



Getting to Zero (G2Z) Committee

15 July 2020 Meeting Summary

ATTENDANCE Refer to page 4
START 11:15 a.m. **END** 12:17 p.m. **LOCATION** Virtual GoToMeeting
CHAIR Gina D’Angelo **STAFF** Mark Nickel

QUICK SUMMARY

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The G2Z Committee approved by consensus the 17 June 2020 meeting summary.
- Suzanne Speers presented an epidemiological profile with a focus on the G2Z cities.
- Participants heard an update on the last 30 days of implementation progress for the G2Z capacity building grant. Progress included review of 20+ other plans from states and/or regions; telephone interviews; and development of a marketing campaign for the project.

ACTION STEPS

- The participants will re-convene on 19 August 2020.
- Sue Speers will complete a G2Z city focus report for Danbury.
- Committee staff will complete a meeting summary and the epidemiological presentation. The July meeting summary will be sent to participants for review and input, and approved by consensus at the August virtual meeting.

NEXT MEETING

- 19 August 2020 at 11:15 a.m. virtual Zoom meeting.

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MEETING NOTES

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Ms. D’Angelo called to order the virtual meeting at 11:15 a.m. and introduced herself as the G2Z committee chair. Ms. D’Angelo encouraged participants to create a productive virtual meeting environment by: a) turning on and sharing their web cams; b) using the chat box and/or visual signal to cue the meeting leader; and c) self-muting microphones when not speaking.

Ms. D’Angelo explained that the G2Z Committee exists to coordinate and scale Getting to Zero activities statewide and facilitate best practices sharing, among others. Participants shared their names and organizational affiliations and/or communities in which they lived or worked.

REVIEW MEETING SUMMARY

Participants approved by consensus the 17 June 2020 meeting summary. The meeting summary had been circulated for revisions once and a “pending approval” version was sent by e-mail to all participants who attended the meeting.



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EPI PROFILE WITH EMPHASIS ON G2Z COMMUNITIES

Suzanne Speers (Department of Public Health) shared a presentation titled, “Getting to Zero: Surveillance Data Update”. The attached pages contain the presentation. Ms. Speers will provide a full Epi Profile at the August 2020 CHPC meeting. The presentation included information on:

- Rate of PLWH by race, sex, age group and transgender
- Geography of people living with HIV
- HIV continuum of care (i.e., diagnosed, engaged, retained, and virally suppressed)
- Trends in New HIV diagnoses and deaths
- Geography of new HIV diagnoses
- Rate of HIV diagnoses by race/ethnicity, sex, and age
- Trends in HIV diagnoses by risk
- MSM diagnosed with HIV by age and race/ethnicity
- Number of HIV diagnosis by gender
- Published data on transgender persons
- G2Z five-city focus that showed information on newly diagnosed including transgender and the local continuum of care
- Indicators and targets for NHAS 2020, DHAP Strategic Plan, HHS, and healthy People 2020.

The conclusions of the presentation included:

1. The number of new HIV diagnoses in Connecticut has decreased 25% over the past 10 years.
2. Challenges with disparities exist within the 5 G2Z cities among several populations including: MSM; Black women; and Transgender Women.
3. Action is needed to improve Continuum of Care outcomes.

Themes and questions during the discussion included:

- Excellent presentation. Thank you so much for including any available data on the transgender population.
- HIV reporting typically includes a lag time as a result of due diligence to follow-up with HIV-related deaths.
- The participants will be sent the G2Z presentation.
- Reporting remains consistent with CDC reporting rubrics and protocols (e.g., CDC gender identity is sex assigned at birth).
- Limitations exist with transgender reporting.
 - Current gender identity options include: a) female; b) male; c) transgender (male to female); d) transgender (female to male); e) unknown; and f) additional. Non-binary can be a write-in option.
 - Is it possible to do a G2Z city focus on Danbury – one of the five G2Z cities included in the New Haven and Fairfield Counties G2Z capacity building grant? Ms. Speers agreed to complete this task.
- New diagnoses in New London warrant attention based on case rates (v. absolute totals).



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Ms. D'Angelo thanked Ms. Speers for the excellent presentation and stated that the city-focused analyses will support the G2Z capacity building work as well as Ryan White Part A funding applications.

