



Cuyahoga Regional HIV Prevention and Care Planning Council
Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina Counties
Deairius Houston, Chair

HIV Prevention Committee Minutes
Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Prevention Committee Members		Planning Council Attendees	Community Members	Guest Speakers
Deairius Houston, Chair	P	Billy Gayheart	Jordian Foster	Prakash Ganesh, MD, MPH
Cielle Brady*	P	LeAnder Lovett	Stephanie Young	
Sahara Rivera	P	James Stevenson	Natalia Rodas	
Tiffany Greene	P	Akeem Rollins	Brittany Freese	Recipient Staff
Julie Patterson	P		Justin Yax	Lisa-Jean Sylvia
Kimberlin Dennis	P		Colleen Kishman	Brittanie Evans
Karla Ruiz	P		Victoria Ma	Danielle LeGallee
			Emily Kolacz	Erin Janowski
				Melissa Kolenz
Total of 25 in attendance.	P = Present A = Absent O (Other) = Virtual, Phone			
Call to Order	Chair, Deairius Houston, called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.			
Moment of Silence				
Quorum Determination	7 of 7 Prevention committee members present - quorum of 5 needed.			
Welcome, Introductions & Conflicts of Interest	<p>All members, attendees, and guests welcomed and asked to state conflicts of interest in the chat.</p> <p>---</p> <p><i>Conflicted: Brittany Freese – Signature Health; James Stevenson – NLURC; Sahara Rivera – MetroHealth; Cielle Brady – UH; Natalia Rodas – NLURC; Jordian Foster – AIDS Taskforce; Justin Yax - UH</i></p>			
Approval of Agenda	<p>Prevention Committee reviewed and approved the agenda for September 3, 2025.</p> <p>Motion made by Billy Gayheart, seconded by Kimberlin Dennis In favor: All; Opposed: 0</p>			
Approval of Minutes	<p>Prevention Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from June 4, 2025.</p> <p>Motion made by Billy Gayheart, Seconded by Kimberlin Dennis In Favor: All; Opposed: 0; Abstained: Cielle Brady, Tiffany Greene, James Stevenson</p>			
Prevention Update	<p>Danielle LeGallee, CCBH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will continue funding through May 31, 2026. 			
Planning Council Update	<p>Lisa-Jean Sylvia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We had a site visit in March and are working on an Improvement Plan. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are always accepting new applicants, especially if you are providing services to folks who are unhoused; working in mental health and/or addiction; or are a person living with HIV. • We're learning about needs assessments in QI. In S&F, we're working on making recommendations on what should happen with allocations if funding is decreased next year. • CLC is having listening sessions, so let us know if you're having an event. • We're working on a bylaws review
EHE Jurisdictional Plan	We're looking for volunteers to join a committee to review the draft of the Jurisdictional Plan. We have 6 individuals already registered for the committee, but are hoping to get a few more. This involves attending two 1-hour meetings, and reviewing 5-10 pages of the plan.
Prevention Community Highlight	<p>Apretude, Long-Lasting Injectable PrEP Prakash Ganesh, MD, MPH, Cuyahoga County Board of Health Medical Director</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 1 in 3 persons who could benefit from taking PrEP were prescribed PrEP. Providers can be uncomfortable or lack knowledge around prescribing PrEP for women. • There are disparities in PrEP coverage based on sex, race, age, and geography • First 2 doses are given 1 month apart, then every 2 months moving forward • Most common adverse reaction is injection site pain/ soreness • Patient experiences: Injection site reactions; STI testing every 2 months; regular appointments every 2 months vs having your own supply of daily pills; travel time for appointments – helpful when integrated with primary care appointments; insurance coverage can be a challenge. <p>Discussion: What feedback are you getting from patients and the community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ganesh - Many patients are very happy with not needing to take daily oral medication. • Akeem – This is becoming the preferred method among younger black MSM in other cities, but here there is a lot of medical mistrust and misinformation regarding injections.
Agency Spotlight	<p>Recovery and the LGBTQ+ Community Tony Correa, B Riley Sober House</p>
Agency Check-In	<p>Pride highlights and what are you working on as we close out the year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danielle – CCBH had a presence at Pride in all 6 counties. • Colleen – Connecting with a lot of folks and other organizations. Closing out the year – expanding partnerships, especially in the western part of Lorain County. • Sahara – We will be tabling at Queertober Kickoff at Oberlin in October and have been doing Lunch and Learns about HIV.
Next Steps	Lj – Will try to reschedule with Tony.

Announcements	<p>Kimberlin – Ministry of Hope is planning a Lunch and Learn for HIV positive women on October 11th. Final details will be coming soon.</p> <p>Lj – Changes to Medicaid and SNAP community forum is full but will be live streamed on the Cuyahoga County YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/CuyahogaCounty</p>
Adjournment	<p>Meeting adjourned by Billy Gayheart at 5:05 pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 <i>Made by James Stevenson; Seconded by Colleen Kishman</i></p>

Reminder: Check your Email or the Website for Updates

Next Meeting: December 3, 2025

Visit the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Homepage at: www.ccbh.net/ryan-white