
HIV Health Services Planning Council

9616 Micron Ave, Suite 930
Sacramento, Ca 95827
(916) 875-5881
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To: Members, Public Health Advisory Board
Fr: Danielle Caravella, HIV Care Services Program Staff
Re: HIV Health Services Planning Council Member Appointment

September 19, 2023

The Sacramento Transitional Grant Area's HIV Health Services Planning Council requests that you appoint and re-appoint the following members whose term on the Council is set to expire on December 31, 2024:

- **Chelle Gossett** to Seat Number 23: Fiscal Agent Representative
c/o Sac DHS
9616 Micron Ave, Suite 930
Sacramento, CA 95827
916-875-2776, gossettm@saccounty.gov

Ms. Gossett has served on the Planning Council since March 2019 when she began employment at Sacramento County Public Health and began serving in the role as the Recipient of The Ryan White Parts A&B Funding. Her role requires her to work in conjunction with the HIV Health Services Planning Council to ensure all HRSA mandates are fulfilled. She must remain a seated member of the Planning Council to accomplish these tasks and seeks re-appointment.

- **Zachary Basler** to Seat Number 2: Affected/Underserved Community
7227 Amsterdam Ave
Citrus Heights, CA 95621
415-299-7027, zacharysbasler@gmail.com

Mr. Basler has served on the Planning Council since January 2020. He serves as the Chair of the Affected Communities Committee and has taken on a significant role in planning and organizing community outreach and education events. His leadership has helped recruit new members to the Council including mentoring them. He is a highly involved member and a valuable asset to the Council.

- **Richard Benavidez** to Seat Number 30: Affected/Underserved Community
3820 Broadway #211
Sacramento, CA 95817
916-612-3445, richardbenavidez70@gmail.com

Mr. Benavidez has served on the Planning Council since August 2014 and has been the Council Chair since July 2021. He is an appointed member of the Planning Council to the California Planning Group (CPG) a statewide HIV planning body and a member of the CPG HIV and Aging Committee. He wishes to renew his Planning Council membership as he has been elected as Chair of the Council until December 2026 and to continue the work he has accomplished over the last 3 years.

- **Scott Fong** to Seat Number 31: HOPWA
c/o SHRA
801 12th St
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-449-1274, sfong@shra.org

Mr. Fong works as a Community Development Analyst at the Sacramento Housing Redevelopment Agency. His position is to administer HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS) contracts for SHRA that provide funding for providers and help be a voice for these communities. He would like to renew his membership for another term to continue representing his agency as the HOPWA administrator in the region.

- **Everardo Alvizo** to Seat Number 35: Non-Elected Community Leader
1501 5th Street, Unit 577
Sacramento, CA 95814
310-650-4212, Everardo.alvizo@gilead.com

Mr. Alvizo was just recently appointed to this seat in August 2024, he wishes to renew his membership for a full three-year term. Mr. Alvizo has been working in the HIV field for the past 14 years in capacity building, grant writing, and public health. He has previously worked with the Ryan White Planning Council in Los Angeles County. He has worked closely with the Councils Affected Community Committee in his role as the Gilead Sciences HIV Community Liaison for Sacramento. He has been attending the Council meetings as a community member but believes he can bring his skills and expertise to the Council as a seated member. His goal is to collaborate with community partners to end the HIV epidemic throughout Sacramento County by ensuring that the

diverse needs of the region's community members are addressed as it relates to access to HIV education, prevention, and treatment services.

- **Melissa Willett** to Seat Number 39: Local Public Health
c/o Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation
12183 Locksley Lane Suite 208
Auburn, CA 95602
530-889-2437, melissa@sierrafoothillsaids.org

Ms. Willett has served on the Planning Council since August 2021. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and the Executive Director of Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation. Her knowledge of the medical case management services working with people living with HIV in rural communities continues to make her a valuable asset to the HIV Health Services Planning Council. She wishes to continue her membership on the Council to continue representing her agency and the communities they serve.

- **Steve Austin** to Seat Number 42: Affected/Underserved Community
1801 L St #115
Sacramento, CA 95811
212-205-2723, steve@austinsol.com

Mr. Austin has served on the Planning Council since July 2020 and has been a dedicated participant of the Affected Communities Committee. He wishes to continue his membership on the Council as he is a passionate advocate for people living with HIV and regularly participates in the various Planning Council Committees.

- **Oswaldo Arias** to Seat Number 33: Affected/Underserved Community
3950 Mack Rd, Spc 152
Sacramento, CA 95823
916-821-6443, ariasoswald12@gmail.com

Mr. Arias is interested in serving on the HIV Health Services Planning Council to support people in the community for better health outcomes as HIV affects all aspects of one's life. He hopes to inform the Council of the needs of the HIV community and bring awareness to the need for stigma reduction among people living with HIV and substance use.

- **Heather Orchard** to Seat Number 40: Local Public Health
931 Spring Street
Placerville, CA 95667
530-621-6155, heather.orchard@edcgov.us

Ms. Orchard works as a Public Health Nursing Manager at the El Dorado Health and Human Services Agency and will be replacing the previous representative from this agency. She is interested in participating in the Planning Council to ensure that the tri-county TGA continues to work together to ensure services for clients in the rural counties.

If you have any questions, please contact the HIV Health Services Planning Council staff at 916-875-6021.

Sincerely,

Danielle Caravella

Danielle Caravella
Health Educator
HIV Care Services Program
Sacramento Transitional Grant Area
916-875-6021