

New Jersey HIV Planning Group
Priority Setting Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 9, 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**

10:00am	Welcome & Moment of Silence Establishment of Agenda Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes	Samarie Rivera
10:15am	Evaluation Review & NJHPG Overview	HCPST
10:30am	DOH Report Out	Lara Dykstra & Nahid Suleiman
11:00am	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">Draft Recommendations for Program Activity 5.9	Samarie Rivera & Kevin E. Taylor
11:45am	Priority Setting Committee Agenda Next Meeting: August 13, 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, June 11, 2025
Electronic Meeting via ZOOM Video Conference

ATTENDANCE

NJHPG Member			
Amy Pereira	P	Kevin E. Taylor	P
Samarie Rivera	P	Monique Springer	P
Rafael Kaipa	P		
Johanne Rateau	P		
Anjettica Boatwright	P		
Committee Member			
Raymond Welsh	P		
Non-voting Attendees			
Carol Vincent, Jose Lugo, Nahid Suleima, Mark Brown			
HIV Community Planning Support Team (HCPST)			
Dottie Dowdell	P	Taylor Lightner	P
Deyonna Pope	P		

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



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AGENDA	
Item	Discussion
Welcome and Moment of Silence	Kevin E. Taylor welcomed attendees and began the meeting at 10:07am. Kevin 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>Kevin E. Taylor reviewed the meeting Agenda. Anjettica Boatwright motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Johanne Rateau. The agenda was voted on and approved.</p> <p>Kevin E. Taylor presented May's minutes. Anjettica Boatwright motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ray Welsh. The Meeting minutes were voted on and approved.</p>
Review of May's Evaluation	<p>The Support Team reviewed May's Meeting Evaluation with attendees. 18 people attended the Priority Setting meeting. 13 people responded to the evaluation: 6 NJHPG Members, 1 Committee Members, & 6 guests.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What questions do you have for DHSTS? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None, N/A, None at this time (x5) • NONE: Great but difficult topic, but we will get it done! 2. Final Comments, Questions, Concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great meeting loved the guest • Great meeting as always, great seeing all of you. • Great Meeting, always inclusive and encouraging. • I enjoyed the meeting and the didactic. I also found the Findhelp presentation very informative.
NJHPG Overview	
Old Business	<p>The Co-Chairs transitioned into Finalizing Recommendation for Program Activity 5.6.</p> <p>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.</p>



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Action Step: Train and utilize Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) employed by the NJDOH, Community Health Workers and other staffed professionals, as funding permits, to ensure timely and confidential partner elicitation at the time of an STD or HIV diagnosis.

Stakeholders Involved/Needed

- *Healthcare providers (Linkage to Care and Peer Navigators Outreach workers, Harm Reduction Specialists/Medical Assistants, etc.), DOH, CBOs, Community Advisory Boards, Educational Institutions, Primary care organizations, Nursing associations, County/Community Health Center Health Departments, NJ Hospital Association, AETC, and any other training providers*

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

Deliverables; *Identify the training and partnered services.*

Due by; *January 2026 (training cycle)*

Action Step: Evaluation & Accountability: Measure the impact of existing efforts to reduce STIs and develop a white paper summarizing outcomes across NJ and among key priority populations.

Stakeholders Involved/Needed

- *Healthcare providers, DOH, CBOs, Community Advisory Boards, Educational Institutions, Primary care organizations, Nursing associations, Urgent Care Organizations, County/Community Health Center Health Departments, NJ Hospital Association*

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

Deliverables; *STI Outcome summary on white paper.*

Due by; *January 2026*



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	<p>Action Step: Collaboration Opportunity: Explore and possibly strengthen NJDOH partnerships with local agencies across the state to support and expand efforts in identifying and reaching individuals at risk for STIs</p> <p>Stakeholders Involved/Needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DHSTS, CBOs, Providers, local agencies and clinics, Urgent Care, Community Advisory Board members, Community Health Center Health Department, <p>Is this task measurable? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Deliverables; Produce and send out a Dear Colleague Letter</p> <p>Due by; September 2025</p>
Attendee Announcements	<p>Samarie Rivera transitioned the Committee to New Announcements.</p> <p>Ray Welsh announced the Ocean Grove. Health retreat is August 3rd 4th 5th and 6.th There are 11 rooms available and early bird prices.</p> <p>Amy Peidra announced June 26th proceed Inc. Is having the LGBTQ pride event from 4-pm</p> <p>Johanne R. announced the Hyacinth Leadership Training Reminder.</p>
Next Committee Meeting July 9, 2025	The next meeting will be on July 9 th , 2025, from 10am to 12pm.
Evaluation	HCPST shared a link to the meeting evaluation.
Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 11:33am, motioned by Anjettica Boatwright and a second by Kevin E. Taylor.

Meeting Documents



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- DRAFT NJHPG Priority Setting Committee Agenda_7.9.2025
- DRAFT NJHPG Priority Setting Committee Meeting Minutes_6.11.2025
- Finalized Program Activity 5.6 Recommendation



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