



<b>Location:</b>	Chrysalis Center – Hartford, CT		
<b>Date:</b>	January 15, 2020	<b>Recorder:</b>	Michael Nogelo / David Bechtel
<b>Start Time:</b>	9:35 a.m.	<b>End Time:</b>	2:00 p.m.
<b>Presiding Chairs:</b>	Gina D’Angelo, Blaise Gilchrist, Barry Walters		
<b>Attendance:</b>	See last page for roster of CHPC members and public participants		

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#### **MEETING AT A GLANCE**

- CHPC members voted to approve the August 2019 meeting summary without changes.
- CHPC participants learned the core messages and resources available to promote Getting to Zero (G2Z) in Connecticut.
- CHPC committees conducted meetings.
- CHPC participants learned about CHPC partners (“Meet the Partners”) and participated in an interactive activity on the topic of Getting to Zero.

#### **CALL TO ORDER, MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND INTRODUCTIONS**

CHPC co-chair Blaise Gilchrist called to order the Connecticut HIV Planning Consortium (CHPC) at 9:35 a.m. Mr. Gilchrist explained that the CHPC is a statewide HIV prevention and care planning body that exists to reduce the rate of new infections and to help those who are living and affected by HIV/AIDS connect to services. CHPC is responsible for developing and implementing a statewide integrated HIV prevention and care plan. The plan spans the timeframe of 2017 to 2021 and focuses on Connecticut Getting to Zero. The statewide goals line up with [national HIV/AIDS Strategy](#) goals. This includes addressing health disparities and inequities.

Mr. Gilchrist shared information about how CHPC meetings work, how CHPC members use a consensus model for decision-making in committees, and how CHPC participants create an environment for inclusion and participation. Mr. Gilchrist asked meeting participants to hold a moment of silence to honor all of those individuals infected, affected, or who have lost their lives as a result of HIV/AIDS.

CHPC co-chair Barry Walters recognized the new CHPC members starting their terms in January 2020: Corey Gerena; Cynthia Hall; Reggie Knox; Brian Datcher; Luis Martinez; Bob Sideleau; Mitchell Namias; Victor Acevedo; and Xavier Day. Mr. Walters shared that these individuals completed an orientation session in December 2019. Introductions were conducted by way of meeting participants sharing their names and the town in which they live and/or an organizational affiliation.

#### **CHPC LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Walters shared four items:

1. A committee chair opening exists for the Getting to Zero (G2Z) committee. An interim chair (Gina D’Angelo) leads the committee. CHPC membership packets contain a job description and a short application form. Return application forms by January 31, 2020.



2. CHPC co-chair Blaise Gilchrist’s leadership term will end in August 2020. The CHPC will organize an election process to occur sometime in July or August. Application forms will be issued in May or June.
3. Committee meeting will be held in the mornings. This will permit more time and more public participation.
4. The CHPC agenda contains a new segment: Path to our Vision (POV). This will be a regular 10-minute knowledge and/or skill building segment that focuses on building a common knowledge base across our CHPC champions.

**PATH TO OUR VISION: GETTING TO ZERO (G2Z)**

Gina D’Angelo, CHPC co-chair, stated that Getting to Zero (G2Z) will be a major emphasis for the CHPC moving forward. This includes a concerted effort to implement the G2Z Commission’s recommendations, the launching of the CHPC’s G2Z committee, and developing a G2Z approach for the 2022 – 2027 statewide HIV plan. Ms. D’Angelo introduced basic information about G2Z so all CHPC champions could convey this information in their communities:

1. G2Z in Connecticut responds to alarming trends in the HIV epidemic, identifies priority populations: MSM (men who have sex with men) of color, Black women, and transgender women, and focuses on urban centers (high incidence areas).
2. G2Z has 3 objectives: 0 new HIV cases; 0 HIV related deaths; and 0 stigma and discrimination.
3. Connecticut has an incredible G2Z website with many resources: [www.gettingtozeroct.org](http://www.gettingtozeroct.org).

Ms. D’Angelo encouraged CHPC champions to become comfortable with a small set of core messages which begin building a base of awareness in and across communities.

**VOTE: AUGUST 2019 MEETING SUMMARY**

Mr. Gilchrist explained that the CHPC operates as a public planning group and therefore records a meeting summary. The CHPC members reviewed the notes and took a formal vote to approve the meeting summary. The table below shows the outcome of the voting process.

*CHPC Vote Summary: August 2019 Meeting Summary*

Motion to approve	Second the motion	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstain
Bob Sideleau	Clara O’Quinn	10	0	11

**Discussion, additions and/or corrections prior to the vote:**

- CHPC members who were new or who did not attend the August 2019 meeting were reminded to abstain.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



Mr. Walters invited CHPC members and public participants to share announcements, success stories, or any emerging issues in their communities. The table below summarizes the announcements. CHPC staff will send out the announcements using the CHPC info share listserv.

