



TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

January 2020 – December 2020

Below is a summary of activities undertaken during the course of the 2020.

1. HCC President attended the **Yale TCC** Developing an implementation strategy for deployment of Emergency NCD Kits in the Caribbean. January Stakeholder Meeting. New Haven, Connecticut. *January 14-15, 2020.*
2. HCC Executive Director and GHAI team members attended the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Barbados meeting: **Exploring Enhanced approaches to increased taxation on sugar sweetened beverages in Barbados.** Barbados. *January 17, 2020.*
3. HCC Executive Director and President virtually attended the **GHAI Jamaica Strategic Planning Meeting.** Kingston, Jamaica. *January 20-21, 2019*
4. HCC President accepted invitation to become a member of the **International Advisory Board for SPECTRUM.** *January 2020.*
5. HCC OVOV Peer Trainer, Ms. Asha Samaroo and HCC Board Member, Dr. Karen Sealey, hosted the second of two Caribbean **NCD Alliance Our Views, Our Voices (OVOV) Peer-led Advocacy Training Workshop.** Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago. *January 23-24, 2020.*
6. HCC released meeting report: [Accelerating Nutrition Policies in the Caribbean: Creating Supportive Environments for Healthy Children.](#) *January 28, 2020.*
7. The 25th Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *January 29, 2020.*
8. HCC hosted the third webinar in the HCC [Childhood Obesity Prevention Webinar Series: Exploring The Pursuit of Effective Public Health Policies Through A Trade Lens](#) featuring HCC Policy Advisor Nicole Foster. *January 30, 2020.*
9. HCC third phase of funding from the Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAI) to support regional work in the area of childhood obesity prevention: **Caribbean Civil Society Tackling Childhood Obesity: Creating Healthier Countries, Communities and Schools through Policy Advocacy PART III.** *February 1, 2020.*



10. HCC welcomed **new team member**, Ms. Danielle Walwyn, full-time **Advocacy Officer** on the Global Health Advocacy Incubator Food Policy Project. *February 1, 2020.*
11. HCC Board Member, Mr. Michael Diamond, represented the HCC at the **CARPHA Effective Partnership Training**. *February 3-5, 2020.*
12. HCC and Caribbean contingent attend the attended the **Third Global NCD Alliance Forum: Bridging the Gap**. Sharjah, UAE. *February 9-11, 2020.*
 - a. The Caribbean team consisted of:
 - i. HCC President/ NCD Alliance Board member
 - ii. HCC Executive Director
 - iii. HCC Youth Technical Advisor /NCD Child/NCDA Young Leader
 - iv. HCC Board Member/ Chair of the Trinidad and Tobago NCD Alliance
 - v. HCC Our Views Our Voices Trainer, Diabetes Association of Trinidad and Tobago (HCC member) representative
 - vi. Caribbean Sporting and Development Agency (HCC member) director
 - vii. Heart Foundation of Jamaica, Executive Director/NCDA Board member
 - viii. Student researcher George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre/ NCD Child/NCDA Young Leader
 - b. Summary of roles:
 - i. HCC Executive Director member of the Forum Planning Committee.
 - ii. HCC President/NCD Alliance Board member, Chair Opening Plenary: Bridging the gaps, seizing the moment for NCD prevention and control.
 - iii. HCC Executive Director Workshop Speaker: The power of data to fuel systems reform for NCD's: leveraging evidence to achieve planetary and human health.
 - iv. HCC Executive Director Workshop Speaker: Win-win interventions: leveraging policy to address NCDs and reduce gender inequities in health.
 - v. HCC Board Member/ Chair of the Trinidad and Tobago NCD Alliance, Speaker: Our views, our voices event ImPatient for change: the Power of Lived Experiences in Bridging the Gap for NCD's.



