

Illinois HIV Integrated Planning Council (IHIPC) Selection for New 2019 Membership

The Illinois HIV Integrated Planning Council (IHIPC) is now accepting applications for voting and at-large non-voting membership, terms beginning January 2019. Voting members will be elected to serve a two-year term, which may be followed by a second two-year term.

Integrated HIV planning is a process by which community representatives, persons living with HIV, service providers, and other key stakeholders partner with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to inform the development and update of the jurisdiction's Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan. Effective integrated planning is based on review of HIV and STD epidemiological data and trends, HIV care and prevention program and services evaluation, assessment of ongoing issues and challenges impacting the epidemic, and a participatory needs assessment process. Community engagement in integrated planning is essential to obtaining a broad range of perspectives and input from affected populations and to building consensus on recommendations about HIV programs, resource allocation, and priority setting that will enable the State to accomplish the goals and objectives identified in the Integrated Plan.

IHIPC Membership responsibilities include:

- participating in required trainings and meetings
- providing input into decision-making and problem-solving related to HIV planning
- involvement in committee work and special projects required in the community planning process
- assessing data and information needed to make recommendations relevant to HIV planning
- advocating for and educating the community about the HIV community planning process

The 2018 meeting schedule has yet to be formally determined, but IHIPC membership requires participation in a combination of orientation trainings, various online trainings, 2½ hour IHIPC webinar meetings, and face-to-face meetings each calendar year. The trainings are typically offered early in the year, with webinars occurring four times per year and face-to-face meetings occurring twice per year. In addition, all voting members are required to participate in a monthly 1 hour conference call of that member's assigned IHIPC standing committee. Members may also be asked to work on committee projects or attend community engagement forums when held in their region. Participation in webinar meetings requires that members have access to a computer and a telephone. Authorized travel-related expenses for members to attend and participate in the face-to-face meetings are reimbursed, upon submission of a completed travel voucher, and usually within 2-3 weeks after the travel.

Applications for the 2018 new member selection process will be accepted July 1, 2018 through September 15, 2018. All applicants will receive acknowledgment of receipt of their application. Applications will be scored using a system that takes into consideration the applicant's link to the HIV epidemic, regional representation, knowledge and skills, demographic representation, knowledge of and experience in community planning, and HIV status or affiliation. Applicants may be contacted by the IDPH IHIPC Coordinator to clarify any information provided on the application. The final determination of selected applicants will be made by the IHIPC in late October. Newly-selected members will be notified of their acceptance early in November and will then be scheduled to participate in a New Member Orientation in December 2018. Newly-selected members will begin their terms on January 1, 2019. Applicants who are not selected will also be notified by email in November.

Applications can be downloaded from the IHIPC website at <http://www.ihipc.org/apply> or can be obtained by contacting the IDPH IHIPC Coordinator/Health Department Co-Chair, Janet Nuss at (217) 524-4759 or via email at janet.nuss@illinois.gov. All applications must be submitted to Janet Nuss by the deadline in order to be considered. Further information about submitting the completed application is available on page one of the application.