

## Memorandum

TO: Lead Agents, Grant Monitors, and Project Directors

FROM: Janet Nuss, HIV Section Illinois HIV Planning Coordinator; Marleigh Voigtmann, HIV Community Planning Intern

DATE: July 12, 2016

SUBJECT: Accepting Applicants for the Illinois HIV Planning Group's Newly Formed Youth Advisory Group

In response to the growing HIV epidemic among youth across the country and in Illinois, the Illinois HIV Planning Group (ILHPG), in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), recognize that bringing the voices, opinions, and experiences of youth to light in the HIV planning process is an important endeavor. In order to better understand how HIV impacts youth and to address the needs of youth in HIV services, the ILHPG is now accepting applications from youth across the state who are interested in joining the newly formed ILHPG Youth Advisory Group. The ILHPG is eager to work in collaboration with the Youth Advisory Group in their HIV planning efforts so that they can better understand the knowledge that youth possess about HIV and HIV risk behaviors, assess and identify knowledge gaps, and learn from the shared experiences and observations of youth.

Becoming a member of the ILHPG Youth Advisory Group is an opportunity for youth to share and discuss their ideas, perceptions, and experiences related to HIV with other interested youth. More importantly, Youth Advisory Group members will also represent their communities by providing the ILHPG and IDPH with guidance and recommendations to develop and/or enhance HIV programs that target youth. Members will participate in group activities via teleconference and online discussions. There is also a possibility that the ILHPG may cover registration and lodging costs of Youth Advisory Group members who wish to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual HIV/ STD conference in Springfield, IL (October 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>), but this is pending and subject to change.

Applicants should be aged 18-24 years old and should be able to commit to participating in conference calls as well as online blogs and discussion boards. Membership terms are two years in length. Applicants must submit their applications no later than **Friday, August 19th, 2016** to be considered for membership. Please note that in selecting Youth Advisory Group members, the ILHPG Coordinator and HIV Community Planning Intern will try to ensure there is diverse representation by race/ethnicity, gender, and any identified risk affiliations. Youth who are HIV+ and youth who are at high risk for HIV are encouraged to apply.

Please disseminate this application form to youth who you feel may be interested in bringing their perspectives, experiences, and insight to Illinois's HIV planning processes by joining the ILHPG Youth Advisory Group. Also, please ask your grantee agencies that work with youth to help distribute information about this opportunity.

Janet Nuss  
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Marleigh Voigtmann  
HIV Community Planning Intern  
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## Illinois HIV Planning Group (ILHPG) Youth Advisory Group

### Application

1. Personal Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

School or College/University attending (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did you hear about the ILHPG Youth Advisory Group? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Are you able to commit to participating in conference calls? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

4. Are you able to commit to participating in online discussions (blogs, discussion boards, etc.)?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Demographic Information *(The following section is for the purpose of ensuring that a diverse representation of youth are chosen to be members. Only aggregate information will be shared.)*

5. Gender:  Female  Male  Transgender MTF  
 Transgender FTM  Other  Prefer Not to Respond

6. Age:  18-20  20-24

7. Race/ Ethnicity *(Please check all that apply):*

African American/Black  Native American/Alaskan Native  Asian

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander  Caucasian  Latina/o or Hispanic

Other \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you currently work or self-identify with any of the following specific populations? *(Please check **all** that apply):*

- Persons living with HIV/AIDS
- Males who have sex with other males (MSM)
- People who inject drugs (PWID)
- High risk heterosexuals (HRH)
- Incarcerated or recently-released individuals
- Other high-risk populations - please identify: \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

9. Please briefly explain why you want to serve as a member of the ILHPG Youth Advisory Group:

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Submit Application by Mail, E-Mail, or Fax to:

Marleigh Voigtmann  
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HIV Community Planning Intern  
Marleigh.voigtmann@illinois.gov  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 1st Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761  
Phone: (217) 524-9005, FAX: (217) 557-3675

**Please note: Applications must be received by the IDPH HIV Community Planning Intern no later than 5:00 p.m., August 19, 2016 in order to be considered.**