

**Houston Area HIV Services Ryan White Planning Council  
Office of Support  
1440 Harold Street, Houston, Texas 77006  
832 927-7926 telephone; <http://rwpchouston.org>**

**Memorandum**

To: Members, Affected Community Committee  
Johnny Deal, Co-Chair      Kathryn Fergus      *Kakeshia Locks*  
Carol Suazo, Co-Chair      Cecilia Ligons      *Calvin Mills*  
Servando Arellano      Tana Pradia      *LeeAnn Moody*  
Skeet Boyle      Ryan Rose      *Tyronika Tates*  
Caleb Brown      *Diondra English*      *Reynauld White*  
Tony Crawford      *Ronnie Galley*

Members, Consumer & Community Engagement Education Workgroup  
Adonis May      Calvin Vannoy      Pieus Bowser  
Cydney Clay      Damion Sam      Rodney Mills  
Richon Ohafia      Ocran Holloway      Robert Williams  
Abraham Arguello      Omar Navarro      Tyvance Credit

Cc: Josh Mica      Sha'Terra Johnson  
Mauricia Chatman      Reachelian Ellison  
Cyndey Clay      Richon Ohafia

From: Tori Williams, Director, Ryan White Office of Support  
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024  
Re: Meeting Notice

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Please join us for a joint meeting of the Affected Community Committee and the EHE/Integrated Plan Consumer and Community Engagement Education Workgroup. Details are as follows:

**Affected Community & Consumer & Community Engagement Meeting  
11:00 a.m., Monday, March 25, 2024**

**Lunch will not be provided but in-person attendees can purchase their own lunch  
and submit receipt for up to \$10 for reimbursement in 6-8 weeks**

**Virtually:** Click on the following link to join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81032740414?pwd=V1hTMnltaklDanBDNU9XYkVkdlllTz09>

Meeting ID: 810 3274 0414

Passcode: 125162

Or, use your telephone to dial in: 346 248 7799

**In-person location:** Bering Church 1440 Harold Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Houston, Texas 77006  
(Please park and use the entrance behind the church facing Hawthorne Street)

Please be sure to contact Rod to tell her if you will be attending in person, virtually or not at all. She can be reached at: [Rodriga.Avila@harriscountytexas.gov](mailto:Rodriga.Avila@harriscountytexas.gov) or by telephone at 832 927-7926. We look forward to seeing you next Monday!

## Houston Area HIV Services Ryan White Planning Council

### Affected Community Committee Meeting

11:00 a.m, Monday, March 25, 2024

**In-person meeting location: Bering Church** 1440 Harold Street, 2nd floor, Houston, Texas 77006. Please park and use the building entrance behind the church facing Hawthorne Street.

Or, join us via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81032740414?pwd=V1hTMnltaklDanBDNU9XYkVkdllTZz09>

Meeting ID: 810 3274 0414

Passcode: 125162



Or, use your telephone to dial in: 346 248 7799

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order Johnny Deal and  
Carol Suazo, Co-Chairs
- A. Welcome and Introductions
  - B. Announce who will be chairing the meeting
  - C. Moment of Reflection
  - D. Merger with the Consumer & Community Engagement  
Education Workgroup: quorum and voting recommendations
  - E. Adoption of the Agenda
  - F. Approval of the Minutes
- II. Public Comment
- (NOTE: If you wish to speak during the Public Comment portion of the meeting, please sign up on the clipboard at the front of the room. No one is required to give his or her name or HIV status. All meetings are audio taped by the Office of Support for use in creating the meeting minutes. The audiotape and the minutes are public record. If you state your name or HIV status it will be on public record. If you would like your health status known, but do not wish to state your name, you can simply say: "I am a living person with HIV", before stating your opinion. If you represent an organization, please state that you are representing an agency and give the name of the organization. If you work for an organization, but are representing yourself, please state that you are attending as an individual and not as an agency representative. Individuals can also submit written comments to a member of the staff who would be happy to read the comments on behalf of the individual at this point in the meeting.)
- III. Old Business
- A. Medical Need for Food Form
  - B. 2024 Greeters
  - C. Road 2 Success
    - 1. Description – Tori Williams
    - 2. Updates – Ronnie Galley
  - D. Review EHE/Integrated Planning Goals, see attached
  - E. February report of EHE/Integrated Planning Activities
- IV. Announcements
- V. Adjourn
- Optional: Members meet with committee mentor Johnny Deal

# Greeters for 2024 Council Meetings

(Revised: 02-12-24)

2024 Meeting Dates (Please arrive at <b>11:30 am</b> unless otherwise noted. Meetings are held at Bering Church, 1440 Harold St in Montrose)	Greeter #1	Greeter #2	Greeter #3
<b>2024</b>			
Thurs. February 8			
Thurs. March 14	Kakeshia Locks	Ty Tates	Ronnie Galley
Thurs. April 11 – HTBMN Training		Diondra English	
Thurs. May 9		Ty Tates	
Thurs. June 13			
Thurs. July 11			
Thurs. August 8			
Thurs. September 12			
Thurs. October 10			
Thurs. November 14			
Thurs. December 12			

# Education & Awareness Committee/Coalition

**Goal 1C:** Establish an Education and Awareness Committee/Coalition by reaching out to colleges, consumers, in-person educators, youth, and professional healthcare workers in partnership with AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETCs), the Ryan White (RW) program, Houston Community Planning Group (CPG), and city and county health departments to increase consumer input and participation into science-based health education and Houston Area HIV linkage to prevention and care services.

