

Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC)

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

January 2014 – December 2014

1. HCC announced the appointment of special advisor: '**Alcohol Policy Advisor**', **Dr. Rohan Maharaj**, a Senior Lecturer in Family Medicine at the University of the West Indies and a Fellow of the Caribbean College of Family Physicians. *Jan 2014.*
2. HCC **C4PI/ NCD Country Visits** Dominica/ Grenada. *Feb 2014.*
 - a. Grenada
 - i. Met with key stakeholders including the Grenada Cancer Society (AUS DAP Sub-grantees); local NCD NGOs; and the Ministry of Health staff including the **Honourable Minister of Health Dr. Clarice Modeste.**
 - b. Dominica
 - i. Met with key stakeholders including the Dominica Cancer Society (AUS DAP Sub-grantees); local NCD NGOs; the Ministry of Health staff; and staff of the Princess Margaret Hospital.
 - ii. High-level NCD Advocacy meeting with **His Excellency Charles Angelo Savarin, President of the Commonwealth of Dominica.**
3. HCC **Co Sponsored NCD Child Meeting: Doing what needs to be done.** Trinidad and Tobago. *March 2014.*
4. HCC conducted a Courtesy Visit by the Board of Directors to the **President of Trinidad, His Excellency the Honourable Anthony Carmona** to discuss the role of Caribbean leadership in galvanising political will around NCDs. *March 2014.*
5. NCDa/Medtronic Philanthropy funded report: **A Civil Society Regional Status Report: Responses to NCDs in the CARICOM Community** launched at the NCD Child Meeting. *March 2014.*
6. HCC Technical Advisor Alcohol Policy attended **2nd Meeting of the Pan American Network on Alcohol and Public Health (PANNAPH)**, Cartagena, Colombia. *April 2014.*
7. HCC, in partnership with the Barbados Ministry of Health and UWI, launched the **CDC Global Standardized Hypertension Treatment Project (GSHTP) Pilot in Barbados.** *April 2014.*
8. HCC member and Director of the Barbados National Registry presented '**Priority research areas for national policy action on NCDs: Caribbean civil society experience**' at the **CMOs Meeting: Caribbean Meeting on Research for Policy Action on Economic Implications of Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases** leading up to the 59th Annual CARPHA Health Research Conference in Aruba. *April 2014.*
9. UWI signs contract with IDRC for project: '**The CARICOM political declaration on noncommunicable diseases seven years on: an evaluation to accelerate further**

10. **multi-sectoral implementation'** of which HCC is one of the participating Institutions. *April 2014.*
11. HCC member and Director of the Barbados National Registry presented 'Educating the public and relevant authorities on the importance of cancer/NCD registries: a civil response' at the **NCI Cancer Surveillance for the Caribbean** leading up to the 59th Annual CARPHA Health Research Conference in Aruba. *April 2014.*
12. HCC member, and Director of the Barbados National Registry, attended the **59th Annual CARPHA Health Research Conference** in Aruba. *May 2014.*
13. **HCC C4PI/ NCD Country Visits** Jamaica/ Belize. *May 2014.*
 - a. Jamaica
 - i. Met with key stakeholders including the Jamaica Cancer Society (AUS DAP Sub-grantees); local NCD NGOs; the dean of the Faculty of Medicine UWI Mona, Professor Horace Fletcher; members of the National NCD Committee; and the Ministry of Health staff including the **Honourable Minister of Health Dr. Fenton Ferguson.**
 - b. Belize
 - i. Met with key stakeholders including the Belize Cancer Society (AUS DAP Sub-grantees); local NCD NGOs; the Ministry of Health and the **Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Dean Barrow.**
14. HCC President spoke at the **NCD Alliance 67th World Health Assembly** May 2014 Side Event: Addressing the NCD Challenge in the Post-2015 Development Agenda: the Life-Course Approach. *May 2014.*
15. NCD Alliance approved outputs under Contract 1 of Strengthening Health Systems: Supporting NCD Action' Project. Contract 2 approved for May 2014 – Dec 2014. *May 2014.*
16. HCC signed an **MOU** with Caribbean Institute on Alcoholism and Other Drug Problems (**CARIAD**). *June 2014.*
17. The HCC President invited to serve as a member of the **PAHO Pan American Forum for Action on Non-communicable Diseases (PAFNCD)** Work Group for a two-year period beginning June 2014. *June 2014.*
18. The HCC President and Manager attended the **UN NCD CSO Hearing**, NYC. *June 2014.*
19. **HCC 2nd General Assembly.** Virtual meeting held and new Board of Directors for 2014-2016 nominated (Sir Trevor Hassell/ Dr. Victor Coombs, Dr. Mortimer Moxey, Mrs. Laura Tucker-Longsworth, and Prof. Rainford Wilks). *July 3, 2014.*
20. The HCC President and Manager attended the **UN NCD Review 2014**, NYC. *July 10-11 2014.*
 - a. HCC hosts **Cervical Cancer Side Event** in Partnership with the Australian Permanent Mission to the UN, the Barbados and Jamaica Permanent UN Missions to the UN.
21. HCC President invited to be a member of the **World Cancer Research Fund International's new Policy Advisory Group.** *August 2014.*
22. HCC **CSO Regional NCD Advocacy Plan** launched. Funded through NCD/Medtronic grant. *August 2014.*
23. St. Kitts & Nevis **Health Alliance** hosted **FBO NCD Meeting** funded through NCD/Medtronic grant. *August 2014.*
24. HCC Manager presented at CLAN (Caring & Living as Neighbours) side event: **Empowering Young People to Enjoy Healthy Lives - A Focus on NCDs and Collaborative Action by Civil Society in the Post 2015 Agenda** at the UNDP/ NGO Meeting, UN Headquarters, NYC. *August 27-29, 2014.*
25. HCC Manager promoted to HCC Executive Director with a renewal of appointment for 3 years. *September 2014.*