**Summary of Announcements Shared at the CHPC Meeting**

Area	Announcement	Date	Brief Description
Statewide	DPH personnel updates	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gina D’Angelo introduced Ellen Blaschinski, R.S., MBA, DPH Branch Chief who is attending to learn more about and experience the CHPC meeting first-hand.</li> <li>Gina D’Angelo stated that Heidi Jenkins, Section Chief, TB, HIV, STD &amp; Viral Hepatitis Program will be retiring soon and has been an incredible resource to DPH and the CHPC community.</li> </ul>
Hartford	State of Black Men’s Health in Hartford Summit	TBD – June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Angelique Croasdale-Mills announced that Hartford will be planning this summit and providing updates in the upcoming months about progress and opportunities to participate. Contact: <a href="mailto:croaa001@hartford.gov">croaa001@hartford.gov</a></li> </ul>
Ryan White Part A – New Haven & Fairfield Counties	Request for Planning Council members (especially Waterbury and New Haven)	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roberta Stewart, co-chair of the Ryan White Part A Planning Council stated that openings exist for Planning Council members, especially individuals who reflect the epidemic. The Council does great work, contractors generate high viral suppression rates. Visit: <a href="http://www.nhffryanwhitehivaidscare.org">www.nhffryanwhitehivaidscare.org</a></li> </ul>
Statewide	CADAP online portal updates for case managers	January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DPH CADAP (Mitchel Namias) will be e-mailing CADAP contract supervisors to get lists of case managers as part of an effort to support online enrollment into CADAP. Contact: <a href="mailto:Mitchell.Namias@ct.gov">Mitchell.Namias@ct.gov</a></li> </ul>
Statewide	Positive Prevention Connecticut February Meeting	February 10, 2020 at 9:45 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive Prevention CT, a statewide HIV prevention messaging group, will meet at the Meriden Health Department. Contact: <a href="mailto:Dante.Gennaro@ct.gov">Dante.Gennaro@ct.gov</a> <a href="http://www.positivepreventionct.org">www.positivepreventionct.org</a></li> </ul>
New London	Medical Case Manager job opening at Alliance for Living	January 20, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical &amp; Housing Case Manager, Bachelor’s Degree required, bilingual preferred, send resume and cover letter to <a href="mailto:kthompson@allianceforliving.org">kthompson@allianceforliving.org</a></li> </ul>
Statewide	CHPC – permission / release for taking photos	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dante Gennaro takes photos for CHPC and other communication efforts such as Positive Prevention CT website and G2Z websites. Please sign a release form for photos.</li> </ul>
Statewide	AETC Hep C Grant – new educational app available	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bob Sideleau explained a phone app that people can download to learn more about Hep C. A Spanish version will be available soon. Participants received handouts and information has been sent out to the CHPC listserv.</li> </ul>
UConn Health	Retirement / personnel change	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blaise Gilcrest reported the retirement of the Ryan White clinical nurse (Juliana) and a replacement</li> </ul>



**Summary of Announcements Shared at the CHPC Meeting**

Area	Announcement	Date	Brief Description
			Desireen Atkinson who will use the same telephone number.
Hartford	Retirement / personnel change	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Angelique Croasdale-Mills reported the retirement of two prominent HIV physicians (and identified replacements): Dr. Ellen Newhouse (Dr. Ken Abriola) and Dr. Jack Ross (Dr. Robin Deutch).</li> </ul>
Statewide	Training for CareWARE updates	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peta-Gaye Nembhard sent out a Survey Monkey poll to identify dates and times to conduct a statewide training to acclimate personnel to enhancements in the CareWARE system.</li> </ul>
Statewide	Youth housing stabilization referrals	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Danielle Warren-Dias explained that a grant program (funded by Ryan White Part D) will help youth ages 18 to 24 find stable housing. Contact: <a href="mailto:cmunoz@uchc.edu">cmunoz@uchc.edu</a></li> </ul>

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Committee Updates. Ms. D’Angelo reviewed how the CHPC structures its committee work. The table below shows the areas of focus for the committees (August 2019 and January 2020). Committee meetings will run from 10:30 a.m. to 11:55 a.m. at which time lunch will be served. Committee updates/accomplishments will be sent out via e-mail.

