

CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

June 14, 2024
10:00 AM - 12:00pm
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cathy M. Co-Chair
Susan B. Co-Chair
Angie P.
Barbara G.
Brian H.
Denise R.
Eileen B.
Ernest B.
Gauis C.
John V.
Joseph P
Lance M.
Lisa C.
Margret H.
Pamela B.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Arthur B.
Clara C..
Gerard S.
James C.
Juanita C-F
June T.
Nancy D.
Patricia R.
Paul B.
Traci S.
Tyrone B.
Wendy A.

GUESTS

Isabelle Deselier
Nivo Flowers
Ashley Nicholls

STAFF:

Georgette Beal
JoAnn Henn
Nancy O'Keefe
Katie Ramirez

STAFF Absent

Myra Alston

I. Welcome/Introductions

Cathy M., Co-chair, opened the meeting at 10:10am with a welcome and introductions. She then requested a moment of silence to remember those whom we have lost, and those still living and struggling.

II. Approval of April 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Denise R. made a motion to accept the April 12, 2024, meeting minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Barbara G.

10 approvals 0 Opposed 5 abstentions

III HIV Stops with Me campaign presentation

HIV Stops With Me is a national social-marketing campaign that aims to prevent the spread of HIV and reduce stigma associated with the disease. The campaign features real HIV positive people talking about real issues; united by their goals of ending HIV stigma, supporting linkage to care, building self-esteem and a sense of community among people living with HIV.

Three spokesmodels, all long-term survivors shared their stories and their message. Ms. Ashley Nicholls, Ms. Nivo Flowers, and Ms. Pam Biafora gave very personal accounts of their experiences, beginning with the conditions surrounding their diagnoses and living with HIV, the values of self-care and healthy living, their combined commitment to educate and help stop the spread of HIV. The committee thanked the spokesmodels for their inspiring and heartfelt presentation.

III. Planning for Consumer Conference: Eating Well & Living with HIV

One of the proposed activities of the Consumer Involvement Committee workplan is to develop and host one major consumer training/presentation. The committee decided to host a nutrition conference entitled *Eating Well While Living with HIV*. Attendees and participants will include consumers, vendors, nutritionists, dieticians and other health professionals. The timeframe is sometime in October from 10am-2pm. A venue needs to be found that is centrally located for easy travel and access. Farmingdale College, Knights of Columbus and UFWs have been suggested as possible venues. The proposed format would include a panel of experts such as nutritionists, dieticians, other health professionals, consumers and some vendors that specialize in medically tailored meals.

It was suggested that different stations and workshops be set up, such as food demos, reading and understanding labels, a visual representation of the amount of sugar found in foods and what a balanced plate looks like. In addition, it was recommended that a list of food-related resources be created that can be accessed through a QR code. Paper lists will also be made available to those who prefer to have a hard copy as a reference for the information. Compiling a recipe book that focuses on healthy, budget-friendly meals that are easy to prepare, with recipes that are clearly labeled to be heart-friendly, veggie-based, and diabetes-focused with a calendar and pages for appointments and notetaking was also suggested. A placemat/cutting board from Cornell Cooperative Extension that illustrates healthy eating was shown to the committee as a possible item to include in a tote-bag that will hold the materials and information from the conference. A consumer committee was created to assist with the planning.

VI. Announcements/Adjournment

Community forums have been scheduled for the following dates:

- Friday, June 21st at Sun River Health in Patchogue (English)
- Tuesday, June 25th at Nassau Suffolk Law Services (Spanish)
- Friday, June 28th at Nassau-Suffolk Law Services (English)
- Monday, July 8th Sun River Health in Brentwood (Spanish)

There will also be two Zoom forums in English and Spanish. Dates to be determined.

The deadline to complete the Consumer Survey was extended to the end of July to get more responses.

A motion was made by Lance M and seconded by Ernest B. to adjourn the June 14, 2024, Consumer Involvement Committee meeting. **All in Favor-Motion carried.**