



Section I – Mission Statement

The mission of the Greater Hartford Ryan White Part A Planning Council is to determine priorities for how Ryan White Part A funds are allocated based on the documented needs of the HIV/AIDS communities within the TGA. It is the responsibility of the Council to assure that all infected and affected communities and populations of the TGA are represented on the Planning Council.

Section II – Goal and Objective

The goal of the Greater Hartford Ryan White Part A Planning Council is, through its needs assessment and planning processes and through the allocation of funding, to create a seamless continuum of care that addresses the needs of the infected and affected populations of the three counties it is charged to serve. Its major objective is to ensure access to core medical services.

	Member	Regular Planning Council Meetings			Regular Planning Council Meetings					
		3-Mar 2024	3-Apr	1-May	5-Jun	26-Jun	18-July	4-Sep	6-Nov	5-Feb
					PC & AAM	Data P	P&A			2025
1	Albert Ruperti	P								
2	Andre L McGuire	P								
3	Ashia Cruz	P								
4	Bozena Pare	E								
5	Carolina Gonzalez	P								
6	Consuelo Munoz	P								
7	Danielle Warren Dias	P								
8	Dulce Dones-Mendez	P								
9	Erika Mott	P								
10	Gwendolyn Bawl	E								
11	Jean Negron	P								
12	Joseydi Trochez	P								
13	Jullissa Rose	E								
14	Latanya Grant	E								
15	Leander Kelly Jr.	E								
16	Lloyd Johnson	P								
17	Luis Dias	P								
18	Maria Lorenzo	P								
19	Melinda Vazquez Yopp	P								
20	Michel Daud	P								
21	Myrna Miller-Saez	P								

22	Phillip Rochester	P								
23	Rita Wilson	P								
24	Ruth Garcia	E								
25	Ruth Murray	P								
26	Shavan Gordon	P								
27	Shelly Sullivan	P								
28	Terry Hightower	E								
29	Valerie Ingram	P								
30	Venesha Heron	P								
31										

*X notes that the Member was present but not a voting member at that date. NSI – No Sign In, L – Leave
 Alternate - nonvoting member, 1/3 Members needed for Quorum*

Guests Present: Africka Hinds, Denese Smith, Ruby Rios, Makayla Eastmond (ACT), Megan Aurette (ACT), Brennden Colbert (ACT), Anthony Lawson City of Hartford, Boatemaa Ennin (ACT), Viola Odenya (St Francis)
Recipient’s Office: Angelique Croasdale (SPO) Part A, 2iS and Part B, Dadie Dorsinul-Sonceau, (QM) Tamika Riley (DA), Peta-Gaye Nembhard (PO) Part A & B)
Meeting Facilitated By: Andre McGuire and Maria Lorenzo
Recorded By: Marie Raynor - Support Staff

Wednesday March 3, 2024, Planning Council Meeting

Maria Lorenzo, Planning Council Co-Chair, called the meeting to order and welcome participants to our first in person meeting and the first meeting for FY 2023-24. Andre McGuire, Planning Council Co-Chair called for a moment of Silence. Maria continued by asking attendees to introduce themselves, reviewed the ground rules and informed them that meeting will be recorded for notes taking purposes. The review of the February minutes was approved with corrections.

Year in Review

Marie Raynor, Planning Council Support Staff, presented the Year In review for FY 2023-2024 and the accomplishments, challenges and collaborations and upcoming projects.

Welcome Home Hartford

Anthony Lawson, Project Manager, presented on “Welcome Home Hartford” stating it aims to combat systemic racism as it pertains to homeownership in the city. The goal of this initiative is to increase the number of minority homeowners in the Frog Hollow and Northeast neighborhoods by connecting and educating them on the resources available to them. We have a variety of resources that can be found on the webpage: Welcome Home Hartford (healthyhartford.info). In addition, we will be holding informative seminars in which community members are able to learn about the home buying process and connect with

a variety of agencies such as CHFA, HUD, NHS New Britain, Bedrock Credit America, and Coldwell Banker. The next seminar will take place in December (Details to be announced at a later date). We are partnering with Institute for Community Research, Data Haven, United Way, and Partnership for Stronger Communities on this initiative to analyze and innovate current programs and policies with the opportunity to develop new sustainable programming and explore the challenges and barriers people of color face with the home buying process. The community voice group allows us to connect with these community members, have their voices heard, and assure that the community's needs are met by including them in this process.

ACT Presentation on

Brennden presented on the upcoming TGA initiative on an upcoming virtual training session that aims to discuss and address frequently asked questions (FAQs) and best practices when dealing with clients who are employed or will be employed while receiving public benefits.

With the understanding that this can be a complex issue, and the goal is to provide participants with the tools and guidance needed to navigate these situations effectively. This training is open to all Greater Hartford H.O.P.W.A. providers, leaders, and stakeholders. He encourages participation and engagement. The virtual training is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 13, 2023, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Breakout Session Priorities and Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committees

Each committee worked on their respective agendas and report out below.

Committee Updates:

Continuum of Care Committee - Continuum of Care did not have a meeting since November but continues the TGA PDSA on Dental Care, with training of CM and the development of the surveys in English and Spanish. Securing the Stipend, dental bags and seeking dental kits from the State. Surveys were launched with the PEC members and hard copies were given to CM.

Evaluation Committee – The Evaluation Committee reviewed the Early Identification of Individuals with HIV and AIDS and Co-Infected with Hepatis C (EIIHAH) Plan to align it with Human Resource Service Administration (HRSA) report requirement including developing a new score sheet. The committee also requested in writing to the recipient office feedback from providers on the current EIIHAH Plan.

Membership Committee – The Membership Committee reviewed the reflectiveness chart. As of February 29, 2024, the Reflectiveness Chart indicates a 35% compliance. There are 31 Members, including 11 non-align members. There further review the ideal reflective of the Planning Council body to the data of Individuals living with HIV the TGA- The Council aims to recruit 2 Black males, 8 Hispanic males and 4 females, 2 white female and 6 males. The committee received two applications. The letters to our mayor's office for members have been drafted and are awaiting submission for FY 2024-2025 contract period.

Multicultural Care Team- The Multicultural team did not meet in February. The meeting is set for tomorrow virtually as the space at Amplify will be used for another event.

Positive Empowerment Committee – Discuss Transportation and plans were made to address transportation concerns of people living with HIV/AIDS and to review and make recommendations on the Ryan White Planning Brochure, along with preparations for National Youth HIV Awareness Day on April 10th in New Britain.

Priorities Need Assessment Committee – The committee set up an Ad Hoc Committee which met on 1/26/2024 to discuss the Statewide PrEP prevention survey done in 2022 and decided to extract key results and identified challenges response reported in PrEP/Pep; HCV and STI. The committee formed a workgroup and broke down each area to create activities and then rotated the group to review and add to each category in last month's meeting with the continuation in today's meeting. The committee decided to have the Ad Hoc Committee review the updates made and seek to clarify timelines and responsibilities for action items so not to duplicate efforts both locally and statewide.

Public Comments, Announcements & Other Business

1. The Connecticut HIV Planning Consortium (CHPC) meeting to be held on March 29, 2024, at 9:00 – 11:00 pm.
2. The 340B Grantees Spring Conference to be held in Phoenix, AZ on May 20-2024
3. The National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment to be held as a hybrid model on August 20-23, 2024- Registration is now opened. PCS requested that all members and guest registrations be gain more knowledge and CEU's for sessions.
4. The Broker Academy-Access Health CT registration opens and ends on March 31, 2024.
5. Save the Date: Hepatitis Testing Day is on May 17, 2024, a Statewide event.
6. Training – Integrated HIV/AIDS Planning technical Assistance Center presents a series of training on Strengthen Your Community Engagement Strategies on March 5, April 2 and May 7 at 1pm.
7. Members and guests were asked to submit to Planning Council their activities via email.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned after attendees completed the meeting evaluation.

The Planning Council Meeting was convened by Maria Lorenzo, Co-Chair, who warmly welcomed all participants to our inaugural in-person meeting of the fiscal year 2023-24. A moment of Silence was respectfully observed, led by Andre McGuire, Co-Chair. Attendees were then invited to introduce themselves, ground rules were reviewed, and it was noted that the meeting would be recorded for accurate documentation.

Approval of February Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting held in February were reviewed and approved with necessary corrections.

Year in Review:

Planning Council Support Staff, presented an overview of the accomplishments, challenges, collaborations, and the ongoing projects for the fiscal year 2023-2024.

City of Hartford- Welcome Home Hartford:

Anthony Lawson, Project Manager, shared insights into the "Welcome Home Hartford" initiative, aimed at addressing systemic racism in homeownership within Frog Hollow and Northeast neighborhoods. Resources and upcoming seminars were highlighted, along with partnerships with various organizations to analyze and innovate programs and policies.

Advance Connecticut Together (ACT) Presentation:

Brennden presented on an upcoming virtual training session addressing frequently asked questions and best practices when working with clients employed or seeking employment while receiving public benefits. The session aims to equip participants with effective tools and guidance. The training is scheduled for March 13, 2023, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Committee Updates:

Each committee provided updates on their respective agendas:

- Continuum of Care Committee discussed ongoing initiatives related to dental care.
- Evaluation Committee reviewed and aligned plans with HRSA report requirements.
- Membership Committee reviewed membership composition and recruitment efforts.
- Multicultural Care Team scheduled upcoming meetings virtually.
- Positive Empowerment Committee addressed transportation concerns and upcoming events.
- Priorities Need Assessment Committee discussed survey results and action plans.

Public Comments, Announcements & Other Business:

- Various upcoming events and conferences were announced, including the Connecticut HIV Planning Consortium meeting, the 340B Grantees Spring Conference, and the National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment.

Training opportunities and deadlines for registrations were also highlighted, along with a reminder for members and guests to submit their activities to the Planning Council via email.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned following the completion of the meeting evaluation.

Next Meeting:

The next Planning Council meeting will be announced at a later date.