

New Jersey HIV Planning Group
Priority Setting Committee Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, March 12, 2025
Electronic Meeting via ZOOM Video Conference

Kevin E. Taylor
Co-Chair

Samarie Rivera
Co-Chair

The Priority Setting Committee is responsible for understanding and accessing where services are now and where they need to be.

***Please note all times are approximate**

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| 10:00am | Welcome & Moment of Silence Establishment of Agenda Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes | Samarie Rivera |
| 10:15am | Evaluation Review & NJHPG Overview | HCPST |
| 10:25am | New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program Activity 5.3 Education Didactic• Draft Recommendations for Program Activity 5.3 | Samarie Rivera & Kevin E. Taylor |
| 11:45am | Priority Setting Committee Agenda Next Meeting: April 9, 2025 | Samarie Rivera |
| 11:50am | New Announcements | Kevin E. Taylor |
| 11:55am | Meeting Evaluation | HCPST |
| 12:00pm | Adjournment | Kevin E. Taylor |

HCPST – HIV Community Planning Support Team

Voting Members (Quorum; 4) - Samarie Rivera, Claudia Ortiz, Kevin Taylor, Amy Pereira, Monique Springer, Rafael Kaipa, Ray Welsh



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.

Cycle 4 Activities

January 2025- December 2025

Policy Activity 5.2: Mandate relevant healthcare providers to order HIV testing for certain patients identified as high-risk. (NHAS 1.2.2)

Program Activity 5.3: Incorporate a status-neutral approach to HIV testing, offering linkage to prevention services for people who test negative and immediate linkage to HIV care and treatment for those who test positive.

Program Activity 5.6: Prioritize expanding the number of Disease Intervention Specialists employed by the NJDOH to be able to confidentially elicit partners at the time of a client's STD or HIV diagnosis. (NHAS 1.2.4)

Program Activity 5.9: Consider incentives to encourage testing among individuals in the identified priority populations who are most vulnerable to HIV, including those individuals who are lost to care, who use emergency departments for primary care, and those with substance use and/or mental health issues. (NHAS 3.4.3)

Program Activity 5.10: Encourage the expansion of the trauma-informed care model used by the NJDOH Division of HIV, STD, and TB Services (DHSTS) and its funded agencies to all providers who routinely interface with the priority populations who are vulnerable to HIV acquisition. (NHAS 2.3.2 and 3.2.2)

Program Activity 5.12: Create an educational module to provide guidance on performing HIV screening and testing and proper procedures after a person tests positive. (NHAS 3.4.3)



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New Jersey HIV Planning Group Priority Setting Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 12, 2025
Electronic Meeting via ZOOM Video Conference

ATTENDANCE

| NJHPG Member | | | |
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| Amy Pereira | P | Kevin E. Taylor | P |
| Anjettica Boatwright | P | Monique Springer | P |
| Claudia Ortiz | p | Rafael Kaipa | P |
| Johanne Rateau | P | Samarie Rivera | P |
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| Committee Member | | | |
| Raymond Welsh | P | | |
| | | | |
| Non-voting Attendees | | | |
| Abel Saldana, Alicia Parker, Alison Modica, Barbara Teh, Carol Vincent, Justin Almodovar, Justin Almodovar, Margaret Bilby | | | |
| HIV Community Planning Support Team (HCPST) | | | |
| Dottie Dowdell | P | Taylor Lightner | P |

