

THE Act COMMUNITY

AIDS Connecticut (ACT)

June 2017

Board Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Attendance: Robert Freeman, Charles Hatheway, Andrew Walter, Sandy Weicher, Quyen Truong, Lucy Rohena, Caesar Aleman, Theresa Nicholson, Barbara Shaw (via telephone), and J. Tobias Freeman (via telephone). Staff: John Merz; Julia Telfer. Guests: Lisa Wills and Authea Chambers-Simpson (Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C.).

I. Consent Agenda. The meeting was called to order at 6:07. There was a motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting. M/S/P. Mr. Robert Freeman noted that Kasey Harding had resigned from the Board of Directors and stated that her presence on the Board will be missed. He expressed his thanks to her for her long service to ACT.

II. Auditors' Presentation. Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C. Ms. Wills and Ms. Chambers-Simpson, of Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C., presented to the Board an overview and plan for their financial audit of ACT for the year ending December 31, 2016. Ms. Wills and Ms. Chambers-Simpson walked through the objectives, processes, and key areas the audit will cover. They anticipate completing the audit in June and, accordingly, intend to present a draft audit to the Board at its June meeting.

III. Staff Presentation. Ms. Telfer, Director of Prevention, presented to the Board on the prevention, syringe services, and community distribution center programs. The prevention program is based on grassroots out-

reach, and ACT employees will go anywhere and speak to anyone, including groups, at night clubs, in schools, and online. The syringe services program provides testing, syringe exchange, condom distribution, and overdose prevention training. Ms. Telfer noted that in 2016, over 235,000 syringes were exchanged. With respect to overdose prevention, 659 naloxone kits were distributed in 2016, and 147 reversals were reported. The community distribution center is the statewide HIV/AIDS prevention distribution center for the Department of Public Health. Individuals and organizations can order a variety of informational material free of charge. There were more than 1,200 orders placed in 2016. The Board thanked Ms. Telfer for her thorough presentation and her efforts.

IV. Committee Reports. A. HR Committee. There was no report.

B. Finance/Audit Committee. Mr. J. Tobias Freeman reviewed the January-March 2017 budget status report. Although a few areas were identified, Mr. Freeman stated there was no need for concern. He noted that ACT was projected to have a budget surplus of about \$51,000 and that it should end up near where initially budgeted.

C. Nominations Committee. The Board discussed the need for an additional member now that Ms. Harding had resigned, and the potential for further diversifying the Board's membership with consumer representation.



Mr. Aleman volunteered to serve as the Nominating Committee for potential Board members.

D. CQI Committee. Ms. Shaw reported that ACT recently hired a new person who has just started. CQI will begin meeting again in June or July.

E. Governance. There was no report.

F. Development. Mr. Merz noted Art for AIDS is coming up, which is always a popular and well-attended event. He also stated that the donor/volunteer appreciation event had just been held at the Governor's Residence. The event went very well. Although the Governor was not scheduled to attend, he was able to come at the last minute and delivered kind remarks.

V. Old Business. Strategic Planning Process. Mr. Merz reported that the strategic planning process remains in progress and that there will be a forthcoming presentation to the full Board.

VI. New Business. No new business.

VI. Adjournment. Adjournment at 7:21. M/S/P. Next ACT Board Meeting-Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 6-7:30.

ACT Calendar - June 2017

ACT Board of
Directors Meeting

June 21
6:00 - 7:30 pm
ACT office, Hartford



CQI Committee
Meeting

June 23
12:30 - 2:30 pm
ACT office, Hartford

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



ACT Welcomes New Staff Members

Rebecca Boucher joins ACT as our new Program Manager of Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance. Originally from Simsbury, she holds a bachelor's degree in Neuroscience from Bucknell University and has several years of non-profit residential experience with individuals with developmental disabilities. She is thrilled to expand her knowledge to the HIV/AIDS community and contribute to such a thriving and effective organization.



Erika Mott joins ACT as our newest Medical Case Manager sited at Health Collective East. Erika has previous experience interning with another AIDS focused program in the state and is excited to be joining the ACT team. She received her bachelor's degree in Psychology with a focus in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at UConn in 2016 and will be pursuing a master's degree in Social Work at UConn. Erika is inspired by the enthusiasm and passion within ACT and is delighted to be working for an organization that aligns with her values and goals in helping others.

Thanks to all who participated in AIDS Awareness Day 2017. Your voice does make a difference! More photos are available on ACT's Facebook page.



ACT has developed 2 handouts agencies can use to recruit consumers for boards, committees, etc. Download at www.aids-ct.org (under Quick Links).



Upcoming CMTI >> Register now at www.aids-ct.org

Talking with Clients about Sexual Health (June 7) Presented by LaToya Tyson, AIDS Connecticut. During this training we'll get comfortable talking about all facets of sex and sexual health, including ways to not make assumptions about clients' sexual orientation and/or behavior. Participants will get hands on training demonstrating male/female condom/dental dam use with their clients. We'll also role play how to have these types of discussions with clients.

Navigating the US Immigration System (June 21) Presented by Kara Hart, Greater Hartford Legal Aid. Case managers are often looked to for answers concerning the challenges our undocumented clients and families may face. This training provides an overview of the U.S. Immigration system and available services. You will learn ways to help your clients better understand their rights and options, and will gain an understanding of "Family preparedness," as it pertains to immigration and how to go about starting the legalization process.

UHART students volunteered at ACT's Connections Wellness Center as part of their *Helping Hawks Day of Service*.



Go to www.aids-ct.org and click on "Join Our Email List Today!" under Quick Links to get the latest ACT updates.