



## Positive Prevention CT Workgroup

**Date:** Monday, July 8, 2019

**Location:** Meriden Health Department, 165 Miller St, Meriden

**Start time:** 10:15 am      **End Time:** 12:00 pm

**Attendance:** Taylor Edelman, Carol Jones, Inez Richards, Jennifer Chase, Doug Janssen, Keith Taylor, Jason Egbert, Kay Muñoz, Reina Cordero, Angel Ruiz, Emily Semmelock, William Rosa, Idiana Velez, Luis Diaz, Josh Rozovsky, Dante Gennaro, Kat Auguste, Jake Kochin, Leigh Stepania, Carlos Rodriguez, Venesha Heron, Luis Irizarry, and Cecil Tengatenga.

---

**Welcome:** Dante welcomed everyone and reviewed the group agreements. He reported that Gina D'Angelo, originally scheduled to attend the second half of the meeting to assist with our fall campaign discussion, had to cancel at the last minute.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Outreach:** Taylor reported that outreach to focus groups is ongoing and asked anyone with contacts to send him details. The brochure currently being worked on is for the transgender community, so we need individuals from that community to help review the brochure. Kat Auguste spoke briefly about the new CHPC sub-committee on prevention and suggested that PPCT should be represented.

**Creative:** Venesha stated that the MSM brochure has been finalized and the committee is actively working on the transgender brochure. Dante explained that the reason for letting the creative committee make all design decisions is to help streamline the process and get things done quicker.

**Communications:** Dante reported in Sue's absence. This committee is seeking new members, specifically people who are willing and able to create content for social media. Dante stated that he has begun posting about "69 Things" brochure and hopes others will begin posting as well. The brochure has not been printed yet, but plans to have it done are in the works. Josh suggested adding a blank space somewhere on the brochure where agencies can add their own contact information. Website updates are on hold while the committee works on making a plan to create new content.

**Research:** Dante reported that we are still looking for a new chair for the research committee. He suggested the possibility of producing viral videos to spread our message. Kat suggested putting it out to agencies as a challenge.

**Group Activity:** Due to Gina's absence and our lack of a chair for the research committee, Dante decided to open up the group activity to give the entire workgroup a chance to discuss new campaign ideas. There was some discussion about CHPC's apparent lack of enthusiasm for PPCT's outreach materials. Some feel that they are not effective and the money spent on these items would be better spent elsewhere.

The group also talked about the silo effect and the need to work together more. Many people mentioned the need to look at the private sector and reach out and educate doctors. Several suggestions were made including: 1) create a checklist for patients of tests/questions they should be asking their doctors; 2) create a video series that could be shown in doctor's waiting rooms to educate consumers; 3) create an anti-stigma video series with personal stories to help educate providers.

Kat suggested reaching out to the CT Nurses Association. Cecil explained that stigma goes beyond the direct provider to the administration at community health centers. He suggested finding a way to educate agencies about the additional money that is available for those providing HIV care. We could also approach groups like the CT Public Health Association and provide educational materials to conferences.

**Future Meetings:**

- Monday, August 12, 2019, 10:00 am – Noon
- Monday, September 9, 2019, 10:00am – Noon