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



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| AGENDA | |
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| Item | Discussion |
| Welcome and Moment of Silence | Samarie Rivera welcomed attendees and began the meeting at 10:09am. She then led the committee in a moment of silence to honor those lost to HIV and those still fighting the virus. |
| Approval of Agenda & Meeting Minutes | <p>Samarie Rivera reviewed the meeting Agenda. Angettica Boatwright motioned to approve the Agenda, seconded by Claudia Ortiz. The Agenda was voted on and approved.</p> <p>The Support Team presented the January's minutes. Angettica Boatwright motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes, seconded by Monique Springer. The Meeting minutes were voted on and approved.</p> |
| Review of February's Evaluation | <p>The Support Team reviewed the January's Meeting Evaluation with attendees. Fifteen people attended the Priority Setting meeting. Ten people responded to the evaluation: 6 NJHPG Members, 1 Committee Member, & 3 guests.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What questions do you have for DHSTS? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None, (x5) 2. Final Comments, Questions, Concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None • I love the levels of passion people bring. • INITIATIVE + INNOVATION WILL END THIS EPIDEMIC! • This meeting was very informative • This was a great meeting (x3) • The meeting was alive! Great input from everyone. • Great discussion. • Routine testing & combatting stigma is top priority for me - glad we went over it. |
| NJHPG Overview | <p>The Support Team then transitioned to present an NJHPG Overview PowerPoint. This presentation highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Purpose of NJHPG |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Goal of the Priority Setting Committee • The 5 Priority Populations (outlined in the Integrated Plan) • The Priority Setting Community Agreements • The Cycle 4 Work Plan • 3P's for forming recommendations to DOH |
| Old Business | <p>The Support Team transitioned the Committee to Old Business to finalize the recommendations for Policy Activity 5.2.</p> <p>Policy Activity 5.2 Mandate relevant healthcare providers to order HIV testing for certain patients identified as high-risk. (NHAS 1.2.2)</p> <p>Recommendation that the Policy activity be revised to - Automatically include routine HIV testing as part of the standard of care by ensuring that healthcare providers order testing for all patients. (NHAS 1.2.2)</p> <p><u>Action Step 1:</u></p> <p>Train providers on trauma-informed, culturally competent, and non-judgmental communication strategies to effectively discuss sexual health, HIV testing, and the rationale for comprehensive lab testing with patients.</p> <p>a. <i>Stakeholders Involved/Needed</i> DHSTS, providers, training programs, consumers</p> <p>b. Is this task measurable? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>Deliverables;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and assess current training programs that provide education on health literacy for both providers and patients and risk assessment best practices. • Develop a brochure or YouTube video for providers with strategies on how to discuss HIV testing with patients in a culturally competent and patient-centered manner. Reference Gilead's provider training video as a model: • Develop a client education guide to empower individuals in understanding their lab results, |



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| | <p>enabling informed decision-making about their health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage pharmaceutical representatives to provide support and guidance in facilitating effective provider-client conversations about lab results and their implications. <p><i>c. Due by; 10/2025</i></p> <p><u>Action Step 2:</u></p> <p>Train providers on integrating algorithms for ordering routine HIV testing into clinical practice and establish a structured referral linkage system.</p> <p>a. <i>Stakeholders Involved/Needed</i> Providers, Emergency room departments, Urgent Care, private providers, primary care physicians, medical boards, medical schools</p> <p>b. Is this task measurable? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>Deliverables;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strongly encourage that all programs establish and implement a referral linkage process. • PMO mandate that grant funded providers respond to referrals within 48 hours (close the referral loop) • NJDOH develop an impact review of programs funded by Ryan White <p><i>c. Due by; 4/2025</i></p> |
| Attendee Announcements | <p>Kevin E. Taylor transitioned the Committee to New Announcements.</p> <p>Kevin E. Taylor highlighted SHAMEless: A Dinner, Drag, Drama, and Dance, a fundraising event in support of the New Jersey AIDS Walk. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23, from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM at 710 Van Houten Ave, Clifton, NJ 07013. Members were encouraged to promote the event and explore opportunities for engagement and participation.</p> <p>Samarie Rivera announced that the New Jersey HIV Housing Collaborative Line is open. She also has vacancies for families in</p> |



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| | the Essex County area. Eligible families must be documented or actively in the process of obtaining documentation. |
| Next Committee Meeting March 12, 2025 | The next meeting will be on March 12, 2025, from 10am to 12pm. |
| Evaluation | HCPST shared a link to the meeting evaluation. |
| Adjournment | Kevin E. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Anjettica Boatwright. The meeting adjourned at 11:57 am. |

Meeting Documents

- DRAFT NJHPG Priority Setting Committee Agenda_3.12.2025
- DRAFT NJHPG Priority Setting Committee Meeting Minutes_2.12.2025
- Policy Activity 5.3 Education Didactic



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