26. HCC invited to be a member of the **FAO/WHO Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Preparatory Working Group**. *September 2014.*
27. HCC Youth Representative from Heart Beat International presented at the **Latin American Congress of Pediatrics in Punta Cana**, in Dominican Republic funded through the American Academy for Paediatrics. *September 2014.*
28. HCC President Panellist at the **69TH UNGA: AAP Next steps for NCDs for children and youth: UNICEF Facts for Life and life course priorities for the post-2015 agenda**. *September 2014.*
29. HCC Technical Advisor Alcohol Policy attended the **CARICOM Caucus of Health Ministers** to present an urgent request from Civil Society for the **Development of Comprehensive Regional Alcohol Policy**. Washington, DC.USA. *September 2014.*
30. **HCC Advocacy Success**. In response to the HCC's urgent request presented at the 2014 CARICOM Caucus of Health Ministers, within the Draft Summary of Conclusions of The Nineteenth Special Meeting of the Council For Human and Social Development (COHSOD) – Health; COHSOD agreed to: *make the reduction of alcohol-related harm a public health priority in the Caribbean; revisit the 2011 PAHO/WHO Regional Plan of Action to Reduce Harmful use of Alcohol; commence the development of a regional, culturally- relevant comprehensive policy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol; and committed to taking action to develop and implement alcohol policy in every CARICOM Member State.* *October 2014.*
31. **CARIBAPAN (HCC/CARIAD) Webinar I: The Need for Alcohol Policy in the Caribbean**. Presented by Dr. Jurgen Rehm. *October 7, 2014.*
32. HCC NCDA **Health Systems Strengthening Meeting**. Funded through NCD Alliance grant. *October 22nd, 2014.*
33. HCC President and Executive Director attended the **PAHO SaltSmart Consortium** meeting in Brasilia. *Oct 28-29th, 2014.*
34. HCC launches **Youth4NCDs** online network for young people living with and affected by NCDs. *October 2014.*
35. **CARIBAPAN (HCC/CARIAD) Webinar II: Gaps in current regional alcohol policy and the desire for change: Opportunities for Civil Society Organizations**. Presented by Dr. Rohan Maharaj. *November 11, 2014.*
36. Establishment of the **Trinidad & Tobago Coalition for Tobacco Control (TTCTC)** in Trinidad and Tobago in partnership with the Trinidad & Tobago Cancer Society (TTCS) and the Jamaica Coalition for Tobacco Control (JCTC). Funded through NCD Alliance grant. *November 13, 2014.*
37. HCC Director attends the **FAO/WHO Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)** in Rome as a member of the ICN2 CSO Preparatory Group. *November 17-21, 2014.*
 - a. HCC undertakes **high-level advocacy** re ICN2: Emails sent to CARICOM, CARICOM Ministers of Health, CARICOM CMOS and NCD Focal Points
38. **High Level Advocacy**. President of the HCC sent a letter to the Honourable Prime Minister of Barbados Freundel Stuart supporting the IMF recommendations for **taxes on soda drinks** tobacco and alcohol products.
 - a. HCC launches an **Online Poll** asking members to vote on the issue of taxation of sweetened beverages.
39. HCC President invited to be a member of the **International Development Organisation/ CARPHA: Expert Advisory Group on Public Health Law in the Caribbean**. *November 18, 2014.*
40. International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) and the HCC hold a two-day **“IFRC NCDs Think Tank Meeting”** in Port-of-Spain. The HCC provided technical support. *November 28-29, 2014.*

41. HCC President and Executive Director pay courtesy visit to **FAO Coordinator Caribbean Subregion Office, Representative Barbados and OECS**. *November 2014.*
42. HCC President and Executive Director attend an FAO multistakeholder meeting entitled: **'Increased Utilization of Cassava'**. *November 2014.*
43. HCC Director attends **UICC World Cancer Congress** in Melbourne, Australia supported by the American Cancer Society. *December 2014.*
 - a. Presented on the Meet the Targets Grant (ACS) and the Caribbean Civil Society Cervical Cancer Electronic Petition at the ACS Session: Mobilising Local Action for Global Change: Empowering National Networks to make Cancer a Global Priority.
 - b. Panellist at the Cervical Cancer Action meeting: National Cancer Societies at the 2014 World Cancer Congress.
 - c. Panellist at the NCD Alliance NCD Café Session: Strengthening the NCD civil society movement: Lessons learnt from local NCD alliances.
 - d. Observer at the National Cancer Institutes (NCI) Caribbean Cancer Control Leadership Forum for Pacific Islands.
44. Meeting of the **HCC Advocacy Technical Working Group**. Barbados. *December 2014.*
45. Meeting to explore the establishment of the **Barbados Coalition for Tobacco Control (BCTC)** in Barbados in partnership with the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Barbados (HSFB) and the Jamaica Coalition for Tobacco Control (JCTC). Funded through NCDA/ Medtronic grant. *December 2014.*
46. The Jamaica Ministry of Health/ National NCD Committee and the Heart Foundation of Jamaica host a meeting to launch the **Jamaica FBO Network/ Committee** to address NCDs and promote healthy lifestyles. Funded by the NCDA/Medtronic grant. *December 2014.*
47. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (**FAO**) Subregional Office of the Caribbean produces a **'2015 Cook with Cassava Calendar'**. *December 2014.*