

Project L.E.A.P.

Learning, Empowerment, Advocacy and Participation

What is Project L.E.A.P.?

Project L.E.A.P. is a free, 17-week comprehensive advocacy training course for individuals living with and/or affected by HIV in the Greater Houston Area. The goal is to train people living with HIV so that they become active participants in local HIV planning activities by serving on a planning body, such as the Ryan White Planning Council or the City of Houston HIV Prevention Community Planning Group (CPG).

What will I Learn?

Some of the topics covered in class include:

- Parliamentary Procedure (Robert's Rules of Order)
- HIV 101
- The History of HIV in the Houston Area
- HIV trends in the Houston area for populations such as African Americans, Hispanics, Women, Youth, Heterosexuals, Transgender, etc.
- HIV trends in the Houston area and available services for people with mental health issues, substance abuse issues, the homeless and the incarcerated/ recently released.
- HIV and Co-infections, HIV and Chronic Diseases, HIV and Stigma
- Designing HIV Services
- The Ryan White Program Service Prioritization and Funding Allocation Process
- HIV Prevention in the Houston Area

Additional class activities may include:

- Attend a Ryan White Planning Council and Committee meeting.
- Attend an HIV Prevention Community Planning Group (CPG) Meeting.
- Attend a community meeting of your choice.
- Leadership skills and team building.
- Introduction to National, State, and Local HIV plans.
- Class Needs Assessment project & presentation to the Planning Council.

When Does the Class Meet?

Wednesdays beginning in March or April.

Students can join one of two Project L.E.A.P. classes:

Day class: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Evening class: 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Lunch or dinner will be provided.

Assistance with transportation and child care is also available.

How Do I Apply?

A brief application and in-person interview is required. Applications are available by mail, fax, email, and can also be picked up in person or completed online.

If you have questions about Project L.E.A.P. or the application process, please contact the Ryan White Planning Council Office of Support at 713-572-3724 or visit us on the web: www.rwpcHouston.org.