**PRIORITY SETTING PROCESS**

# Goal:

The goal of the annual Priority-Setting Process is to establish sound service priorities based on data and service categories predetermined by HRSA to address existing and emerging needs of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH/A) within the Orlando Service Area (OSA)

# Objectives:

1. Ensure that the decision-making process includes established criteria (see tables 1 & 2).
2. Involve all members of the Central Florida HIV Planning Council in the decision-making process.
3. Utilize data presented during the Data Presentation - to support the decision-making in Priority Setting.
4. Discuss and rank priorities in the following categories: core services, and support services.

# Previous Trainings:

1. Mini- training sessions will be conducted at the monthly Planning Council meetings. These sessions will provide an understanding of the data, why it is provided and how to use it.
2. The June Planning Council meeting will include training on the Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Processes.

**The Priority Setting Process:**

1. **Voting Eligibility:** Three (3) roll calls will be taken at the Data Presentation meeting: one at the beginning of the meeting, the second following lunch and the final one at the end of the data presentation (prior to the question and answer session). Members who are not present for the full presentation will not be eligible to submit motions or vote at the Priority Setting or Resource Allocation meetings. An exception will be made for a bona fide emergency as approved by the Planning Council Chair if a member is present for at least 2 roll calls. We encourage all PC members to attend and be part of the discussion and give pros and cons.
2. **Roll call –** A roll call is taken to ensure that a quorum is present. Quorum must be maintained throughout in order to continue the priority setting process.
3. **Conflict of Interest** – The Conflict of Interest statement is read and explained. Members are asked to disclose any actual or perceived conflicts of interest at this time. The conflict of interest matrix must be updated and available.
4. **At completion of Data Presentation**, the Council members will be provided with a Priority Setting worksheet. The purpose of this worksheet is to assist Planning Council members plan their motions for the Priority Setting Process.
5. **Established Principles and Criteria** - The principles and criteria that have been adopted for implementing the process are read and explained; members are asked to declare by consensus that they understand the principles and criteria. Members are also reminded that they are expected to represent the interests of all PLWH/A’s in the Orlando EMA when they set service priorities.
6. **Question and Answer -** Any available answers to questions that arose from the Data Presentation will be presented at this time.
7. **Priorities –** The current year’s priorities will be used as a starting point to determine the priorities for the next grant year. In order to fund a service, it must be prioritized.
8. **Voting -** All voting will be done by a roll call vote. Members who were not in attendance for the full data presentation will not be eligible to vote. Members with a conflict of interest must refrain from voting on a service category for which they have a conflict of interest. **Exception: Conflict of interest does not apply when voting for a slate -- a slate consists of all prioritized service categories.**

# Process to establish priorities:

* 1. The current priorities will be used as the initial slate.
  2. The Council will be asked to accept or reject the initial slate. If the initial slate is accepted the process is complete.
  3. If the initial slate is rejected the slate will be cleared.
  4. At that point, motions starting with the service category which the Council wishes to be the highest priority are made on a category by category basis starting with Priority #1 and continuing in a sequential order.
  5. After a motion is on the table (and has been seconded), discussion consisting of a maximum of three pros and three cons for each motion occurs before a vote is taken. Members must declare their conflicts before stating their pro or con. However, Planning Council members with a conflict of interest on an issue may not state a pro or a con. Once a motion has been voted and accepted the category/categories affected by the motion will be locked. Discussion must be in accordance with the “Principles for Decision Making” and the “Criteria” in Tables I and 2 below.
  6. The motion / discussion / voting process continues until all service categories are prioritized. At that time, a motion to ratify the whole slate is made, seconded, voted on and accepted by the Council, at which time the process is complete and no further changes can be made.

**Meeting Notes -** Written documentation of all motions and discussions will be recorded and be available for public review.

**Evaluation of the process -** A survey will be distributed to evaluate the process. A summary of the surveys will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee who will provide recommendations to the Planning Committee on how to improve the process.

Approved priorities will be distributed to all stakeholders, including the recipient, and made available to the public.

# Table 1

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| --- | --- |
| **PRINCIPLES for DECISION MAKING** | |
| 1 | Decisions must be based on documented needs. |
| 2 | Services must be responsive to the epidemiology of HIV in the service area. |
| 3 | Priorities should contribute to strengthening the agreed-upon continuum of care, providing primary health care and limiting duplication of services. |
| 4 | Decisions are expected to address overall needs within the service area, not narrow advocacy concerns. |
| 5 | Services must be culturally appropriate. |
| 6 | Services should fill identified service gaps for underserved populations. |
| 7 | Equitable access to services should be provided across geographic areas and subpopulations. |
| 8 | Services should meet Public Health Service treatment guidelines and other standards of care; and be of demonstrated quality and effectiveness. |
| 9 | Ryan White resources will be considered the payer of last resort. |
| 10 | Ryan White resources will not be able to meet all identified needs. |

**Table 2**

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| --- | --- |
| **CRITERIA** | |
| 1 | Documented Need |
| 2 | Cost effectiveness |
| 3 | Quality |
| 4 | Outcome-effectiveness of services based on consumer surveys, outcomes evaluation and quality management programs. |
| 5 | Consumer preferences or priorities, based on services and interventions for particular populations with severe needs, historically underserved communities, and individuals who know their status but are not in care. |
| 6 | Consistency with the continuum of care: An approach that helps communities plan for and provide a full range of emergency and long-term service resources to address the various needs of PLWH/A. |
| 7 | Balance between ongoing service needs and emerging needs. |
| 8 | Inclusion of services to women, infants, children and youth (WICY) |
| 9 | Lack of other funding: Resources from other sources are not available to meet this service need. |