UPDATE: STATEWIDE G2Z PLANNING AND LOCAL G2Z CAPACITY BUILDING

RWA G2Z Capacity Building. Mr. Tom Butcher explained that since he sent an initial e-mail in 2016 with a call for action (e.g., queer men, men of color, and black females), evidence of change remains uneven at best with the exception of a dramatic reduction in reducing transmission due to injection drug use. Mr. Butcher challenged the group to achieve outcomes for priority G2Z populations that replicate the shift in HIV transmission among IDUs.

Mr. Saperro shared the following updates:

- Consultants reviewed and analyzed approximately 25 plans from other states and regions. The plans varied appreciably. For example, one state (Illinois) plan identified 22 goals and 72 strategies and another plan (Maryland) organized the work around four goals.
- Numerous interviews with Connecticut stakeholder were completed and grouped into 17 themes. The themes were then distilled into four priority areas: a) education and awareness; b) service improvement; c) disruptive innovation; and d) infrastructure changes. The infrastructure changes often reflected national level issues with more supportive policies at the state and local levels.

Other discussion points:

- Mr. Butcher announced that consultants had designed a G2Z marketing campaign with a logo and color schemes for each G2Z community. More information will be shared at the August meeting. Mr. Butcher noted that ending HIV during our lifetimes should be exciting news and widely celebrated.
- Ms. Gau stated that Chrystal Moore appears poised to champion the local effort in Stamford and the process to re-engage local stakeholders will begin soon.

Statewide G2Z Coordination: Ms. D'Angelo noted that she will be reaching out to Regional Behavioral Health Action Organizations (RBHAOs) funded by the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS).

- More stakeholders representing the housing sector should be included in the G2Z process (statewide and local). Ms. D'Angelo stated that the HIV Funders Group has been reaching out to invite and include housing providers.

Ms. D'Angelo thanked everyone for a productive discussion.

NEXT STEPS AND MEETING FEEDBACK

Next steps will include:

- The participants will re-convene on 19 August 2020.
- Sue Speers will complete a G2Z city focus report for Danbury.
- Committee staff will complete a meeting summary and send out the epidemiological presentation. The June meeting summary will be sent to participants for review and input, and approved by consensus at the July virtual meeting.

ADJOURN

Ms. D'Angelo adjourned the meeting at 12:17 p.m.



Getting to Zero Committee
15 July 2020 Meeting Notes



Attendance Record

Name	CHPC Member	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Susan Bouffard	X	●	●			●	●	●	
Thomas Butcher	X	●	●			○	●	●	
Gina D'Angelo	X	●	●			●	●	●	
Lauren Gau	X	●	●			●	●	●	
Dante Gennaro	X	●	●			●	●	●	
Corey Gerena	X	●	○			●	○	●	
Reggie Knox	X	○	●			●	●	●	
Luis Martinez	X	●	●			●	○	○	
Jeffrey Snell	X	●	●			●	●	○	
Roberta Stewart	X	●	●			●	●	●	
Barry Walters	X	●	○			●	●	●	
	Member Count	10	9			10	9	9	
PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS									
Albertina Baptista							●		
Cinque Barlow		●							
Maritza Bond							●	●	
Christian Brooks							●	●	
Carolos Carbonell		●							
Christian Castro		●							
Lauren Cibrowski		●							
Reina Cordero		●	●						
Angel Cotto						●		●	
Delita Rose-Daniels		●	●			●	●	●	
Megan Davidson		●	●			●		●	
Emily DeJesus			●						
Martina DeLaCruz						●			
Taylor Edelmann			●			●			
LaToya Fitzwilliam							●	●	
Brittany Gardener		●	●				●	●	
Monica Gonzalez			●			●		●	
Juan Hernandez		●				●			
Venesha Heron		●	●			●	●	●	
Coley Jones		●							
Marcelin Joseph		●	●						
Nancy Kingwood							●		
Heather Linardos								●	
Oscar Mairena						●		●	
Nicole Morgan						●	●		
Maribel Nieves		●	●						
Francesca Quettant						●	●	●	
Dustin Pawlow								●	
Lorrie Pope-Wiggins		●							
John Saperio							●	●	
Suzanne Speers								●	
LaToya Tyson								●	
Jennifer Vargas								●	
Yolanda Velez		●				●	●	●	
Melinda Yopp								●	
Unidentified Callers (may be duplicates)						3	2	2	
	Public Count	15	10			14	14	19	
	Total Count	25	19			24	23	30	