

Meetings & Time Commitment

The CPG meets one time every other month, with scheduled committee meetings between the CPG meetings. Currently, meetings are scheduled for the fourth Friday, 10:00 AM. To 4:00 PM. and are held in Concord. (Specific dates and location are available upon request.) There is an annual two-day retreat that takes place in the spring.

CPG members report dedicating between 8 and 20 hours to the community planning process each month depending on the number of committees served.

Stipends, Mileage Reimbursement and Child Care

In order to ensure inclusion of diverse members of the communities in NH, the representation from all groups impacted by HIV/AIDS and making sure voices of the community are heard, the NH CPG has agreed to offer a stipend to any member who is not compensated for attending meetings. Mileage/travel is reimbursed to all CPG members who do not receive such reimbursement from their employers or other sources.

Eligibility for receiving the stipend is subject to approval by the NH HIV/STD Program. When needed, funds for childcare are available to CPG members at a pre-determined rate.

How Do You Get Involved?

It is easy to get involved with the NH HIV CPG. If you would like to receive more information or an application to join the NH HIV Community Planning Group, please feel free to contact the CPG's logistical contractor:

Martha Bradley
Community Health Institute/JSI R & T
NERHRT
501 South Street, 2nd Floor
Bow, NH 03304
CHI/JSI Main Line: 603-573-3300
NERHRT Phone: 603-573-3377
Fax: 603-573-3301
mbradley@jsi.com (e-mail)

If an individual meets the representation needs of the CPG, he or she is invited to become a member of the CPG and asked to serve for a term of one to three years.





What Is HIV Community Planning In NH?

HIV Community Planning in New Hampshire is an on-going process in which the state health department shares responsibility for developing a comprehensive HIV prevention and care plan with other governmental and non-governmental agencies and representatives of communities and groups at risk for HIV infection or already infected.

This participatory process is guided by the principles of getting people from different walks of life, and different interest that can represent those infected and impacted by HIV/AIDS.

Key components of Community Planning include:

- Membership that is representative of all stakeholders;
- An attitude that values and uses differences; and
- Shared learning, input, responsibility and decision-making.

The Mission

The New Hampshire HIV Community Planning Group seeks to promote effective HIV care and prevention programs in the State of New Hampshire. Through an ongoing and informed participatory process we seek to improve the quality of life for individuals living with HIV/AIDS infection and to reduce the further spread of HIV/AIDS infection.

The History Of HIV Prevention Planning

HIV Prevention Planning began as a national initiative started in 1994 by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to assure that the people most impacted by the HIV/AIDS epidemic had the opportunity to join with state and territorial health departments, forming a partnership to facilitate participatory planning.

Participatory planning for HIV prevention is designed to secure a broad range of perspectives, build consensus and mobilize resources to make decisions about HIV prevention programs.

The History of Care Services Planning

The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act was enacted in 1990 by Public Law that requires the delivery of health care services and support to people living with HIV/AIDS in the country. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) oversee this Act. The CARE Act stresses the role of local planning and decision making-with broad community involvement-to determines how to best meet HIV/AIDS care needs.

What Does the CPG Do?

As a planning group, we strive to reflect in our composition the characteristics of the current and future HIV epidemics. The group is comprised of prevention providers, care providers and community representatives from across the state. The group includes persons at risk for and living with HIV/AIDS. In partnership with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Community and Public Health (OCPH) we work to:

- Assess the present and future extent, distribution and impact of HIV/AIDS
- Assess existing community resources for HIV prevention and care services
- Identify unmet HIV prevention needs
- Identify gaps in services
- Examine the potential impact of specific strategies and interventions to prevent new HIV infections
- Prioritize prevention needs and care services
- Develop and update a Comprehensive HIV Care and Prevention Plan
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the planning process

In addition to membership on the CPG, interested people can participate in the community planning process in multiple ways:

- ◆ Serving on Committees and Work Groups
- ◆ Serving as CPG Advisors
- ◆ Participating in Multicultural Advisory Groups
- ◆ Providing Public Input
- ◆ Providing relevant data to the CPG
- ◆ Reviewing materials based on areas of expertise and experience
- ◆ Participating in or assisting with focus groups
- ◆ Spreading the word about HIV Prevention Community Planning