



Positive Prevention CT Workgroup

Date: Monday, April 8, 2019

Location: Meriden Health Department, 165 Miller St, Meriden

Start time: 10:25 am **End Time:** 11:45 am

In attendance: Dante Gennaro, Sue Major, Taylor Edelmann, Kelsey Hust, Stephen Feathers, Sam Bowens, Jake Kochin, Willy Quesada, Angel Ruiz, Morgan North, Inez Richards, Angel Medina, Jennifer Chase, Keyvin Lewis, Carlos Rodriguez, Idiana Velez, Venesha Heron, Anthony Crisci, AJ Malachi, Alyssa Nadeau, Doug Janssen, Keith Taylor, Jason Egbert

Welcome: Dante welcomed everyone and reviewed the meeting guidelines, mission and goals of the group, membership requirements, and committees.

Committee Reports:

Outreach: Taylor gave a brief overview of the role of this committee and invited anyone interested in joining to contact him at tedelmann@opthc.org. Several agencies have been approached as potential new members for PPCT, including Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center, Staywell Health Center, Community Health Center, and APEX Community Care. The “69 Things To Do Before You Do It” brochure was reviewed, next steps will include distribution to focus groups for further review.

Creative: Venesha gave a brief description of the committee and welcomed anyone wishing to join to contact her at herov001@hartford.gov. The group continued to discuss the brochure and gave a few minor suggestions for revisions. Some members voiced concern that the design may not attract the target audience. The possibility of having several versions for different target groups was suggested. The committee will take all feedback into consideration when finalizing the brochure. Dante stated that he will also need to get final approval from DPH’s communications department.

Venesha gave a brief description of a new campaign idea to be launched for HIV Testing Day. The campaign would include an anti-stigma poster with a grid design featuring photos of people, where each photo could be lifted to reveal that person’s story underneath. Volunteers are needed to represent three focus areas: U=U, PrEP, Knowing Your Status. The group asked about adding PEP as another focus area and discussed the difficulties involved in promoting PEP. Anyone interested in being part of this campaign should contact Venesha. The campaign will also include posts created specifically for social media.

A draft of the new PPCT pin design was passed out. 100 pins will be ordered and they will be available at an upcoming meeting for PPCT members.

Research: Morgan gave a quick description of the committee and encouraged anyone who would like to join to contact her at morgan.north@perceptionprograms.org. The committee is currently working on deciding which items to order in preparation for HIV Testing Day on June 27. Several possibilities were discussed including: pop sockets, sunscreen, personal pronoun pins, wristbands, fans, cups (with straw), decals, branded Ziploc bags, and many others. All items being considered are priced at \$1.50 or less. Final decisions will be made at the next Research committee meeting, then the Creative committee will be tasked with design for each item.

Communications: Sue stated that this committee is not meeting currently, but is actively seeking new members. Please contact Sue at susan.major@ct.gov if you are interested in participating. The initial focus of this committee will be on social media while we wait to see what additional funding is available for a website re-design.

Open Floor: Dante stated that the group needs to come up with a slogan. He suggested, "ARE YOU PREPPED?" Carlos suggested PPCT participation in upcoming PRIDE parades. There are several that we can look into, anyone interested can email Dante at dante.gennaro@ct.gov. The group discussed having a branded tablecloth and banner printed to be used for parades and other events. Angel M. invited anyone interested to participate in a photoshoot to be held on April 20 at City Hall for Harvey Milk Day. Anyone interested can contact him at amedina@lcs-ct.org.

Future Meetings:

It was decided that due to the growing size of the group and for the sake of consistency all future meetings will be held at Meriden Health Department in the Teen Room.

- Monday, May 13, 2019, 10:00am – Noon
- Monday, June 10, 2019, 10:00am – Noon
- Monday, July 8, 2019, 10:00am – Noon
- Monday, August 12, 2019, 10:00 am – Noon
- Monday, September 9, 2019, 10:00am – Noon