

End HIV Alabama Meeting Notes

August 25, 2022

Attendees: Judith Kopyu, Vanessa Tate Finney, Linda Thompson, Chance Shaw, Shey Thorn, EHA Co-chair, Kelsey Bryant, Carmarion Anderson-Harvey, EHA Co-Chair, Larry Cowan, LaTeisha Brandon Elliott, and Jora White. (This is a partial list. Registration information was not accessible.)

The original meeting scheduled for August 17, was rescheduled for this date. There was low attendance for this meeting, likely due to the Ryan White Conference which was being facilitated virtually at the same time. LaTeisha facilitated the meeting.

Capacity-Building

Executive Committee has been meeting about ways to increase membership retention and energize the group. There are several things the EHA needs to focus on in 2023: Defining our purpose, targeted recruiting, and checking in with progress toward our Plan objectives. We should have frequent discussion around our successes and need for improvement.

Work Groups

We looked at the effectiveness of our work groups. In discussion with our work group leaders, a decision was made to retain only the Policy & Advocacy and Marketing work groups, and dissolve the Education and Membership work groups. The Marketing work group is currently without leadership. If we are not able to identify a leader for Marketing, that group will be dissolved as well. Education will become a “special project” led by Chance Shaw as they continue to work on an updated HIV curriculum. Vanessa Tate-Finney will continue to lead Advocacy & Policy.

Innovations

The Leadership discussed the feasibility of partnering with HIV Managers and EHE Coordinators to engage with the community to disseminate and gather information. This would include distributing flyers at health fairs and other appropriate community events—either personally, or through a co-worker that is attending the event—and promoting EHA at their local community meetings for the purpose of increased community involvement.

Announcements

- EHA will meet every other month—October, December, February, April, June, and August
- Nominations for 2023 EHA Co-chairs will open in October
- AIDS Alabama’s Dining Out for Life will take place on December 1, World AIDS Day
- ADPH is working on new print material for Monkey Pox education, testing, and vaccine
- Bylaws are waiting for Executive Committee approval
- ADPH will be submitting for capacity-building assistance to conduct the proposed “symposium”. Jora will reach out to NASTAD for suggestions.

- Pride Events: Rocket City 10/1 and 10/8, Druid City 10/2

Next Meeting: October 20, 2023