Committee	Focus of the Committee Work	
	August 2019	January 2020
<b>Ad Hoc Prevention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial meeting pending vote to continue as a standing committee</li> <li>Identify partners, work plan, and approach to meeting Sep to Dec</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review statewide G2Z recommendations</li> <li>New Haven capacity building grant update</li> <li>2020 priorities and work plan</li> </ul>
<b>Membership &amp; Awareness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2020 CHPC member selection process</li> <li>Recruitment and retention updates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2020 work plan</li> <li>CHPC membership review</li> <li>March newsletter planning</li> </ul>
<b>Needs Assessment Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review workforce survey pilot data and user experience questions</li> <li>Focus group updates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus group updates</li> <li>Preview of 2020 work plan</li> <li>HIV Workforce survey results</li> </ul>
<b>Quality &amp; Performance Measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QM Summit planning (Sep 2019)</li> <li>Plan for 2020 + accomplishments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2020 work plan</li> <li>CHPC indicators and quality 101</li> <li>Quality summit debrief</li> </ul>
<b>Executive</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting process check</li> <li>September to December transition</li> <li>Focus groups</li> <li>New member orientation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review meeting feedback</li> <li>Committee work plan coordination</li> <li>Input on February CHPC agenda</li> </ul>



### CHPC PRESENTATION: MEET THE PARTNERS

Ms. D’Angelo explained that the presentation time will build knowledge and networks important to G2Z. Specifically, CHPC partners will provide a small set of information in a four-minute time period. Each partner will: 1) describe their services; 2) share a 2019 accomplishment; 3) identify one priority focus for 2020; and 4) provide contact information. The [presentation](#) will be sent electronically through the CHPC info share. The table below shows the presenters.

Presenter	Part / Organization
Marianne Buchelli	Department of Public Health – HIV / HCV / OD Prevention Program
Dante Gennaro, Jr.	Positive Prevention CT
Sue Speers	Department of Public Health – HIV Surveillance
Thomas Butcher	Ryan White Part A – New Haven / Fairfield Counties
Angelique Croasdale	Ryan White Part A – Hartford Transitional Grant Area
Laura Aponte	Department of Public Health - Health Care and Support Services (Ryan White Part B)
Mitchell Namias	Department of Public Health – Connecticut AIDS Drug Assistance Program (CADAP)
Nicole (Coley) Jones	Generations Family Health Center (Ryan White Part C)
Danielle Warren-Dias	CCMC – Families Women, Infants, Children and Youth (Ryan White Part D)
Bob Sideleau	New England AIDS Education and Training Center at Yale (Ryan White Part F)

CHPC applauded the success stories of the partners, many of which focused on viral suppression rates as high as 100% in some regions. CHPC participants shared that the presentations created a sense of accomplishment and energy in the room.

### INTERACTIVE TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY

Ms. D’Angelo helped organize the CHPC participants into small groups for a team building activity that would increase the connection of CHPC participants and also begin to get each individual thinking about getting involved in and/or contributing to G2Z. Participants broke into five small groups of approximately 10 participants. Each group did a small icebreaker (would you rather always be 10 minutes early or 20 minutes late) and then focus on a specific question about how to accomplish one of the three G2Z objectives. Each group was then asked to identify the top priority for the group in terms of the list generated by the group. The top priorities were shared with the CHPC during a report-back segment.

The table on the next page shows the outcome of the activity. Ms. D’Angelo noted common themes emerging across the groups. Mr. Walters noted that some of the ideas/actions can begin occurring immediately. This table will be used as inputs for the G2Z committee.



