



**Advocacy from Within:
Case Studies from the Front Lines**

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Grantee Meeting

August 26, 2010

About NAPWA

- The National Association of People with AIDS, founded in 1983 is the oldest national AIDS organization in the US, and the oldest national network of people living with HIV/AIDS in the world.
- Frank Oldham Jr. President and CEO
- Michelle Lopez, Board of Trustees, Chair

Mission

The National Association of People with AIDS advocates for the lives and dignity of all people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS

Consumer Advocacy Project (CAP)

- Access to HIV/AIDS services is critical to the medical, mental, and emotional health and quality of life for PLWHA. The mission of CAP is to ensure that PLWH have access to primary medical care with appropriate prevention and support services to maintain them in care.

CAP Program Description

- To provide consumer advocacy and outreach services for primarily indigent, uninsured, and under insured persons living with HIV/AIDS in the Ryan White Washington DC Eligible Metropolitan Area

CAP Goals:

- Provide assistance in obtaining medical, legal, financial and other needed supportive services to PLWHA eligible to receive services within the DC EMA.
- Develop outreach materials
- Develop Grievance Resolution Process

Role of CAP Advocates

- A CAP advocate is a peer, uniquely qualified to provide a voice of experience, serves as a model of healthy behavior and is a liaison between the client, his/her medical care and support service providers.
- Through a shared background with the client , common culture and language, CAP advocates can most effectively relate to clients in ways health care providers cannot
- The advocate provides the client with emotional and social support in order to prevent the challenges and realities of care from overwhelming them thus allowing them to be linked and retained in care.

Advocacy Defined

- Specifically
 - ❖ Argues for a cause; a supporter or defender
 - ❖ Pleads in another's behalf: an intercessor
 - ❖ Type of problem solving designed to protect personal and legal rights, and to ensure a dignified existence.

Advocates

- Use motivational interviewing during the intake/assessment.
- Work to resolve core issues not merely address crisis situation.
- Empower clients to tackle their own issues, thereby helping them develop personal skills and a sense of self-efficacy.

Self-efficacy

- If people believe that their actions will produce the outcome they desire, they will be motivated to act or persevere in the face of difficulties.
- The higher the sense of efficacy, the greater the effort, persistence, and resilience. People see challenges to be mastered rather than threats to be avoided. Moreover there is less anxiety, stress, depression, and a better vision of how to solve a problem.

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- Philip Bailey – Virginia Advocate
- Karen Reynolds- DC Advocate
- Shirley Graham- Maryland Advocate
- Solmar Gordillo- EMA-wide

Question and Answer



Contact Information

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