviews.
 - Elias Cantu, Jr. (SPNS Coordinator) prepared Fe’s travel information pertaining to hotel, mileage, and reimbursements, as per Tim Brittingham, (University of Oklahoma, National Evaluators).

- Contacted Connie Villarreal (United Medical Centers) in regards to the consents and the number of charts to be reviewed.
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) visited Valley AIDS Council to film footage of VAC for an Interactive CD.
 - SPNS staff participated in footage filming:
 - Randy Alligood (Case Manager); Carol Ybarra (Data Profiler); Elias Cantu, Jr. (Project Coordinator); Libby Benavides (Project Consultant); and Charles R. Smith (Project Director).
 - Interactive CD will be released next year in 2003.
- Tim Brittingham requested preliminary report from SPNS sites in regards to the experiences with the Medical Chart Reviews.
 - Report needs to be submitted to University of Oklahoma no later than mid-December 2002.
 - Report needs to be inclusive of any changes recommended to improve the Medical Chart Reviews in Year 5.
- Reviewed Univision's proposed script for the Social Marketing campaign for Proyecto Juntos.
 - Cindy Ramos (Univision Representative) visited VAC in Harlingen to review the proposed script with Elias Cantu, Jr. (November 14, 2002).
 - Visited Univision's television recording studio in McAllen, Texas in preparation for filming Social Marketing commercials.
 - Filmed two commercials that will be aired on a rotating schedule on Channel 48 (Univision) in Spanish. (November 18, 2002).
 - SPNS staff present: Elias Cantu, Jr. (Project Coordinator) and Carol Ybarra (Data Profiler).
- Contacted Mary Douglas (Grants Management) in regards to Revised-Carryover request from Year 2.
 - Carryover funds will be requested for Phase II of the Social Marketing campaign.
 - Phase II is proposed to be a continuation of the Social Marketing initiative for an additional nine weeks.
 - Request is pending approval from Grants Management.
- Submitted abstract to Amfar (American Foundation for AIDS Research) 15th National HIV/AIDS Update Conference.
 - Conference will be held in Miami, Florida in March 2003.
 - Abstract submission pertained to the Social Marketing campaign's evolution, implementation and outcomes.
 - Included authors: Elias Cantu, Jr. (Project Coordinator); Charles R. Smith (Project Director); Yolanda Cantu (Evaluation Director); George Losoya (Evaluation Coordinator); and Andy Villa (Director of Education/ Outreach).
- Scheduled Qualitative Interviews for Yolanda Cantu (UTHSCSA).
 - Yolanda Cantu and George Losoya will conduct the Qualitative Interviews on December 9th and 10th at VAC in Harlingen, Texas. (UTHSCSA).
 - The Qualitative Interviews will be to collect data for publication titled: "Use of Healthcare Services in Mexico by HIV Positive Persons Living Along the United States/Mexico Border".

- Scheduling Physician Precepting date for Dr. D’Lima (Nuestra Clinica Del Valle) from Pharr, Texas.
 - Physician Precepting will take place at VAC in Harlingen, Texas.
 - Physician Precepting will be with Dr. Fernando Garcia (Director of Medical Services) on a monthly basis.
- Elias Cantu, Jr. (Project Coordinator) will present at World AIDS Day observance event scheduled for December 2, 2002.
 - World AIDS Day event will be held at Parklawn Building in Rockville, Maryland.
 - Anticipated audience will be staff from HRSA, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).
 - Presentation is titled: “Stop the Discrimination and Stigma: Let Me Tell You-Dejame Decirte”.

PROJECT DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

As of November 26, 2002, there are 175 unduplicated records in the Local Database.

- As of November 26, 2002 a total of 841 forms have been entered in the multi site database:
- 172 Demographic A (Implementation Date: 030101)
- 155 Lifestyle B (Implementation Date: 030101)
- 194 Risk Factor D (Implementation Date: 070101)
 - Time 1 - 159
 - Time 2 - 35
- 148 Quality of Life E (Implementation Date: 070101)
 - Time 1 - 117
 - Time 2 - 31
- 112 Barriers to Care F (Implementation Date: 110101)
- 60 Client Satisfaction G (Implementation Date: 070101)

CRITICAL INCIDENTS

None to report at this time.

OTHER EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

- **December 9-10, 2002 site visits to Valley partner agencies to conduct qualitative interviews with clients accessing care in Mexico.**
- **Change Form submitted to National Evaluator for implementation**
- **Have requested training from National Evaluator for data collectors (how to work with client issues that may arise from the data collection)**
- **Data request submitted to National Evaluator**
- **Planned process evaluation visit to Eagle Pass (December 2002)**

Evaluation Center:

- All medical chart review data has been received from all projects. Currently entering data into system for data analysis in near future. Tim working on “Lesson Learned” that will be shared with projects at Grantees Meeting in January. Project were encouraged to have new clients sign the Medical Chart Review Consents immediately, so that when YR-05 reviews are conducted, they will not need to ask clients at the last minutes to participate in the chart reviews. This should also be followed up with clients who did not sign a consent for the reviews conducted in YR-03
- Hotel confirmations will be sent out to all persons registered for the HRSA SPNS Border Grantees Meeting in January today. The draft Agenda will also be sent out today, along with instructions on Grantee reports to be presented at the meeting.
- Herman advised that he is developing a training curriculum on Crisis Intervention Case Management for presentation to Valley AIDS Council staff. He requested an opportunity to speak with project staff and evaluators to discuss what type of information is desired by staff. The training will also be available to other border projects as well. America advised her project would also be interested in the training.
- Yolanda asked if projects were supposed to submit data on pediatric cases. Betty advised that the University IRB does not cover pediatric cases, at OU, we are only allowed to conduct analysis on data collected from clients over the age of 18.

HRSA Updates:

- Semi-annual report is due on January 30, 2003. Instructions have been mailed to all projects and are available on the HRSA web page. David will also post the HRSA web link on the Border web page.
- Grantees were advised to submit their carry-over requests for YR-02 funds. HRSA is concerned with the amount of carry-over being requested by some grantees. Projects should speak with their HRSA Project Officer about carry-over requests.

Other:

- Michael Tarter offered to assist projects with statistical methods and data analysis as part of their dissemination efforts. Projects may contact Michael at UC Berkeley. His contact information is located on the Border web page.
- Grantees conference call scheduled for January 6, 2003 is cancelled due to grantees meeting in Washington, DC that same week