



## City of Bristol

### NEWS RELEASE

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### ***ANNUAL HIV/AIDS EDUCATION FORUM OFFERS TRAINING OPPORTUNITY***

(BRISTOL, CT)- On Wednesday, April 17, professionals involved in HIV/AIDS prevention and care are invited to attend the annual HIV Educational Forum sponsored by Bristol Mayor's Task Force on HIV/AIDS. This event will feature speakers on multiple topics related to HIV/AIDS including Hepatitis C, Opioid Use/Treatment, the Evolution of HIV/AIDS and U=U (Undetectable = Untransmittable).

In Connecticut, 21,784 people have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS since 1981. There are 10,560 people currently living in this state with HIV. 3,208 of these people live in the Hartford area with 71 new cases reported in 2016. Six new cases were reported in Bristol in 2017 and 99 people are living with HIV/AIDS in Bristol.\* *see link below*

"I think the commitment by this volunteer group to continue to address this public health issue is fantastic," said Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu. "This is a premier continuing education event that they sponsor, as well as other AIDS awareness events. It's important for those who are living with HIV/AIDS know that it is still an issue that we are addressing. I am also very happy to see our new Health Director, Marco Palmeri, take an active interest as well."

The Forum is being held in the ground floor conference rooms at Bristol Public Library at 5 High St. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the day will end at 3 p.m. A light breakfast and catered lunch will be provided. Tickets are \$25 and include meals.

The Bristol Mayor's Task Force on HIV/AIDS was formed twenty-eight years ago and continues to have representative membership from consumers, medical, social service and treatment providers and interested Bristol residents. The group meets monthly and organizes five educational events per year. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. For registration information, please contact: Valerie Ingram at [860.826.4741](tel:860.826.4741) or [Vingram@hranbct.org](mailto:Vingram@hranbct.org)

\* [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/AIDS--Chronic-Diseases/Surveillance/statewide/CT\\_hiv\\_aids\\_town\\_currentyear\\_table.pdf?la=en](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/AIDS--Chronic-Diseases/Surveillance/statewide/CT_hiv_aids_town_currentyear_table.pdf?la=en)

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