



Getting to Zero (G2Z) Committee

17 June 2020 Meeting Summary

ATTENDANCE Refer to page 5

START 11:02 a.m.

END 12:08 p.m.

LOCATION Virtual GoToMeeting

CHAIR Gina D'Angelo

STAFF Mark Nickel

QUICK SUMMARY

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The G2Z Committee approved by consensus the 20 May 2020 meeting summary.
- Participants met John Sapero who will be the project coordinator for the City of New Haven Ryan White Part A (RWA) Getting to Zero capacity building grant. Mr. Sapero shared the vision and approach for completing the work over the next 12 months.
- Participants began to clarify the areas for coordination, collaboration, and communication relevant to the work of the G2Z Committee in developing a statewide integrated prevention and care plan and the work of the G2Z capacity building grant in building local solutions that engage communities and respond to needs as defined by the communities.

ACTION STEPS

- The participants will re-convene on 15 July 2020.
- Participants will reach out to individuals within their personal and professional networks to engage individuals in the G2Z conversation at the statewide and/or local levels.
- Participants, particularly those individuals with connections to G2Z cities included in the capacity building activities, may complete telephone conversations with John Sapero as a part of a needs assessment and listening process.
- Mr. Sapero will send a template of the types of representatives and sectors that should be involved in the G2Z process. This will help G2Z Committee members think of individuals in their personal or professional networks, and ultimately expand the number of people receiving a call to action.
- Committee staff will complete a meeting summary. The June meeting summary will be sent to participants for review and input, and approved by consensus at the July virtual meeting.

NEXT MEETING

- 15 July 2020 at 11:15 a.m. virtual GoToMeeting. (*Start time adjusted by 15 minutes per Executive Committee)



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MEETING NOTES

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Ms. D'Angelo called to order the virtual meeting at 11:02 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 20 May 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.

UPDATE: STATEWIDE G2Z PLANNING AND LOCAL G2Z CAPACITY BUILDING

Local Call to Action. Ms. D'Angelo asked participants to share any progress or accomplishments related to the ongoing "call to action" to engage individuals in G2Z efforts at the statewide or local level.

- Ms. D'Angelo stated that she had reached out individually to each of the five Health Directors in the G2Z cities to make them aware of the G2Z progress – including the establishment of the G2Z Committee and current capacity building efforts underway in their communities. Maritza Bond (New Haven) was participating in the meeting today.
- Ms. D'Angelo stated that she had reached out to the original G2Z Commissioners to make them aware of the G2Z progress and capacity building efforts. Nancy Kingwood was participating in the meeting today.
- Mr. Dante Gennaro shared that he had invited several individuals from the Hartford community to join the meeting, including Mr. Angel Cotto who is an ally and works in the area of addressing homelessness, particularly for youth.
- Mr. Barry Walters stated that he had reached out to Tom Butcher to volunteer his leadership to assist with G2Z capacity building activities in New Haven.
- Ms. Lauren Gau stated that Family Centers, Inc. in Stamford was in the process of hiring a new HIV Medical Director and the presumed finalist had expressed a high level of interest and enthusiasm in the G2Z efforts.
- Mr. John Sapero noted that over 25 individuals participated in the RWA kick-off call, and many of these individuals had scheduled follow-up telephone conversations with him to share information and insights about Connecticut and their regional and local communities.

Ms. D'Angelo noted that several other individuals who lived or worked in Hartford with interest in G2Z were participating in other CHPC committees. Ms. D'Angelo thanked individuals for sharing some of their accomplishments and success stories in engaging others in the G2Z process.

RWA G2Z Capacity Building. Mr. Tom Butcher provided context about the RWA G2Z capacity building grant and introduced Mr. John Sapero as the project coordinator.

Mr. Sapero shared information about himself and how his prior and current experiences inform his approach to ending the HIV epidemic work. He is the Director of Ending the HIV Epidemic at Collaborative Research and brings over 25 years of experience as a community educator, fund raiser, and peer advocate. This experience includes serving as the Program Coordinator of the Phoenix EMA Ryan White Planning Council, the Office Chief of the Arizona Department of Health Services HIV Prevention Program which included authoring the Victory Over HIV plan to end



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the local HIV epidemic, and serving as a member on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA). PACHA provides advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary of Health & Human Services regarding programs, policies, and research to promote effective treatment, prevention and cure of HIV disease and AIDS, including considering common co-morbidities of those infected with HIV as needed to promote effective HIV prevention and treatment and quality services to persons living with HIV disease and AIDS. This includes advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary regarding the development and implementation of the Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America and the Updated National HIV/AIDS Strategy.

