



**Needs Assessment Project (NAP) Team**  
**CHPC Data and Assessment Committee**  
Meeting Notes / May 18, 2022



## MEETING SUMMARY

**Date:** May 18, 2022

**Location:** Virtual Meeting

**Start Time:** 11:00 a.m.

**End Time:** 12:22 p.m.

**Participants:** Anthony Santella, Danielle Warren-Dias, Andre McGuire, Angel Ruiz, Luis Diaz, Marianne Buchelli, Melanie Alvarez, Angelique Croasdale-Mills, Xavier Day, Laura Aponte, Bob Sideleau, M. Cruz, Mitchell Namias, Marie Reinhart, Cynthia Hall

**Recorder/Staff:** Ken Plourd and Lisa Mason

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### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Needs Assessment Projects (NAP) Team members approved the April 20, 2022 NAP meeting summary.
- NAP members reviewed three key needs assessment studies presented by Danielle Warren-Dias (Ryan White Part A Planning Council Hartford Transitional Grant Area, TGA).
- Melita Arms identified as a potential presenter for the June training on HIV and Mental Health.
- NAP members confirmed the presentation for June 15<sup>th</sup> NAP meeting. Mitchell Namias will share findings from the Ryan White Part B 2022 statewide Persons With HIV (PWH) needs assessment survey.
- NAP members discussed and determined that for the next two trainings, AETC will host the event and CT Train will help promote.

### ACTION ITEMS

- Committee staff will produce and circulate a draft meeting summary.
- Anthony and committee staff will support Mitchell Namias and RW Part B as they prepare their May presentation to NAP.
- Angelique Croasdale Mills will provide Anthony her corrections to the PowerPoint presentation.
- Xavier Day will meet with Melita Arms and will report back to Anthony Santella and Bob Sideleau of her interest to present in June.

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Committee Chair Anthony Santella welcomed individuals to the meeting and gave recognition to Marianne Buchelli as the resource liaison from DPH. Anthony reminded the group that the NAP committee is focusing on needs assessment related activities relevant to the CHPC that can build and help sustain the statewide HIV plan as well as to assisting in the coordination of workforce development activities/trainings.

Each person shared their name and organizational affiliation. Anthony reminded the group that the meeting will be recorded for note taking purposes, but will not be posted anywhere.



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**CLARIFICATION OF NAP COMMITTEE FOCUS**

Anthony recognizes Joanne Montgomery (Ryan White Part A Planning Council New Haven/Fairfield Counties Eligible Metropolitan Area, EMA) and gives thanks for her presentation last month which reviewed key findings from several needs assessment surveys.

Anthony describes the NAP meeting items outlined for May and June and explains to the NAP group that this plan is an effort to create a stronger connection with other HIV planning groups and their needs assessment activities, and is a way of making sure our group is informed of the key work being done by others in order to help in the development of the statewide plan.

The remaining presentations will occur as follows:

- May: Ryan White Part A Planning Council Hartford Transitional Grant Area (TGA)
- June: Ryan White Part B 2022 statewide Persons With HIV (PWH) needs assessment survey. Presented by Mitch Namias and colleagues.

Anthony expresses his appreciation for Danielle Warren-Dias, who will be presenting today, and for each of the individuals agreeing to present these data reports, and reminds the NAP group that these presentations will help inform our group and will facilitate discussion around what data exists, what does not exist and where there are gaps.

Anthony explains that following Danielle's presentation there will be time for discussion and then the NAP meeting will shift to workforce training coordination.

Anthony asks group if there are any questions or thoughts about this plan for the NAP committee.

- No questions or comments from group.

**APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING SUMMARY**

NAP members approve by consensus the April 20, 2022 meeting summary.

**PRESENTATION FROM RYAN WHITE PART A Hartford Transitional Grant Area (TGA)**

Anthony introduces Danielle Warren-Dias and shares her presentation with the group.

NAP members review the findings from three key needs assessment studies presented by Danielle Warren-Dias: (PowerPoint presentation is attached.)

- Greater Hartford Ryan White COVID Survey
- Out of Care Survey
- HIV Medication and Non-Viral Load Suppression Survey

Anthony thanks Danielle for presenting and provides an opportunity for the group to ask questions/comments and have a space for discussion.



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- Anthony asks Danielle: It is interesting that in the out of care survey, people said one of the reasons they attributed to that status was that they didn't have insurance when Ryan White can provide services for those who are uninsured or under insured. Does the marketing of Ryan White services play a factor? Are people aware of what Ryan White can provide?
  - Danielle states that it is especially difficult for individuals who are undocumented to seek these services. Even if they are insured they will not be reported to Immigration, there is still a level of uncertainty and mistrust. If they do not have insurance, certain services are not covered.
  - Louis states that even if individuals don't have insurance, Ryan White doesn't cover all of the services/medical care.
  - Melanie states that documentation is a huge barrier, especially in the city of Hartford which has a very significant undocumented West Indian population.
  
