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**HRSA SPNS US/Mexico Border Grantees Meeting**

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**Rockville, MD****Parklawn Building – Conference Rooms G & H****January 8 – 9, 2004****Thursday – January 8, 2004**

**Greetings from Betty Duran and Dr. David Barney** – Welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated everyone for the work they have done on their projects. David provided the grantees with a GIS presentation of the residential zip codes of SPNS clients to show areas of concentration along the border. The presentation can be accessed at:

**SPNS Updates from Dr. Lois Eldred** – Lois Eldred welcomed participants and provided information regarding new SPNS projects including the Caribbean, Prevention with Positives, Young MSM and Integrated substance abuse treatment with Norphine (?). She also briefly discussed reauthorization and its political focus internationally. The direction it will take domestically still remains to be seen and could result in a focus on funding HIV medications. Stakeholders need to make sure their input is included in discussions. Not sure if the movement is still towards Title integration. The Care Act is popular among members of Congress and the way the Titles are funded is determined by these stakeholders and the direction they choose to go.

The All Titles meeting is scheduled for August 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. It is a wonderful experience and we would like for you to attend and showcase your programs. Around the end of January, a call for abstracts or papers will be released. HRSA is also hoping to provide an evaluation institute as well addressing how to use mixed evaluations models. Hoping to hold the day before the All Projects meeting. Make sure that you have included the costs of the All Titles trip on your budgets. The number of persons who can attend is limited.

The format for the semi-annual progress report will be sent out in the next two weeks with a submission date around the 15<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> of March. HRSA is trying to reduce the amount of information required but will be similar to the format used last year.

**Presentation of Multi-site, Medical Chart and Adherence Data: Lynda Williams, Marguerite Keese and Betty Duran** – Lynda, Marguerite and Betty presented preliminary descriptive information from Multi-site, Medical Chart and VAC adherence data. The PowerPoint presentation and recording are accessible at <http://www.ou.edu/border/dissemconf.htm#??>. Betty indicated that the table with log10 values for quarterly viral loads would be posted on the web and would like feed back from the group regarding alternative ways of calculating log10 values.

**Dissemination Committee Meeting** – The dissemination committee met from 1:00pm – 4:00pm. Tony Estrada opened the meeting. Various dissemination projects were presented and discussed including the development of an outline for the Year Five Monograph. Minutes from this meeting are available at [http://www.ou.edu/rec/pdf/01-08-04\\_DisMtg\\_Notes.pdf](http://www.ou.edu/rec/pdf/01-08-04_DisMtg_Notes.pdf). For the next presentation it is suggested that the information be presented as a comparison between pre and post SPNS.

**Friday – January 9, 2004**

**Ryan White Reauthorization: Idalia Sanchez, Director, Office of Policy and Planning** – Idalia Sanchez provided grantees with an overview of the reauthorization planning, development and implementation process.

She explained where HRSA was currently in the process and the key issue areas that have been identified at this point. Ms. Sanchez also informed grantees ways in which they could provide input into the process. Handouts from her presentation are accessible at: <http://www.ou.edu/border/>

**International Health Affairs: Howard Lerner, Director, Office of International Health Affairs** – Dr. Lerner provided an overview of the development of the US – Mexico Border Health Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to establish a dialogue between and US and Mexico so that effective solutions can be developed to deal with the unique complexities of the Border region. The commission is to function as an autonomous entity with a 6 – 7 million dollar budget per year. This will allow the commission to serve as a broad forum for a variety of interests. It is a bi-national commission with an unfunded agreement between the US and Mexico to seek collaboration between the two. HRSA is the lead agency within the DHHS to make this happen. A steering committee has been developed to reach out to the HRSA grantee community for feedback and input.

**Winding Down SPNS: Betty Duran** – Betty Duran provided a brief discussion of issues that the grantees need to be aware of as they plan for winding down their SPNS projects including staffing, cutoff date for SPNS data collection and referrals for clients to other services. OU will end data collection of multi-site data as of 12/30/04. Data entry for the first round of chart reviews should be completed and available to grantees sometime in late April 2003. The chart reviews for YR-05 will be conducted in August through October 2004. It appears that five of the six consultants will continue to work on the YR-05 chart reviews. Planning for the YR-05 reviews will also begin sometime in April 2004 to allow projects to assist in coordinating dates for the chart extractions.

**CDC-HRSA – Prevention with Positives Initiatives: Lois Eldred, Ph.D. and Steve Trujillo** -- Dr. Eldred presented background information behind the reasons why the prevention with positives initiative was developed and the pool of grantees that have been selected. Steve Trujillo with the Arizona Border HIV/AIDS Care Project described the prevention with positives project they are implementing. This project was one of the projects awarded funding through the prevention with positives initiative. The PowerPoint presentation presented by Dr. Eldred is accessible at : [http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/partners/AHP/ahp\\_October03.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/partners/AHP/ahp_October03.pdf)

**OraQuick Rapid HIV-1 Antibody Testing: Melissa Hayes** -- Ms. Hayes presented information on the use of OraQuick Rapid HIV-1 Antibody Testing and future testing advancements. This presentation is accessible at

**Overview of ADAP Guidance/State ADAP policy search: Jo Ann Spearmon, Pham.D., MPH** – Dr. Spearmon provided grantees with an overview of the ADAP guidance and formulary and state specific information regarding eligibility requirements, funding levels and participant caps. This presentation is accessible at <http://www.ou.edu/border/>

**Next Meeting** – Grantees chose to meet on August 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004 in Tucson, Arizona. Steve Truijillo is coordinating the logistics of this meeting with Betty and will be sending information to the Research and Evaluation Center for posting on the web soon. The grantees have also determined to skip the January 2005 meeting. Therefore, the next meeting after the one held in Tucson will not be until May 2005.

**Meeting adjourned** – 2:45pm.