

**Chinese Delegation Conference**  
Meeting with the **Rhode Island Community Planning Group for HIV Prevention**

**Minutes**

Date: November 03, 2004

Time: 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Place: Biltmore Hotel

Minutes: Allison Merkman

**Present:** Paul Loberti, Elisa DelBonis, Lucille Minuto, Philip Kane, Vinnie Velasquez, Stephanie Howie, Donna Williams, Laurie, Betsy, Capt. Mike, Lina Ruiz, Sergio, Jen Steinfeld, Pat Threats, Lorraine Moynihan, Lorraine Kaul, Allison Merkman, Dr. Gong Xiangguang Mr. Yang Feng, Ms Wang Guiying, Dr. Luo Mai Dr. Ming Yangi, Ms LI Chunrui, Ms Li Zhenlian Dr Tian Lichuan (Some members were present for dinner and not the exchange)

Meeting was called to order at 2:10 PM

Paul opened the meeting by asking everyone present to introduce himself or herself in relation to the work and connection they have with RICPG or HIV/AIDS work.

**Discussion:**

Lucille opened discussion on Community Planning quoting *a plan without a program is a dream. A program without a plan is a nightmare.* Why is it good to plan?

- \*Prevention
- \*Surveillance
- \*Evaluation-PEM'S
- \*Laboratory Support
- \*Quality Assurance

Paul explains more about the CPG and the different tools that are used to make the group successful.

- Work books
- Marketing
- Committees
- Task forces
- Charter-rules of order
- Consultation

Some ideas shared about China included:

The Population in China is 1.3 billion 840 thousand infected with HIV and 80 thousands with AIDS. In 1985 the first AIDS Patients was reported. Their outreach/goals are to reach out to the gay community and to educate their youth.

At this time the government is helping in many ways. Government leaders are publicly shaking hands with some AIDS patients. This has helped. In addition the following strategies are used:

- free drugs
- marketing of condoms
- needle exchange
- public newsletters
- self help programs
- free testing

Some of the question exchanges are highlighted as follows:

Lucille asked, how much training do the teachers/educators get?

The Delegates responded: Seven days training

The Delegates asked- Since the RI CPG was selected by CDC to be the best CPG for us to visit, why are you (the members) involved in the CPG and why do think you represent the population you are representing on the CPG? Summarized responses were as follows (Phil) reported having personal experience with the impact of the virus by losing friends. He reported that as a gay male, he had personal contact with the at-risk population and has lost friends to the virus. He reported being involved with CPG out of care and concern of everyone infected with this virus.

(Pat) reported that part of her job is working closely with people infected. Pat reported her concern for people with the disease based on her personal experience with the people impacted.

– What are you doing to prevent the transmission?

(Lina) reported on some of the strategies they use as interventions including public newsletters and government presentations.

The Delegates asked-How do you reach out to high-risk teens?

(Lorraine M) reported strategies using community based programs, have a van stop at the shelter to get them what they need, shots, getting them tested etc.

(Paul) Spoke about *Can We Talk* Program, which supplies information for parents which enhances the information that is otherwise not readily available through the school system.

After the summary of community planning, and the review of the tools used by RICPG, the meeting was dedicated to a question response exchange as highlighted previously.

Paul closed the meeting offering rides to the state house for those delegates who needed them.

Attachments: Paul and Lucille's Powerpoint presentation