## Key Activities:

- Establish an Education and Awareness Committee/Coalition to provide education for:
  - *Individuals in prevention, treatment, and care services and*
  - *Professionals on accurate medical information, training in referring clients to the local HIV prevention and care system, and customer service skills. See Goal 3A for more information. This educational goal will address Diagnose, Treat and Prevent.*
- Increase knowledge of HIV among individuals and the health workforce in geographic areas disproportionately affected.

## CONSUMER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP

**Goal 2A.1.c:** *Develop a health literacy campaign to educate those diagnosed on benefits of Rapid Start and treatment as prevention (TasP).*

**Goal 3A.b:** *Develop and implement informational programs that are tailored to priority populations and others. Describe HIV risks; options for prevention, testing, care and treatment; mental health and substance use disorder treatment; and HIV-related stigma reduction.*

**Goal 3A.c:** *Increase consumer input into developing educational materials about HIV risks; options for prevention, testing, care and treatment; and HIV-related stigma reduction.*

**Goal 3A.d:** *Increase consumer participation in delivering educational information to individuals and service providers about HIV risks; options for prevention, testing, care and treatment; and HIV-related stigma reduction, particularly for priority populations.*

## Ending the HIV Epidemic/Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Planning Body

## Summary Reports from Committees and Workgroups February 2024

The following EHE/Integrated Planning Body (EIPB) Committees and workgroups met for the first time in February 2024. Each group received general orientation, reviewed their committee/workgroup goals and determined activities for their committee/workgroup over the next couple of months.

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**Name of Committee/Workgroup, Date of Last Meeting, Staff Person Submitting Report**  
**Items of Note - Next meeting time & date (unless stated otherwise, all meetings will be virtual only)**

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**Aging & HIV Workgroup, 02/07/24, Diane Beck, Ryan White Office of Support (RWOoS)**

Jules Levin, Founder, the National AIDS Advocacy Project, briefly provided some new data on Aging and HIV. Diane will distribute the information to all members, along with the Clinical Guidelines used in NYC. And, Jules will hopefully return in May to give a more robust presentation. In March, Dr. Patel the Medical Director for South Central AETC is being asked to provide information on the training program currently being developed for the 5 Ryan White Part A funded HIV case managers who will receive training in gerontology and placed in Ryan White funded primary care clinics. Tori will also provide some basic information she gathered about Legacy Senior Services. **Next meeting: 12 noon, Wed., March 20, 2024**

**Consumer & Community Engagement Workgroup, 02/07/24, Richon Ohafia, Ryan White Grant Administration (RWGA)**

This workgroup agreed to merge with the Ryan White Affected Community Committee. They asked staff to add Jason Black to the membership list. **Next meeting: 11 am, Mon., March 25, 2024.**

**Housing Workgroup, 02/29/24, Tori Williams, RWOoS**

The three co-chairs of the workgroup welcomed the four attendees who joined the meeting, which was a session meant to orient participants. Participants recognized the expertise present in the co-chairs and in Mary Guidry, an Allies in Hope housing specialist, who will serve as the evaluator for the group's progress. Co-chair Megan Rowe announced that the Housing Opportunities for People Living with HIV (HOPWA) program will expect results from its own Houston housing needs assessment to be completed in June 2025. She also mentioned that some of the HOPWA funded service providers have developed ways to help their clients replace lost or stolen identification documents since this is often a significant barrier to clients receiving housing and other services. **Next meeting: 2 p.m., Thursday, March 28, 2024.**

**Needing In-Person Engagement Workgroup, 02/14/24, Tori Williams, RWOoS**

A workgroup member shared that they had recently been at a meeting of staff who work with the homeless. They expressed concern about administering Narcan for fear of contracting HIV. Members of the workgroup talked about collaborating with AETC to provide education about HIV prevention and referral-to-care for this group of providers twice a year since there is significant staff turnover in the field. Perhaps HIV case managers could be part of the bi-annual meetings for cross trainings on HIV and Housing. Could EHE funds be used to underwrite the cost? The March meeting will be dedicated to fleshing out this idea, reviewing the list of priority populations and identifying more people with expertise and personal experience that could help the group meet its goals. **Next meeting: 10 am, Wed., March 13, 2024**

(continued)

