

**HRSA SPNS US/Mexico Border Grantees Conference Call
April 5, 2004 at 10:30 am CST**

Location	Participants
Arizona	Steve Trujillo, Ken Burton
New Mexico	Dr. Michelle Valverde, Veronica Salcedo-Harding
El Paso, TX	America Jones, Dr. John Wiebe
California	Dr. Maria Zúñiga
Harlingen, TX	Elias Cantu, Dr. Yolanda Cantu, Lucia
HRSA	Adan Cajina, Sandra Duggan
OU	Dr. Morris Foster, Dr. Kermyt Anderson, Dr. Glen Soloman, Tim Brittingham, Lynda Williams, Marguerite Keese, Saleem G. Ahmad
Berkeley	Dr. Michael Tarter

I. OU/Berkeley Announcements

Tim began the call by asking permission to tape the call, with the provision that taping could be stopped at any point. All agreed.

Morris apologized for having to leave early. He stated the IRB situation is almost completely resolved (99.9%), with one small detail left regarding the Medical Review Charts. He stated further that it is his job to manage and fix what is going on, especially in regards to the wonderful data being collected, for significant publications and other dissemination. Also, that suggestions and ideas are greatly appreciated.

Michael Tarter stated that in addition to results, his interests include methodological issues, sample size and sample power.

II. Project Updates:

A. El Rio Health Center, Tuscon, AZ:

Trainings:

On March 12 the project collaborators met to discuss project activities and progress. Next meeting of project collaborators is scheduled for May 7, 2004. Dr. Carmichael saw 11 patients with Dr. Avina and on March 11th in Bisbee, AZ. Dr. Carmichael reviewed patients with Dr. Thomas (Yuma) via telephone on March 25th.

Dr. Carmichael is discussing sustaining the medical education component with collaborators through funds from pharmaceuticals companies.

AZ AIDS ETC:

The Pacific AETC and AZ AETC had the HIV Update at the Yuma Regional Hospital on March 26/27, 2004 with approximately 30 people in attendance.

Out Reach Activities:

Yuma – Outreach activities continue by YCHD, Puentes de Amistad and Campesinos Sin Fronteras in the communities of Somerton, San Luis and Wellton. Populations targeted are MSM, Latina Women, IDUs and their sexual partners. Outreach is conducted in fields, correctional facilities, bars, Marine base, college campus and use of house parties.

Santa Cruz – Mariposa Community Health Center staff continue outreach in the outlying communities of Rio Rico and Patagonia. Populations of outreach activities are MSM, IDUs, sexual partners and Latina women. Participation on the local Spanish radio program continues to occur when staff is invited. The HIV Positive support group at the clinic continues to be well attended.

Cochise – Cochise County Health Department and Chiricahua Community Health Center are working jointly on outreach activities in Bisbee, Douglas and Sierra Vista. CCHD promotoras (funded by ADHS) completed training and are conducting outreach. CCHD is working on implementing house parties as part of their outreach activities.

Dissemination Activities:

None

Project Enrollment:

To date 118 patients have been enrolled into the study. There are 3 patients pending enrollment.

Local Evaluation:

Local and multi-site evaluation data continues to be submitted.

ABHAC Project semi-annual progress report for July 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003 mailed to HRSA/HAB March 1, 2004.

B. Camino de Vida, Las Cruces, NM

Programmatic:

Outreach activities continue. The training that was provided on stress reduction, stress management and adherence went well. A treatment update is scheduled for tomorrow on “good news,” as requested by clients.

The following day, a Provider training regarding HIV and Prevention will be conducted. They also are helping administer the Provider follow-up interviews.

Research and Evaluation:

Regarding the Provider follow-up for Aids Education Training Centers (AETC); they are shooting for 25 completed interviews and have finished 3, so far.

The Qualitative piece is going well. They completed the first round this weekend. Ten clients already have consented. Each interview has three parts and information will be verified with clients.

- The project continues to enroll new SPNS clients, however due to other activities data cleaning activities will be put on hold for now.
- Michelle, Marguerite and Herman Curiel continue to focus on HIV-associated stigma and knowledge for their paper.

C. Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe, El Paso, TX

Programmatic:

Last month, 40 people received on-site testing. America will be sending in that report.

One of their clients was interviewed for a story on a local TV news station. As a result, the clinic has been receiving tons of calls.

There are benches across town (also in Spanish) advertising free 20 minute HIV testing with the clinic's telephone number. This has been a good outreach effort.

America indicated that through this effort they have identified 3 newly HIV positive cases in addition to 3 referrals sent to them from the hospital. A lot of people are calling in for testing.

A Public Information officer was hired 6 months ago, who has experience doing bench ads and with the media.

On site, they also have a lot of self-referrals—their case managers do a good job bringing people in.

Recently, they attended an HIV and Women Conference in Dallas TX as well as an AIDS and Nutrition project in Los Angeles. They came back with a lot of good new ideas, with thanks to Rosana.

Nadine, their Nurse Practitioner, has conducted several presentations to staff.

Research and Evaluation:

Folks recruited by staff are still being interviewed and have a good completion rate. Also, there is a system in place to collect Time 3 data and getting the data entered

One finding is that clients' rating and use of the Care Team has shifted as has the make up of the Care Team.

A discussion centered around previous designation as an emerging community and how the loss of that status has resulted in lost funds for several of the Border projects. Ken stated that the number of reported AIDS cases has gone down since they're being found earlier, before an AIDS status has occurred. In effect, they are being punished for doing better outreach. HRSA indicated that a Working Group has been established to make recommendations and suggested sending an email to Doug Morgan(?) who is better informed on these issues.

D. San Ysidro Health Center, San Ysidro, CA

Programmatic/Dissemination

1) We received notice on April 1st from Sandi Duggan that our semi-annual report was approved by HRSA.

2) A visit by Dr. Elizabeth Duke (HRSA Administrator) was conducted on March 10, 2004 to the San Diego border region, where she visited San Ysidro Health Center and Clínicas de Salud del Pueblo. Dr. Duke later stated that she was very impressed with the HIV services offered by SYHC.

3) A Women and HIV conference was held on March 13 & 14 in San Diego. Both R. Scolari and ML Zúñiga participated in and volunteered for the event.

4) Potential papers are being proposed as collaborations between UCSD Evaluation team and San Ysidro and other partner sites. SYHC's nutrition program is slated as one of the first manuscripts to be developed.

Evaluation:

1) Evaluation plan post July 1 data collection has been presented to SPNS partners. Focus after July 1 will be on qualitative evaluation with partner sites and tracking down any additional missing data.

2) UCSD Evaluation team provides evaluation technical assistance to partner sites.

3) Multi-site Data Update: 7/1/01- 4/01/04

- 1) Number of HIV + persons enrolled: 248
- 2) Number of persons enrolled through HIV testing: 3,892
- 3) Number of results through HIV testing
 - HIV positive- 57
 - HIV negative- 2,856
 - Inconclusive- 12
 - Total- 2925

Local Data:

4) Number of outreach contacts (estimate):
Approximate total = 7,672

E. Valley AIDS Council, Harlingen, TX

- Semi-Annual Progress Report
 - Due March 19, 2004
- Dissemination:
 - 2004 National HIV/AIDS Update Conference (NAUC 2004): Miami, Florida.

- Poster Presentation: Proyecto Juntos: “Addressing Challenges in Providing Care and Services to HIV Positive Individuals in South Texas Along the US-Mexico Border.”
- University of Oklahoma (Site Visit):
 - Scheduled for May 10-11, 2004
 - Technical Assistance
- University of Texas at San Antonio (Site Visit):
 - Scheduled for April 6-7, 2004
 - Technical Assistance
- Nuestra Clinica Del Valle (Pharr, Texas)
 - Physician Precepting
 - April 30, 2004
- United Medical Center (Eagle Pass, Texas)
 - Physician Precepting
 - May 14, 2004
- AETC Conference (Dallas, Texas)
 - 1st Annual Women & HIV Symposium
 - VAC and UMC Staff attended.
- AETC Nurse Training (Eagle Pass, Texas)
 - Rescheduled from March 15, 2004 to May 14, 2004.
- SPNS Partnership Meeting:
 - April 16, 2004 at Nuestra Clinica Del Valle

III. HRSA Updates:

Adan thanked the projects for sending in their project reports. Project guidance for the Continuing Application is being sent out today to each of the project’s Principal Investigators. The report itself is due May 21. No problems are anticipated for funding to begin July 1. Awards will be made by June 30 so that funding will not be interrupted.

For questions regarding the consultant that is to be hired to help the projects with their monographs, Adan suggested communicating with Morris, who will be visiting the sites during the next 2-3 months. The report [draft?] is still due by the August meeting. Tim stated he will follow up with Herman. Sandi stated that she would like to revisit notes (also regarding stop dates for national data collection) so that we can move forward with what was already decided.

IV. Evaluation Center

No more site visits will occur for the rest of the fiscal year.

We need agenda items for the SPNS meeting in Washington DC scheduled for June 10-11—please send to Marguerite.

- Beginning in May, we will be rescheduling these conference call to the second Monday of the month [all agreed].