Mr. Sapero shared a brief presentation that overviewed the RWA G2Z capacity building project. Main talking points included:

- Aligning the work with the national (HHS) G2Z goals and strategies. Mr. Sapero explained that this includes a strategy on healthcare workforce, and encouraged the group to consider a more ambitious goal than a 90% reduction by 2030. Mr. Sapero cited examples of work in other geographic areas (e.g., San Francisco) that demonstrated a quicker endgame was possible.
- The work is: a) aspirational; b) collaborative; c) data-driven; d) needs-based; e) goal-oriented; and f) will challenge the status quo. Mr. Sapero emphasized the importance of engagement of all voices and pointed out that focusing on needs differs from setting priorities like a RWA Planning Council operates.
- The work will involve connections to many existing national, statewide, and local initiatives such as U=U, PrEP, PEP, and home test kits. The emphasis on need may also mean that the solutions take communities into deeper conversations about issues such as housing.
- The project planning timeline would occur in three phases:

May to August 2020

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Assessment of Current Continuum of Care

September 2020 to February 2021

- Engagement of Priority Populations
- Regional Plan Development

March to June 2021

- Jurisdictional Plan Development
- Final Plan by June 30, 2021

- Engaging diverse individuals will be critical to the success of the project. These individuals must all have an equal voice and a place at the conversation and decision-making table.

Mr. Butcher and Mr. Sapero stated that a unique opportunity exists in the nation and the world to end the HIV epidemic. Mr. Butcher stated this was a social justice imperative. Mr. Sapero expressed appreciation for the initial level of interest and support in the project, including the attendance at the kick-off meeting and the number of conversations he has scheduled to occur in the next two weeks.

The following discussion points occurred during or immediately after the presentation:

- Mr. Sapero explained how the work would build upon the conversations and process that occurred as part of developing the statewide G2Z recommendations. The work will emphasize engagement, identification of needs, and local solutions. These local solutions will inform a regional plan which is the primary deliverable for the RWA grant funds. The regional plan will align with and inform the statewide plan. Each local plan may contain specific priorities or solutions such as housing which may or may not be a point of emphasis in the statewide plan.
- The regional plan would not and could not replace the statewide planning process. The processes to approve the various plans may differ. Ms. D'Angelo noted that the Department of Public Health will be including Hepatitis as part of its statewide plan as well, and has asked for technical assistance from other states that have used this syndemic planning approach (e.g., Tennessee). Syndemic refers to two or more concurrent or sequential epidemics or disease clusters. This may include COVID-19 as well.



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- Mr. Sapero provided examples of how the process in Arizona resulted in policy initiatives that were limiting discussions about sexual health in middle and high school education settings that were accepting state or federal funding. Gaps in health education were identified as a need to address. The solution meant residents and voters rallied for policy change.
- Mr. Gennaro asked what G2Z Committee members could do to support the RWA G2Z capacity building process. For example, would it be helpful to connect opinion leaders within their personal or professional networks? Mr. Sapero stated that all voices should be encouraged to engage in the process – opinion leaders and non-opinion leaders. All voices deserve equal importance. Mr. Gennaro asked if Mr. Sapero had a template or framework for the sectors or types of representation that would produce a well-rounded needs assessment. This template could help G2Z Committee members think about individuals in their personal or professional networks. Mr. Butcher encouraged DPH and other funders could share their contacts and provider names as well.
- Ms. Bond reiterated in the chat box the importance of engaging diverse stakeholders, and the role this committee and the RWA G2Z process can play.
- Mr. Reggie Knox described his experiences in attempting to engage local stakeholders, including many who may not feel comfortable discussing or even acknowledging HIV. Mr. Sapero assured Mr. Knox that this was exactly the type of information that was valuable to develop a local needs-based conversation. The process would allow the community to determine a course of action – just like Arizona residents determined they needed to change policy to improve sexual health education. Ms. Kingwood offered to conduct trainings with faith-based leaders on difficult and important topics such as HIV.
- In response to a question in the chat box, Mr. Sapero acknowledged that the approach would include the voices of Community Health Workers.

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

NEXT STEPS AND MEETING FEEDBACK

Next steps will include:

- The participants will re-convene on 15 July 2020.
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- Mr. Sapero will send a template of the types of representatives and sectors that should be involved in the G2Z process. This will help G2Z Committee members think of individuals in their personal or professional networks, and ultimately expand the number of people receiving a call to action.
- Committee staff will complete a meeting summary. 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 12:08 p.m.



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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		
PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS									
Albertina Baptista							●		
Cinque Barlow		●							
Maritza Bond							●		
Christian Brooks							●		
Carolos Carbonell		●							
Christian Castro		●							
Lauren Ciborowski		●							
Reina Cordero		●	●						
Angel Cotto						●			
Delita Rose-Daniels		●	●			●	●		
Megan Davidson		●	●			●			
Emily DeJesus			●						
Martina DeLaCruz						●			
Taylor Edelman			●			●			
LaToya Fitzwilliam							●		
Brittany Gardener		●	●				●		
Monica Gonzalez			●			●			
Juan Hernandez		●				●			
Venesha Heron		●	●			●	●		
Coley Jones		●							
Marcelin Joseph		●	●						
Nancy Kingwood							●		
Oscar Mairena						●			
Nicole Morgan						●	●		
Maribel Nieves		●	●						
Francesca Quettant						●	●		
Lorrie Pope-Wiggins		●							
John Sapero							●		
Yolanda Velez		●				●	●		
Unidentified Callers (may be duplicates)						3	2		
	Public Count	15	10			14	14		
	Total Count	25	19			24	23		