**Prevention and Policy Committee, 02/13/24, Eliot Davis, Houston Health Department (HHD)**

At the March meeting, Committee members are going to review and possibly edit some of their Committee goals. Staff and committee members will also focus on identifying people with expertise and personal experience that could help the group meet its goals. Of particular interest is locating Task Force membership lists. **Eliot receives the Staff Support Person of the month for his participation during the meeting and for submitting his notes per instructed and in a timely fashion. Hats off to Eliot! Next meeting: 12 noon, Tues., March 12, 2024**

**Racial and Social Justice Workgroup, 02/20/24, Richon Ohafia, RWGA**

Introductions were completed; 16 people attended. Roles and responsibilities were reviewed and the potential to invite and work with a number of other groups (Texas Black Women’s’ Health Initiative and others) was discussed. Workgroup members brought up the following: the importance of debunking myths of bathroom bills and transgender folks rights to use the bathroom of their choosing in peace. One member offered to share a document outlining how some cities are filling gaps with city funding budgeted for ending HIV. Another member asked for data on current STI and HIV prevalence at TDCJ. Members agreed to review goals more thoroughly at the next meeting and to adopt hybrid formats by meeting at Bering Church and on Zoom on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 pm. **Next meeting: 6 pm, March 19, 2024 using hybrid formats. Participants are welcome to bring a brown bag dinner if they chose since there is no budget to provide food or beverages.**

**Research/Data/Implement. & Monitor./Quality Assur/Eval. Committees, 02/08/24, Tori Williams, RWOoS**

These two committees agreed to merge with the Ryan White Comprehensive HIV Planning Committee since a coordinated effort among the 3 committees will be efficient and beneficial to all members. Members volunteered to be assigned to each committee or workgroup to develop evaluation activities related to goals. The assignments are as follows:

**Committee Name - Assigned Evaluator**

Status Neutral/Diagnose – Kathryn Fergus  
Treat – Kenneth Jones  
Education & Awareness - TBD  
Prevention & Policy – Beatriz Rivera  
Respond – Gina German  
Quality of Life/Social Determinants – TBD

**Workgroup Name – Assigned Evaluator**

Consumer/Community Engagement – Josh Mica  
College – Gina German  
Needing In-Person Education – Josh Mica  
Youth – Kenneth Jones  
Professional Healthcare – Johanna Castillo  
Aging & HIV– Evelio Salinas Escamilla & Glen Hollis  
Housing – Kenia Gallardo and Mary Guidry  
Racial & Social Justice – Titan Capri

**Next meeting: 2 pm, 2nd Thurs. of every month**

**Respond Committee, 02/28/24, Sha’Terra Johnson, TRG**

Co-Chair Tana Pradia led seven attendees through the agenda, including introductions and orientation to the Committee process. Co-Chair Paul Richards announced that he will soon be moving out of state, but he will contact someone else in his department who might be willing to co-chair the Committee. Discussion followed about the needed participation on the committee of Houston Health Department (HHD) personnel since Molecular Surveillance is under the purview of HHD. Sha’Terra offered to reach out and trade committees with a staff member from HHD. Because of conflicts with the Houston meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA) in March and the Leadership TEAM meeting in April, the next meeting was postponed until May. **Next meeting: 1 p.m., Wednesday, May 22, 2024**

**(continued)**

**Status-Neutral Systems and Diagnose Committee, 02/28/24, Chelsea Frand, Houston Health Department**

The committee was convened by Co-Chair Rodney Mills. Sha'Terra Johnson noted that the Community Planning Group (CPG) had recently encouraged its members to join Integrated Planning Body committees and workgroups. She will ask staff to send Tori the membership sign up lists and contact information. Chelsea Frand accepted the task of updating committee and workgroup goals from the EHE Plan to match those in the HHD *Master Plan*. Committee tasks assigned to all members included reviewing goals, identifying resources, and recruiting members. **Next meeting: 3 p.m., March 13, 2024**

**Treat Committee, 02/06/24, Tori Williams, RWOoS**

Activities for the next meeting include: meeting the assigned representative(s) from the Data and Evaluation Committees, a more careful review of each goal assigned to the committee and the workgroups under the Committee, and identifying names of individuals who should be invited to serve on the Committee. **Next meeting: 12 noon, Fri., March 8, 2024**

**Youth Workgroup, 02/06/24, Rod Avila, RWOoS**

Members of the workgroup feel as if *Goal 3Ac: Increase consumer input into developing educational materials about HIV...should inform Goal 3Ab: Develop and implement information programs that are tailored to priority populations and others....* At the March meeting, the workgroup members are going to hear about an active Youth Community Advisory Board (CAB) that focuses on clinical trials for youth. It started out being 100% on Zoom. Then, the group is going to hear about plans to create a Ryan White Youth Council. Members are also going to find friends who might have a copy of the contact list for the Youth Task Force. **Next meeting: 6 pm, Mon., March 4, 2024 (typically meets on Tuesdays)**