- Anthony asks for clarification on a data point: On the survey for the non-virally suppressed folks, one question indicated respondents didn't know they were virally suppressed?
  - Danielle clarified that respondents were not aware of their viral load. They only cover 35% of the folks living with HIV in the TGA.
  - Angelique states that the data is only reflective of the medical sites they fund.
  - Anthony comments it is surprising that many folks living with HIV are unaware of their viral load.
  - Danielle states that folks know when they are undetectable but if they have a viral load and they didn't ask their doctor what the number was, they might not know.
  
- Anthony thanks Danielle and asks if there any more questions from the group.
  - Angelique indicates that there are some errors in the PowerPoint and she will provide edits to Anthony.

### **UPDATE ON WORKFORCE TRAINING COORDINATION**

Anthony transitions to Workforce training and explains there will be two discussions, one on roles and responsibilities and the other on planning the next two training events. Anthony proposes that we try a new method for the next two trainings and then evaluate the process as a group. The AETC will host the event because it has a large capacity on Zoom for attendees. (Previous event had limited capacity and folks were turned away from attending) and CT Train could post the registration on their website. (Bob Sidleau will share the information with CT Train.)

- Bob states that they can post the recording to their AETC website.
- Laura states that CT Train is available to everyone to access these trainings.
- Anthony asks if the group is okay with this method for the next two trainings.
- Group agrees.

Anthony informs group that Angelique met with Dr. Wisdom Powell and she will not be able to present in the Fall because she is no longer working at UConn and has taken a position at Headspace.

June training, Anthony states that with the help from Xavier, Melita Arms I has been identified as a potential presenter for the June training..

Anthony shares her bio with the group and gives them a moment to review. Anthony asks the group what exactly they would like her to present. (no comments)



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Anthony suggests something around helping clients develop positive relationships. He also shares that Melita has an interest in equine therapy (horses).

Xavier states that he works in close proximity to Melita and he can meet with her on Friday to ask about her interest in presenting on this topic. He will report back to Anthony and Bob. The training will occur between June 22<sup>th</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>. Once the date is confirmed the group will be notified.

When the NAP group meets again in June, planning will resume for the Fall training.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Anthony reminds NAP group that Mitch will be presenting the Ryan White Part B 2022 statewide Persons With HIV (PWH) needs assessment survey at the June 15<sup>th</sup> NAP meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Anthony thanks group for attending and reminds everyone the NAP committee will meet next on June 15, 2022 at 11:00 am. The NAP Team adjourned the meeting at 12:22 pm.



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**TRAINING CHART – UPDATED APRIL 2022**

HIV Training Topics	Training Providers	Training Updates and Next Steps
Self-care for HIV workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Boundaries, Ethics and Self-Care</b> training conducted by Melanie Alvarez on March 16, 2021 for 40 participants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training not recorded due to the sensitive nature of topic and confidentiality.</li> </ul>
Confidentiality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Confidentiality and HIPPA Law Training</b> conducted by Olinda Morales, DPH HIPPA Attorney, on Sept. 22, 2021 for 11 participants. Original date, Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> was changed at late notice to accommodate presenter’s scheduling conflict. The date change may have resulted in fewer participants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recorded training will be uploaded to CT Train.</li> <li>• Recommendations for next time shared with presenter.</li> </ul>
Motivational Interviewing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The four-part <b>Motivational Interviewing</b> training with Chip Tafrate, CCSU was completed on Nov. 12 and 18, 2021 and January 20 and 21, 2022. Feedback from participants was very positive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Motivational Interviewing</b> training was not recorded. The trainer reported that providing an opportunity for participants to practice skills and receive feedback is critical and cannot be done in a recorded format.</li> </ul>
Gender and Trauma Informed Care Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Jose Michael Gonzalez conducted the training: <b><i>The Universal Experience of Trauma: Socio-Cultural Guidance for a Developmental Trauma-Informed Approach</i></b> on March 31, 2022, from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm. 100 attendees (max capacity) Feedback from participants was very positive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training announcement will be posted on CT Train and shared with CHPC listserv.</li> <li>• Training was not recorded for privacy and also to encourage participation from attendees.</li> </ul>
Substance Misuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Substance Misuse and Harm Reduction</b> training will feature 3 parts – biology of addiction, harm reduction strategies, resources and strategies to help clients engage in treatment (possible panel)</li> <li>• Cathy Eggert from APT Foundation was recommended as possible trainer for biology of addiction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lisa will contact Cathy Eggert about conducting the Substance Misuse training.</li> </ul>
Mental Health Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Xavier will meet with Melita Arms to determine her interest in presenting</li> <li>• Training to occur end of June.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm Melita Arms as presenter.</li> </ul>
Social Drivers of Health Equity (New training topic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing discussion. Training to occur during Sept. or Oct. 2022.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>
Cultural Humility & Cultural Competency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>