

Community Engagement Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 20th, 2026
Via Microsoft Teams from 6pm-8pm

The Community
Committee will work
Shalik Thompson
Co-Chair
James Valentin
Co-Chair
Engagement
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	James Valentin
6:10pm	Guest Introductions/Icebreaker	Shalik Thompson
6:25pm	Evaluation Review & NJHPG Overview	HCPST
6:30 pm	New Business - Review Didactic for Program Activity 7.9 & System Activity 7.5 - Draft Recommendations for Program Activity 7.9 & System Activity 7.5	Shalik Thompson & James Valentin
7:45pm	Community Engagement Committee- Next Meeting: June 17, 2026	James Valentin
7:50pm	Meeting Evaluation	HCPST
7:55pm	Attendee Announcements: - James V. – Community Calendar updates - Open Forum	Shalik Thompson
8:00pm	Adjournment*	James Valentin

HCPST – HIV Community Planning Support Team

Quorum, 5; Abraham Corsino, Crystal Mitchell, Jocelyn Perry, Kelly Williams, Joe Monica, James Valentin, Jose Avila, Shalik Thompson, 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 2026 – December 2026

- Stigma Activity 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2, & 7.4: Create culturally appropriate education and awareness campaigns that address HIV/AIDS-related services available in all locations that screen and test for HIV, PEP, PrEP, U=U and the "harm reduction approach" to care.
- Stigma Activity 6.4 & 6.5: Assess stigma using a standardized stigma measurement tool and work in partnership with the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights to create an educational module on HIV/AIDS and HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination for all support service programs that receive any state or federal funding in NJ.
- Stigma Activity 6.6: Launch an HIV/AIDS Speaker's Bureau, including persons affected by substance use disorder. (NHAS 3.3.1)
- Program Activity 7.9 & System Activity 7.5: Expand the competency and LGBTQ cultural humility of substance use treatment facilities and mental health providers to aid with crystal methamphetamine and other types of substance use-related addictions and co-occurring addictions, like sex addiction. (NHAS 3.1)
- System Activity 8.1, 8.2, & 6.4: Identify and eliminate barriers preventing individuals from engaging in or remaining in HIV care, while simultaneously addressing service gaps to interrupt rapid HIV transmission, particularly among men who have sex with men (MSM) and other key populations.



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New Jersey HIV Planning Group

Community Engagement Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 20th, 2026

Electronic Meeting via Microsoft Teams

ATTENDANCE			
NJHPG Member			
Abraham Corsino	P	Luis Otano	P
Vanessa Herrera	P	Jose Avila	P
James Valentin	P	Shalik Thompson	P
Joseph Monica	P	Jocelyn Perry	P
Crystal Mitchell	A	Kelly Williams	P
Saquan Thompson	P	Luis Otano	P
Ric Miles	P	Tameka Allen	P
Committee Member			
Gabrielle Farrigno	P		
Non-voting Attendees			
Chelsea Rondinaro, Jaivon Lewis			
HIV Community Planning Support Team			
Deyonna Pope	P	Dottie Dowdell	A

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



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AGENDA

Item	Discussion
Welcome and Moment of Silence	James Valentin began the meeting at 6:05 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	The Support Team reviewed the meeting's Agenda and April's Committee Meeting Minutes. Agenda was motioned to approve by Jose Avilo and a second by Luis Otano. A virtual vote was conducted, and both were approved. Shalik Thompson led Introductions and Icebreaker
Meeting Evaluation	The Support Team reviewed April's Meeting Evaluation with attendees. There were 14 people who attended the meeting. 9 people responded to the evaluation; 6 NJHPG Members, 1 Committee Members & 2 Guest. What questions do you have for DSSUS? - None at this time (3) - What contingency plans are in place for continuity of care for PLWH for FY27? - What will be the purpose for the speaker's bureau activity 6.6? I feel like this activity can be something we can work on in the community engagement. Final Comments, Questions, Concerns - None (2) - Can your present slides on slide show view, sometimes it's hard to read the slides. - It was nice to attend.
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 4 Accomplishments, Cycle 5 Work Plan and the 3P's for making recommendations.



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New Business

The Co-Chairs presented the Draft Recommendation for **Program Activity 7.9 & System Activity 7.5**: Expand the competency and LGBTQ cultural humility of substance use treatment facilities and mental health providers to aid with crystal methamphetamine and other types of substance use-related addictions and co-occurring addictions, like sex addiction.

1. Action StepDevelop and implement policies that address the immediate needs of target populations by strengthening the competency and LGBTQ+ cultural humility of substance use treatment facilities and mental health providers. These policies should support effective care for individuals experiencing crystal methamphetamine and other substance use disorders, including co-occurring addictions such as sex addiction.

a. *Stakeholders Involved/Needed*

- b. CAI, FBX, Pharma, Hyacinth Foundation, NAMI, MHA
Mooris/Essex County, Cooper, Jefferson, Homefront Inc.

Is this task **measurable**? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Deliverables;

c. *Due by;*

2. Action StepIdentify existing trainings and enhance them to better meet the needs of target populations by strengthening the competency and LGBTQ+ cultural humility of substance use treatment facilities and mental health providers. Trainings should support providers in effectively addressing crystal methamphetamine and other substance use disorders, as well as co-occurring addictions, including sex addiction.

a. *Stakeholders Involved/Needed:*

- b. The Pride Center, The NJ Hospital Association, CAI

c. Is this task **measurable**? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Deliverables;

- succinct warm hand-off process that all organizations can use that would be something that could be used by phone or face to face/telehealth
- SDOH trainings
- PDOH Trainings providing cultural competence

d. *Due by;*



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Next Committee Meeting June 17 th , 2026	Shalik Thompson announced that the next Committee meeting will be on June 17, 2026, via Microsoft Zoom.
Evaluation	The Support Team shared a link to the meeting evaluation link.
Attendee Announcement	James mentioned a reminder of current events happening this month that was mentioned in last months meeting; Kareem from Fireworkx transgender storytelling initiative, and Crystal at Iris House events including an upcoming Brunch event. That is called the 4th annual Drag Queen brunch as well as free vouting class in Plainfield. Ticket info: Brunch www.cofbx.com and Vogue Class https://forms.gle/fTyGqzs3wmz2N6Tt8 James mentioned Latinx group every third Friday, of the month. It's from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Robert Wood Johnson Auditorium in New Brunswick, and transgender based support group for the 3rd Thursday via zoom every month. Shalik announced the NJ Legends ball happening May 29th. https://www.facebook.com/share/1Dfe6ZyUEj/ Jose Avilo announced an event happening at the Family Treatment Center for Nation HIV Testing Day. It will be hosted at Newark City Hall Friday June 26th. Jocelyn Perry shared the 58th anniversary of Integrity House event happening at Lincoln Park in Newark Ubiquity Soul Summer House Music Series Group Page Facebook They are looking for partners for testing and vending. Chelsea announced Trenton Pride happening on May 30th at Millhill Park.
Adjournment	Abraham Corsino made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Motion was second by Jocelyn Perry.

Meeting Documents

- DRAFT NJHPG Community Engagement Committee June Agenda
- DRAFT NJHPG Community Engagement Committee May Meeting Minutes



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