

THE CARC COMMUNITY

Connecticut AIDS Resource Coalition

February 2012

CARC Board Meeting Minutes - Wed., January 4, 2012

Attendance

Chelsea Turner, Bob Freeman, Kasey Harding, Yvonne Chandler and Nancy Howell; John Merz, staff.

President's Report

Bob Freeman called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. Motion to approve the December 7, 2011 minutes. MSP

Treasurer's Report

Just closed books, none

Executive Director's Report

Training Coordinator has left. She did great job and training lined up through February and CARC will need to post soon for this position. Meeting set up for Mon. w/ DPH to support or dovetail with trainings that DPH does.

CARC was asked to be the lead agency for the Corporation for Supportive Housing Social Innovation Fund proposal. This grant targets the high users of Medicaid to try to shift them from using emergency services to using more FQHCs and supportive housing. There was a meeting to walk folks through the RFP. At this meeting, it became clear that they weren't looking for individual organizations to manage this grant but a statewide organization. CCEH, Partnership and CARC were considered to be the lead agency. Simultaneously, the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovations (CMMI) issued an RFP that was almost identical to the CSH's. The CSH grantee will be awarded up to \$500,000 for each of 2 years. The CMMI grantee will receive up to 3

years of support equating to a total of up to \$30 million. The CMMI grant is too big for CARC to manage but the Partnership believes they are capable and have the necessary resources. The Partnership agreed to hire a consultant to write both proposals since they are so similar. To support these efforts, significant resources from CARC are required since it draws from multiple regional planning groups and requires extensive coordination. The CSH grant is due by January 13th and the CMMI grant is due shortly after that.

An RFP released from DPH was issued regarding administering funds for non-occupational post-exposure prophylactics. This is for victims of sexual assault. Victims of sexual assault can be treated with drugs to reduce their exposure to HIV. These funds help victims who can't otherwise afford it. It's a small amount of money, \$50,000 for approximately 1.25 years, but it's an important endeavor and CARC is submitting a proposal.

CARC is embracing the New Year with a spirit of hope, optimism and collegiality.

Old/New Business

Bob and Kasey reported on the status of the Strategic Alliance Process. Approximately 8 agencies were represented. Many of the same folks attended the 2nd Town Hall. Differing opinions were presented. Discussion points included: compilation on board and whether member agencies should

have 51% representation, what it would mean to have co-executive directors, funding issues and thoughts on how this may affect the future. Folks also expressed interested in seeing the new by-laws. These are in development and need to be reviewed by legal before circulating. Once the legal questions are resolved satisfactorily, the by-laws will be distributed for further discussion. This may take some time. The Pro Bono Partnership has paired APH with their own attorney so that their interests are represented in this process. There was some discussion whether an additional Town Hall would be helpful after the by-laws are distributed.

The next meeting of the negotiating team is February 6th at 6:00 p.m.

The Board expressed that a timeline regarding the potential merger be more fully developed so that there could be resolution one way or the other within a reasonable amount of time. John will send out state statute regarding the voting process for people to review; this will be forwarded to membership when proposed by-laws are sent.

MSP (via email) to extend CARC's formal resolution to continue merger conversations with APH to 6/30/12 as the initial resolution expired 12/31/11.

Adjournment at 10:18 a.m. MSP

Next Meeting: Teleconference February 9, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

M/S/P = moved/seconded/passed

CARC Calendar - February 2012



National
Black
HIV/AIDS
Awareness
Day

February 7

CARC Board of
Directors Meeting

February 9
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Teleconference

AIDS LIFE Campaign

February 28
Noon - 2:00 p.m.
Community Health
Center, Meriden

For directions go to ctaidcoalition.org/meetings.htm



Oscar Night
February 26
7:00 p.m.
Real Art Ways
Hartford, CT

Tickets going fast!
Buy your's online at
ctaidcoalition.org.

New Online Employment Resource

Employment Practices Improvement Collaborative (EPIC) courses are the newest resource for job seekers with barriers to employment. These free, interactive, classes were created for job seekers and the people who support them. There are 6 Soft Skills Courses, 8 Employability Training Courses and 14 Simulations or Interactive Vignettes that teach a range of skills. Some titles are specifically for ex-offenders, people in recovery, job seekers with a spotty work history and people with hidden disabilities. For facilitators there is information about Evidence Based Supported Employment, Motivational Interviewing and Supporting Job Seekers through Stages of Change. EPIC is funded through a federal grant to the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services to identify and remove barriers to employment faced by people with disabilities. EPIC is managed by DMHAS and operated by Career Resources, Inc. Find EPIC courseware under the e-learning tab at connect-ability.com.



CARC Quarterly Gathering

Wednesday, February 15, 2012
10:00 am - Noon
Center Congregational Church
474 Broad St., Meriden

Please join us for "Trends in AIDS Housing 2012 & Beyond." This roundtable discussion is for Executive Directors and Senior Program Directors. DSS's Housing Team will discuss future trends and the impact on AIDS residential contracts funded by DSS.

St. Luke's
LifeWorks

CARC Member Spotlight

On December 13, St. Luke's LifeWorks celebrated the official opening of *The Clinic @ Woodland* with a ribbon cutting ceremony. St. Luke's LifeWorks has transformed space in the women's shelter on its Woodland Campus, located in the South End of Stamford, into a

new health clinic complete with two examination rooms, waiting room, etc. The *Clinic @ Woodland* was built by SLLW's own maintenance team, saving tens of thousands of dollars. The clinic will be available to all St. Luke's LifeWorks' clients around Woodland Campus and to the local community. Optimus and St. Luke's LifeWorks will partner on joint intakes, joint management, and joint discharge plans, meaning that the medical, psychiatric, employment and housing plans are integrated and reinforce one another. Optimus is looking to duplicate this innovative model at other sites.

"In short, two entities that would typically not talk to each other about clients are not only going to talk to each other, but will totally integrate their services, making the delivery of critical services seamless to the client." ~ Jason Shaplen, SLLW's CEO

Case Management Training Institute

Workforce Re-entry
February 8, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Mental Health First Aid
February 22 & 23, 8:30 am - 4 pm

There are still a few spots open in each of our February trainings. For details and online registration visit ctaidcoalition.org, or call André at 860-761-6699 x305.

Save the Date:

AIDS Awareness Day at the Capitol
Thursday, April 26, 2012, 10 am

Go to ctaidcoalition.org and click on **Join Our Free Email List Today** to get the latest CARC news and updates.