



Community Involvement Activities MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, August 20, 2019, at 5PM-7PM
268 Martin Luther King Blvd. Newark, NJ 07103

The Planning Council believes that the voice of the community is paramount. The purpose of the CIAs is to help bridge the gap between the community and service providers by creating opportunities to involve community members in the planning process. In addition, community members will receive crucial updates on changes in the Ryan White and related health/social services.

1. Welcome and Moment of Silence

Warren Poole, Committee Chair, welcomed all in attendance. A moment of silence was observed for all those living with, those who have passed, and those affected by HIV/AIDS.

2. Community Involvement Activities/ Community Conversations

Tania Guaman, Support Staff, gave an overview of the CIA Community and the Planning Council encouraging all attendees to be voice their concerns and/or opinions. During this CIA event, Support Staff, was able to hear some of the consumer's concerns.

One consumer suggested that mothers with young children be allowed to send someone on their behalf for groceries from the food pantry. She stated that it can be difficult for mothers to carry groceries and care for their children when using public transportation. She recommended that their social worker/case manager be allowed to pick up groceries for them.

A consumer from Morris County was concerned that the voice of PLWHA from the Tri-County area is not represented in the Newark EMA. He recommended that more efforts are made to engage consumers from that area.

Another consumer recommended that Support Staff be more present at community events and activities. She commented that events such as Rev. Vereen's Celebration of Life are important to build rapport with consumers in the community.

Three consumers from the Cookout had not heard about the Planning Council in the past.

3. Old Business

Tania Guaman, Support Staff, emphasized the importance of Consumer involvement and participation in the Planning Council. As such, Support Staff invited consumers to attend Planning Council and committee meetings, as well as to voice their concerns and/or opinions during the public testimony time of meeting agendas.

4. New Business

Bags with giveaways, informational flyers and upcoming event flyers were distributed to all attendees.

5. Announcements

Warren Poole, CIA Chair, made the following announcements:

- The next Peter Ho CAB meeting will be held on September 24th with a focus on “HIV and Aging”
- The next CIA meeting will be held on September 25th at Kings Restaurant with a topic of “HIV and Aging” in recognition of HIV and Aging Awareness month. All attendees were invited to register with the CIA Chair or NEMA Support Staff to participate in this event.

6. Next Meeting

The next CIA meeting will be held on September 25, 2019 at Kings Restaurant located at 557 Clinton Ave, Newark, NJ 07108.

7. Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm