

# Project L.E.A.P.



*Learning  
Empowerment  
Advocacy  
Participation*

---

For people living with or affected by HIV  
in the Greater Houston Area



## What Is Project LEAP?

Project LEAP is for individuals living with or affected by HIV in the Greater Houston area.

- One class a week for 17 weeks starting in July
- Free of charge
- 30 students listen and engage with presenters and other students
- Learn about the HIV prevention and care system
- Graduates help shape the future of HIV services in our community.

Project LEAP is unique to Houston.



## What Is the Goal of LEAP?

The goal is for graduates to:

- Use the skills that they learn in class
- Become active and effective participants in local HIV planning groups
- Graduates help shape the future of HIV services in our community.



## Why was LEAP created?

Local planning bodies need people living with HIV who are not afraid to speak up and advocate for the needs of consumers.



## How does LEAP work?

Classes are held on Wednesdays

Each class is about 4 hours with a variety of different topics covered each week.

Classes include guest speakers who are experts in their field, hands-on activities, group projects, and field trips

All class materials are provided.



## What will I learn?

### ***Some of the topics covered in class include:***

- Parliamentary Procedure (Robert's Rules of Order)
- The History of HIV in the Houston Area
- Local HIV trends for populations such as African Americans, Hispanics, Women, Youth, Heterosexuals, Transgender, etc.
- Local HIV trends and services for people with mental health or substance abuse issues, the homeless & incarcerated or recently released individuals.
- HIV and co-infections, chronic diseases & stigma
- Designing services for people living with HIV
- The Ryan White Program service prioritization and funding allocation process
- HIV Prevention in the Houston Area



## What Skills are taught?

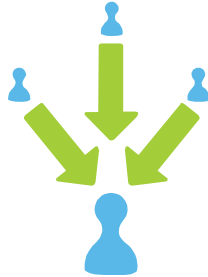
*Some Examples include:*

- Meeting facilitation and Robert's Rules of Order
- Presentation skills
- Leadership
- Interpreting data and conducting needs assessments
- Strategic planning
- Reviewing and evaluating funding proposals
- Organizational participation and conduct
- Advocacy
- Cultural competency



## What are the classes like?

- Information and handouts for each class and a binder to keep them organized
- Mock meetings and processes
- Expert speakers with Q&A and discussion
- Panels of LEAP graduates and members of Planning Bodies with Q&A and discussion
- Attend the Ryan White Planning Council and Houston HIV Prevention Community Planning Group meetings
- Small group activities such as case studies
- Hands-on activities such as role-playing
- Self-assessments
- Class project and presentation to the Planning Council



## Who Is Eligible?

People who are living with HIV, or are affected by HIV personally or professionally

People who can meet the class expectations in terms of attendance and participation



## What Do You Gain?

Knowledge and skills to serve as an advocate for your health and the health of others

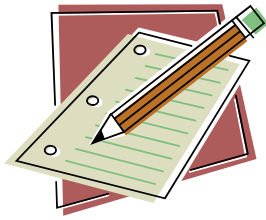
Knowledge and skills to serve on one of the bodies that plans for HIV prevention and care services for our local community

Access to experts and mentors

An extensive reference binder of information and materials about HIV

Being part of a learning community of people who share your same passion and concern for the issue

The opportunity to make a difference!



## How To Apply?

- Brief written application
  - Applications are due by July 12<sup>th</sup>!
- Brief interview, conducted in person or virtually
- The class will begin in early August.

↓ Scan to apply! ↓



---

Applications can be obtained by:

Calling	832 927-7926
Emailing	<a href="mailto:diane.beck@harriscountytexas.gov">diane.beck@harriscountytexas.gov</a>
Visiting	<a href="http://rwpchouston.org">rwpchouston.org</a>