# Connecticut HIV Planning Consortium

January 15, 2020 Meeting Summary Page 6



## Summary of G2Z Activity

G2Z Objectives	0 New HIV Cases	0 HIV Deaths	0 Stigma
<p><b>Top priorities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normalize routine testing</li> <li>• Normalize discussions about sex and HIV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand eligibility for medical case management (so medical case managers can serve more clients)</li> <li>• Create a comprehensive HIV service center – later hours, portable / mobile services, behavioral health, substance abuse treatment / overdose prevention, peer support, community education, address social determinants of health and health equity, incentivize viral load suppression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publicize key messages in multiple ways (e.g., champions, bumper stickers, T-shirts, pins, wrist bands, texts)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o “See me... know me”</li> <li>o “Request the HIV test”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All of us speak about HIV – share the facts and PLWH (people living with HIV) share their status</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ideas / Actions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Viral suppression</li> <li>• Educate non-Ryan White funded doctors</li> <li>• Higher awareness in schools</li> <li>• Tailor message to engage Caribbean community and women</li> <li>• Talk with personal providers</li> <li>• Viral load tracker – for medical adherence</li> <li>• Education and awareness in our networks / communities</li> <li>• Moms educate / talk to children</li> <li>• Incentive for reaching viral suppression</li> <li>• Forum for providers to share best practices for viral suppression</li> <li>• Cultural competence for medical providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easier access to CADAP</li> <li>• Adherence support groups</li> <li>• Utilizing DIS (disease intervention specialists) and EIS (early intervention services) (9 months)</li> <li>• Collaborate more with providers</li> <li>• Co-location</li> <li>• Educating clients on holistic health</li> <li>• Reduce late testers</li> <li>• Provider education / updated medications</li> <li>• Early diagnosis</li> <li>• Education / information</li> <li>• Medication adherence</li> <li>• Address social determinants of health – stand in the gap in policy and services</li> <li>• Collaboration / partnerships</li> <li>• Health insurance</li> <li>• Portable care (non-traditional)</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• PrEP / PEP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PLWH become the voice, do not be afraid to express ourselves</li> <li>• Educate the faith community – use Bible teaching to love all and not judge to make the case</li> <li>• Educate groups that may not see themselves at risk (women, older people)</li> <li>• Address both internal and external stigma – it is difficult to change deep-seated cultural and religious beliefs. Educate clients: education is power.</li> <li>• Speak up. Don’t avoid the person or topic.</li> <li>• Fact-check people</li> <li>• There is more stigma in Connecticut because people don’t speak up. We all need to speak up.</li> <li>• Go to the faith community to educate them on HIV</li> <li>• Change the dialogue about HIV. Speak about it as a chronic condition (like other medical conditions). Talking about ending the epidemic can also reduce stigma.</li> <li>• Educate youth in schools</li> <li>• Address provider stigma; this stops people from accessing care. Providers working with women may judge them for having children (e.g., WIC, Birth to 3).</li> <li>• Educate women about PrEP</li> <li>• Ask questions about views (case manager, doctor, facilitator)</li> <li>• Seek to understand what is fueling the stigma / discrimination, develop skills to have the conversation</li> <li>• Normalize the conversation – among providers, in homes, in the community</li> <li>• Practice mindfulness (empathy / diversity)</li> <li>• Silence = death</li> </ul>



**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Walters invited CHPC participants to introduce any other business items. No items were introduced.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Walters reminded participants to fill out their feedback forms, thanked everyone for a productive and highly energetic meeting, and adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

**CHPC ATTENDANCE RECORDS** (1 = present; 0 = absent; arriving late is counted as an absence for official records)

First Name	Last Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Victor	Acevedo	1							
Laura	Aponte	1							
Susan	Bouffard	1							
Thomas	Butcher	1							
Angelique	Croasdale-Mills	1							
Gina	D'Angelo	1							
Brian	Datcher	1							
Xavier	Day	1							
Stephen	Feathers	0							
Nilda	Fernandez	0							
Carl	Ferris	1							
Jose	Figuroa	0							
Lauren	Gau	1							
Dante	Gennaro	1							
Corey	Gerena	1							
Blaise	Gilchrist	1							
Cynthia	Hall	1							
Reggie	Knox	1							
Ronald	Lee	1							
Luis	Magana	0							
Luis	Martinez	0							
Waleska	Mercado	0							
Mitchell	Namias	1							
Clara	O'Quinn	1							
Bob	Sideleau	1							
Jeffrey	Snell	1							
Roberta	Stewart	1							
Barry	Walters	1							
TOTAL		22							
PERCENTAGE		79%							





**PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS** (1 = present)

Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Barlow, Cinque	1							
Blaschinski, Ellen	1							
Boone, Joyce	1							
Buchelli, Marianne	1							
Carbonell, Carlos	1							
Castro, Christian	1							
Ciborowski, Lauren	1							
Combaro, Debra	1							
Cordero, Reina	1							
Davidson, Daniel	1							
Davidson, Megan	1							
DeLaCruz, Martina	1							
Del Vecchio, Christina	1							
Dones-Mendez, Dulce	1							
Gardner, Brittany	1							
Gibson, Lynette	1							
Hall, Shanay	1							
Heron, Venesha	1							
Hernandez, Juan	1							
Jenkins, Heidi	1							
Jean-Baptiste, Clunie	1							
Jones, Coley	1							
Joseph, Marcelin	1							
Kotey, Dionne	1							
Major, Sue	1							
McAllistor, Keiva	1							
Moranino, Marlene	1							
Nembhard, Peta-Gaye	1							
Nieves, Maribel	1							
Pigatt, Shaquille	1							
Pope-Wiggins, Lorrie	1							
Rodriguez-Santana, Ramon	1							
Rodriguez, Rosie	1							
Rose-Daniels, Delita	1							
Speers, Sue	1							
Velez, Yolanda	1							
Warren-Dias, Danielle	1							
<b>TOTAL COUNT</b>	<b>37</b>							