

THE *act* COMMUNITY

AIDS Connecticut (ACT)

January 2017

Board Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Attendance: Robert Freeman, Sandy Weicher, Theresa Nicholson, Charles Hatheway, Andrew Walter; Staff: John Merz, Shawn Lang, Nancy Waterman; Guests: Cesar Aleman, Lucy Rohena.

I. Mr. Freeman called the meeting to order at 6:10. There was a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2016 Board Meeting. M/S/P.

II. Staff Presentation – Shawn Lang. Ms. Lang, Deputy Director of ACT, presented on her duties, which include overseeing member services work and public policy/legislative affairs. In particular, Ms. Lang discussed the syringe exchange program, and her substantial work on the Statewide Opioid Overdose Abuse Group. The Board appreciated the presentation and acknowledged the great work Ms. Lang has done on behalf of ACT.

III. Committee Reports. A. Personnel Committee. The Personnel Policy 2017 was presented at the November 16, 2016 Board meeting. There was one comment related to volunteer expectations and, as a result, staff members will prepare a volunteer expectations packet. There was a motion to approve the Personnel Policy 2017. M/S/P.

B. Finance/Audit Committee. The Committee met last week. Revenues are down approximately \$500,000, mostly in the area of client assistance programs. Depreciation is down, primarily because of accounting changes. There was a motion to

approve the Budget 2017. M/S/P. Ms. Waterman delivered the year-to-date Financial Report. She reported that ACT is on target with respect to most items, including the budget. The current 9-month report does not take into account certain fundraising and donations currently taking place during the holiday season, which are substantial in nature. There was a motion to accept the Financial Report as written. M/S/P. Additionally, the Accounting Manual 2017, which was presented at the November 16, 2016 meeting, was presented for review. There was a motion to adopt the Accounting Manual 2017 as presented. M/S/P.

C. Nominations. Two guests, Mr. Aleman and Ms. Rohena, attended this Board meeting, with the idea of indicating their interest in joining the Board. If the guests are interested in joining the Board, the Board will discuss their interest in Executive Session. A third potential member, Quyen Truong will attend in January.

D. CQI. Mr. Merz indicated that there is nothing to be shared at this point.

E. Development. Oscar Night is coming up on February 26, 2017. This is a big fundraiser for ACT.

F. Governance. The Board will meet in Executive Session to discuss various governance issues.

IV. Director's Report. Mr. Merz reported that the No Freeze Shelter is

up and running. Opening the shelter was more complicated than originally anticipated, but it is now operating smoothly. The shelter can house 50 people on a regular night and up to 75 when "cold weather protocols" are enacted for the state.

V. Membership. Mr. Merz stated that Executive Director roundtables have been scheduled for 2017. He indicated that ACT is considering other roundtables in an effort to be more proactive about gathering people together.

VI. Strategic Planning. Mr. Merz reported that the strategic planning process has been started, with members of the team selected and a first meeting set for January. Paul Botticello, Jr. is leading the process in his new part-time role of Special Projects Advisor.

Executive Session: The Board went into executive session at 7:00, to discuss Executive Director's evaluation and 2017 compensation. It was noted that consideration was given to the proposed compensation and determined to be within the range of similar sized organizations and responsibilities. The Board exited executive session at 7:10.

VII. New Business. There was a motion to accept two new members to the ACT Board, Cesar Aleman and Lucy Rohena. M/S/P.

VIII. Adjournment at 7:15. M/S/P. Next ACT Board Meeting – Wednesday, January 18, 2017, 6-7:30.

ACT Calendar - January 2017

Executive Director Roundtable	ACT Board of Directors Meeting	CQI Committee Meeting
January 17 10:00 am - Noon UU Church, Meriden	January 18 6:00 - 7:30 pm ACT office, Hartford	January 27 12:30 - 2:30 pm ACT office, Hartford

For more information go to www.aids-ct.org/events.html

Don't miss these upcoming CMTI trainings in January:

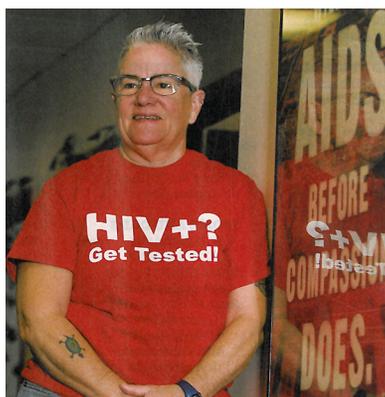
January 11 (Meriden) - HIV and Cardiovascular Disease (CVD)

Presented by Brian Palmer, Gilead Sciences. During this training participants will learn more about: CVD epidemiology and risk in HIV-positive patients: Coronary heart disease, myocardial infarction, stroke, sudden cardiac death, atrial fibrillation; HIV-associated biomarkers of CVD risk; ART and CVD risk; CVD-related events in HIV-positive patients: Coronary heart disease and myocardial infarction; and Management of CVD risk in HIV-positive patients.

January 25 (Meriden) - HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections

Presented by Leif Mitchell, Gilead Sciences. Other sexually transmitted infections, or STIs, play an important role in the transmission, or spread, of HIV. Educating your clients about other sexually transmitted infections, or STIs, and their link to HIV can help them take steps to protect themselves and others. During this training we will (1) review some important facts about HIV and other STIs and their treatment, and (2) discuss how you might counsel a client using this information. Because of the sensitive and personal nature of this topic, some of your clients may be reluctant, embarrassed, or ashamed to engage in a discussion about STIs. We will discuss strategies to encourage engagement by trying to create a warm and accepting atmosphere.

➤➤ Visit www.aids-ct.org/cmti.html to register now! <<



ACT's Deputy Director Profiled in Hartford Magazine

Shawn M. Lang, ACT's Deputy Director, is featured in the January 2017 edition of Hartford Magazine. The profile, by Donna Larcen, is a glowing tribute to Shawn's hard work and dedication as an advocate for the HIV/AIDS, LGBTQ, and homeless communities. We are so proud to have Shawn on our team! Pick up a copy today!

Red Carpet Experience

Sunday, February 26, 2017
Spotlight Theatres, Hartford

Early Bird Tickets:
GA: \$50 VIP: \$100

Available at www.aids-ct.org

Help Us To Serve You Better

ACT's Community Distribution Center recently sent out a year-end survey to all those who placed orders in 2016. If you received the survey and have not yet completed it, please do so by January 9. Your feedback is important as we seek to improve our services in the new year. Thanks!



Food for Thought...

Housing assistance for PLWHA is not just about putting a roof over people's heads. It's about creating a more stable environment that makes it easier to take daily medications and remain engaged in care. It's about lowering the risk of HIV transmission by reducing the viral load of PLWHA and reducing risky behaviors that go along with living on the street. Housing is an important tool in eradicating HIV/AIDS. Housing is healthcare.

-Rita Flegel, Director
Office of HIV/AIDS Housing

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