

May 20, 2011

*Re: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention FOA # CDC-RFA-PS11-1117
and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration RFA # SM-11-006*

To Whom It May Concern:

We are pleased to submit this memorandum of understanding on behalf of the HIV Health Services Planning Council to demonstrate our commitment to actively participate in the implementation of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) here in San Francisco. The HIV Health Services Planning Council is the San Francisco Eligible Metropolitan Area's Ryan White community planning group.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of HIV, when the first reports of Kaposi's sarcoma among gay men were published in the MMWR. We believe that we can take the lessons learned over the past 30 years to make the next 30 years the last 30 years of HIV in San Francisco. The CDC's Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan (ECHPP) and SAMHSA's Minority AIDS Initiative Targeted Capacity Expansion (MAI-TCE) grants represent important vehicles through which we can make this vision a reality. San Francisco continues to be on the cutting edge of HIV prevention, and has already made great strides toward achieving the NHAS goals. Strong collaboration among community, providers, and DPH has been and will continue to be instrumental in our success.

Therefore, we strongly support the San Francisco Department of Public Health applications and, if they are funded, we agree to actively participate in guiding implementation of the ECHPP Plan by:

- Giving input into implementation plans, reviewing evaluation data, conducting gaps analysis, and making recommendations for improvement.
- Providing representation on the ECHPP Community and Provider Planning Group. This group will also serve as the Behavioral Health and Primary Care Network Committee as required by the MAI-TCE grant.

Sincerely,

Laura Thomas
Council Co-Chair

Lee Jewell
Council Co-Chair