

Community Engagement Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 19th, 2025

Via Zoom from 6pm-8pm

Shalik Thompson

Co-Chair

The Community Engagement Committee will work to identify prevention, care, treatment needs, and interventions for high-risk populations; develop outreach strategies to inform and engage communities while meeting them where they are through access and equity, presence at community events; cultivate/develop future leaders in the community; and build community space, presence & trust.

***Please note all times are approximate**

6:00pm	Welcome Attendees & Moment of Silence Establishment of Agenda Approval of Meeting Minutes	Shalik Thompson
6:10pm	Guest Introductions/Icebreaker	Shalik Thompson
6:25pm	Evaluation Review & NJHPG Overview	HCPST
6:35pm	Old Business Finalize Recommendation for System Activity 5.7 & 5.8	Shalik Thompson
7:40pm	Community Engagement Committee- Next Meeting: January 21, 2026	Shalik Thompson
7:45pm	Meeting Evaluation	HCPST
7:50pm	Attendee Announcements	Shalik Thompson
8:00pm	Adjournment*	Shalik Thompson

HCPST – HIV Community Planning Support Team

Quorum, 6; Abraham Corsino, Crystal Mitchell, Jocelyn Perry, Kelly Williams, Lynnette Abdulwaliyy, Joe Monica, James Valentin, Justin LiGreci, Shalik Thompson, Gabrielle Ferrigno, Vanessa Herrera



The NJHPG is maintained by the Divisions of HIV, STD, and TB Services (DHSTS) with support from the South Jersey AIDS Education and Training Center (AETC) – Jefferson Health.

Community Engagement Activities from January 2025 – December 2025

Program Activity 5.1: Increase knowledge of HIV among people, communities, and the health workforce in geographical areas disproportionately affected. & **Program Activity 5.4:** Engage people who experience HIV risk in traditional public health and health care delivery systems as well as in nontraditional community settings.

Program Activity 5.2: Integrate HIV messaging into existing campaigns and other activities pertaining to other parts of the syndemic, such as STIs, viral hepatitis, substance use, and mental health disorders, as well as in primary care and general wellness, and as part of annual reproductive health visits and wellness visits.

Stigma Activity 5.2: Develop a model for how to create and provide training on how to take stigma-free sexual health histories for healthcare providers providing targeted HIV testing. (NHAS 2.3.2 and 3.2.2) & **Stigma Activity 5.4:** Develop and provide trainings on stigma reduction to providers in non-traditional settings, as defined above. (NHAS 1.1.1, 3.1, 3.3)

Policy Activity 5.3: Work in collaboration with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities (NJLM) to include routine HIV screening and harm reduction as topics presented at the annual NJLM Conference. (NHAS 1.1.2)

Systems Activity 5.6: Work with health care payers to issue annual HIV testing “report cards” assessing providers’ HIV testing proficiency. (NHAS 2.4.1 and 3.4.2)

Systems Activity 5.7: Work with non-traditional screening sites to ensure access to rapid, fourth-generation HIV testing. (NHAS 1.2.2) & **Systems Activity 5.8:** If screening sites do not have access to testing, ensure screening sites have the correct and most up-to-date resources to refer and link clients to HIV testing. (NHAS 3.4.2)



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New Jersey HIV Planning Group Community Engagement Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 15, 2025
Electronic Meeting via ZOOM Video Conference

ATTENDANCE

NJHPG Member

Abraham Corsino	P	Lynnette Abdulwaliyy	P
Vanessa Herrera	A	Jose Avila	P
James Valentin	P	Shalik Thompson	P
Joseph Monica	A	Jocelyn Perry	P
Crystal Mitchell	P	Kelly Williams	P
Saquan Stevenson	P		

Committee Member

Gabrielle Ferrigno	P		

Non-voting Attendees

Clarise Bradshaw

HIV Community Planning Support Team

Taylor Lightner	P	Dottie Dowdell	P
Deyonna Pope	P		

P- Present; A- Absent; LoA – Leave of absence.



