



MINUTES

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Chair: Kristen Kowalczyk in lieu of Homero Beltran

Recorder: Martha Garcia

Members Present: Everardo Alvizo, Dr. Sean Arayasirikul, Homero Beltran, LeRoy Blea, Jazmina Castillo, Dr. Roberta Cone, Dr. Geeta Gupta, Kristen Kowalczyk, Linda Ly, Fernando Martinez, Dr. Christopher Ried, Ricardo Velasco, and Dr. Jeffrey Vu

Affiliate Members Present: None

Members Absent: Martin Becerra, Dr. Itamar Harari, Karly Rubly (Absent Notification), and Khloe Rios-Wyatt

Affiliate Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Manuel Antunez, Tara Buehring, Martha Garcia, Mindy He, Marlon Velasco, Linda Viramontes, and Mary Young

Staff Members Absent: Brian Greene (PCS)

Guests: Guillermo Cardenas, Jorge Miranda, and Leyla Rodriguez

Item 1. Call to Order: Kristen Kowalczyk called the meeting to order at 11:40 am

Item 2. Welcome and Introductions:

Kristen Kowalczyk welcomed all in attendance. Kristen Kowalczyk provided an overview of the agenda, the purpose of public comment, and how the meeting will be facilitated. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted. The moment of remembrance was held. Members and guests introduced themselves. A quorum was established.

Item 3. Approval of Agenda:

Fernando Martinez put forward a motion to approve the agenda with the change. The Chair repeated the motion. Dr. Gupta seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed by consensus.

Item 4. Approval of December 10, 2025 Minutes:

Jazmina Castillo put forward a motion to approve December 10, 2025, minutes. The Chair repeated the motion. Ricardo Velasco seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed by consensus.

Item 5. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Item 6. Our Working Council Discussion:

There were no comment cards for review. Kristen Kowalczyk reminded members that comment cards can be submitted to Planning Council support via email or dropped into the Suggestion Box at the back of the room.

Item 7. Review Progress Towards Achieving National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) Goals:

Marlon Velasco provided an overview of the 2025 National HIV/AIDS Strategy Goals and Objectives approved by Planning Council on August 14, 2024. The guidance for 2026-2030 has not been released. Once received, the goals will be set for each of the progress indicators.

Item 8. Approval of Tentative Master Calendar of Council and Committee Activities:

Mindy He provided an overview of the Tentative Master Calendar for all the committees. Jazmina Castillo put forward a motion to approve the Tentative Master Calendar for all the committees. The Chair repeated the motion. Dr. Arayasirikul seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The Chair asked for the members in favor to say yay. The Chair then asked for any nay votes. The yay votes were unanimous to approve the Tentative Master Calendar for all the committees.

Item 9. Review FY25 YTD Expenditure Report:

Linda Viramontes provided an overview of the FY24 YTD Expenditure Report that covered the timeframe from March 1, 2025 to November 2025.. Moving forward reports will continue to be presented with year-to-date available data.

Item 10. EHE Quarterly Update:
Tara Buehring provided an update on Orange County's Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Work Plan which included a review of current and planned activities as well as progress made for each activity.

Item 11. Overview of Attendance and Leave of Absence Procedures:
Martha Garcia provided an overview of the Planning Council Attendance and Leave of Absence Procedure.

Item 12. California Planning Group (CPG) Update:
Priorities Webinar

- January 20th from 2-3 PM – via zoom

Spring Meeting

- Monterey--May 12th-14th – In-Person

Item 13. State Office of AIDS (OA) Update:
The OA report is available at: <https://ohealthinfo.com/about-hca/public-health-services/health-promotion-community-planning/hiv-planning-and-0>.

OA is transitioning ADAP to an open formulary model. This means that all FDA-approved medications will be included in formulary except for select medications that have been excluded due to safety concerns or cost. The full list of medications covered effective January 13, 2026 is [here](#).

The expanded formulary will align ADAP more closely with Medi-Cal's broad medication coverage and will reduce treatment interruptions, especially for clients whose insurance changes between ADAP and Medi-Cal.

Prevention Funding RFA Webinar

- February Prevention Partners Webinar – NEW Request for Applications (RFA) Community Engagement Opportunity!
- Please join us for our February Prevention Partners Webinar on Thursday, February 12 at 9:30 AM PST for a special opportunity to contribute feedback and ideas for the focus of OA's next RFA, which will tentatively be released sometime in 2026. Resulting projects will run from July 1, 2027, through June 30, 2029. During the webinar they will highlight the Health and Safety Code (HSC) which provides for the funding of these Demonstration Projects and invite you to share your ideas for this funding opportunity.

Prevention Partners

- Our CDPH Office of AIDS Prevention Branch Monthly Partners Webinar occurs on the second Thursday of every month, 9:30 am - 11:00 am.
- These webinars are an opportunity for OA Prevention Branch to provide important updates and engage with community partners and allows an opportunity for partners to engage and share with OA staff!

Building Healthy Online Communities (BHOC) Integrated Testing

- BHOC's TakeMeHome testing will have additional tests available soon for Orange County.

Item 14. Grant Recipient Reports:

A. Contract Services:

- There were no updates.

B. Quality Management (QM) Committee:

- There were no updates.

C. HIV Planning and Coordination:

- There were no updates.

Item 15. Matters from the Chair:

There were no matters from the Chair.

Item 16. Member's Privilege/Announcements:

There were no matters from the members.

Item 17. Adjournment until February 11, 2026:

Kristen Kowalczyk adjourned the meeting at 1:19 pm.