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AGENDA

Item	Discussion
Welcome and Moment of Silence	Shalik Thompson began the meeting at 6:09 by welcoming all attendees and engaging all attendees and led the committee in a moment of silence to honor those lost to HIV and those still fighting the virus.
Approval of the Agenda & Minutes	Shalik Thompson reviewed the meeting's Agenda, James Valentin motioned to approve the agenda, second by Lynnette Abdulwaliyy. The Support Team reviewed the Meeting Minutes from September's Committee Meeting. James Valentin motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes, seconded by Jose Avila.
Meeting Evaluation	The Support Team reviewed September's Meeting Evaluation with attendees. There were 10 who attended the meeting. 10 people responded to the evaluation; 5 NJHPG Members, 2 Committee Members & 3 Guest. What questions do you have for DHSTS? - None/N/A, None at the moment (6) - Is there any messaging to the community/consumers about HIV treatment/prevent services for fiscal year 2026? Final Comments, Questions, Concerns - None, No, N/A (2) - Another great meeting thank you all. - Great meeting. - Thank you for a great meeting! - No concerns today, great meeting.
NJHPG Overview	The Support Team presented the NJHPG Overview PowerPoint, which outlined the purpose of NJHPG, the six priority populations, and the goal of the Community Engagement Committee. The presentation also highlighted Cycle 3 activities, Cycle 4 Work Plan and the 3P's for making



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	recommendations. Today's focus is on Drafting the recommendations for System Activity 5.7 and 5.8. The Support Team went over the SMARTIE definition and information as it pertains to the Recommendation.
DOH Report Out	Gabrielle Ferrigno lead the DOH Report out.
New Business	Draft System Activity 5.7 and 5.8: 1. Action Step: Design a comprehensive tracking and referral system to ensure individuals can easily access multiple testing site options. a. <i>Stakeholders Involved/Needed</i> • CBOs with mobile units and CHWs, FindHelp b. Is this task measurable? ☐ Yes ☐ No <i>Deliverables;</i> • <i>Assess and map testing deserts across counties, referring identified areas to established resource networks and the developed directory.</i> • <i>Implement outreach campaigns that highlight the purpose and benefits of the system.</i> c. <i>Due by;</i> 2. Action Step: Establish a comprehensive support framework for personnel providing testing services. a. <i>Stakeholders Involved/Needed: DHSTS</i> b. Is this task measurable? ☐ Yes ☐ No <i>Deliverables;</i> • <i>Implement cross-training for all staff to build competency in both testing services and referral processes.</i>



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	<i>c. Due by;</i>
Next Committee Meeting November 19, 2025	Shalik announced that the next Committee meeting will be on November 19, 2025, via Zoom.
Evaluation	The Support Team shared a link to the meeting evaluation link.
Attendee Announcement	Shalik Thompson opened the floor for announcements and reminded the committee of General Assembly. Shalik also challenged the committee to bring a guest to the next Community Engagement meeting. Crystal M. announced National Latino HIV Awareness Day, and Iris house partnering with one of the first Latino fraternities in Newark, and tested at NJIT in Newark. Also, a set financial workshops at Iris House. The first one is going to be Monday the 20th. It's a morning workshop from 9:30 to 12 at our office. Registration is mandatory. The second one is the evening, workshop, which will be the 27th of October 5:30-8:30 pm in Plainfield or Ewon County. Attendees of the workshops will start you off with \$100 savings. Crystal M. also announced Iris House every fourth Thursday of each month, this month is October 23rd. Lynnette announced her participation in a community board of people with lived experiences with substance abuse, HIV, and incarceration called Interact.
Adjournment	James Valentin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Motion was second by Abraham Corsino.
Meeting Documents	
• DRAFT NJHPG Community Engagement Committee November Agenda • DRAFT NJHPG Community Engagement Committee October Meeting Minutes	



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