- vi. HCC Board Member/ Chair of the Trinidad and Tobago NCD Alliance, Speaker: Beyond the declaration: maximizing political momentum on you HCC for NCD's and mental health.
 - vii. HCC Youth Technical Advisor (NCD Child/NCDA Young Leader), Moderator: Elevating the youth NCD narrative to high-level stakeholders.
 - viii. HCC Youth Technical Advisor (NCD Child/NCDA Young Leader), Panellist: Plenary 3: *Enhancing accountability for all people with NCDs everywhere through transformative and inclusive governance.*
 - ix. HCC/NCD Child/ University of Edinburgh, Healthy Latin America Coalition: *David versus Goliath: strategies for managing conflict of interest in countering industry interference in public health policy.*
 - 1. HCC President/NCD Alliance Board Member, Co-Moderator.
 - 2. Heart Foundation of Jamaica, Executive Director/NCDA Board member, Speaker.
 - x. HCC/World Obesity Federation Joint Workshop: *Transforming the narrative of childhood obesity.*
 - 1. Youth Technical Advisor (NCD Child/NCDA Young Leader), Speaker.
 - c. HCC won NCD Alliance [Sharjah Award for Excellence in NCD Civil Society Action](#) in the area of accountability for work on Civil Society Accountability Framework for Childhood Obesity Prevention Policies in the Caribbean presented at the *Third Global NCD Alliance Forum: Bridging the Gap*. Sharjah, UAE. February 9-11, 2020.
13. HCC published an [Open Letter Calling on CARICOM Heads of State and Government to take a closer look at processed food imports as part of an ambitious plan to reduce the food import bill by 25% in the next five years](#). February 28, 2020.
14. HCC Executive Director attended PAHO **Subregional Workshop on the Use of Law to address Noncommunicable Diseases in the Caribbean**: March 3-5, 2020.
15. HCC released World Obesity Day [Press Release](#). March 4, 2020.



16. HCC published an [Open Letter to CARICOM Heads of State and Government Calling for Urgent Action to Protect those Living with NCDs from COVID-19](#). *March 27, 2020.*
17. HCC Communications Officer invited to present on “Engaging With Your Audience Online” at the World Heart Federation Meet and Share Forum due to take place during the World Congress of Cardiology in partnership with the American College of Cardiology (ACC.20) in Chicago. *March 28, 2020. **The event was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*
18. HCC vacated Secretariat located in the offices of Caribbean Catalyst Inc on River Road, St. Michael, Barbados. *March 2020.*
19. HCC and the OECS engage in joint Backyard Gardening Initiative. *April 2020.*
20. HCC launched the [HCC COVID-19 Advocacy and Communication Strategy](#). *April 4, 2020.*
21. HCC and the OECS Commission released a joint statement: [Strengthening Food and Nutrition Security in the Caribbean: A Legacy Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). *April 14, 2020.*
22. HCC President attended a virtual meeting of the Board of the NCD Alliance. *April 27, 2020.*
23. HCC renewed **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA)** for the period 2020 – 2024. *April 28, 2020.*
24. The 26th Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *April 28, 2020.*
25. HCC Executive Director invited to be a member of the WHO Global Coordinating Mechanism (GCM) on the Prevention and Control of NCDs NCD Lab on **Women and NCDs**. *May, 2020.*
26. HCC hosted a training on **Identifying, Mitigating and Managing Conflict of Interest in The Caribbean HCC Capacity Building Series for CSOs PART I: Introduction to Conflict of Interest for NCD Prevention and Control** as part of HCC’s Capacity Building Series for CSOs. *May 13, 2020.*
27. HCC President and Executive Director attended virtual sessions of the **73rd World Health Assembly**. *May 18-19, 2020.*



28. HCC Op-Ed/ blog launched, written by HCC President Sir Trevor Hassell entitled: [Food Security – Time to change the way we produce and consume healthy food in the Caribbean](#). *May 27, 2020.*
29. HCC Youth Technical Advisor, Pierre Cooke Jr released [World No Tobacco Day 2020 Video message](#). *May 31, 2020.*
30. HCC President attended a virtual meeting of the Board of the NCD Alliance. *June 8, 2020.*
31. HCC hosted the 6th Meeting of **Regional Network (RN) of Chairs of CARICOM National NCD Commissions (NNCDCs) or their equivalents**. *June 16, 2020.*
32. HCC hosted the first webinar of HCCs special COVID-19 and NCDs in the Caribbean series entitled: [Civil Society Roundtable COVID-19 and NCDs in the Caribbean](#). *June 19, 2020.*
33. Ms. Diana Gittens longstanding contributor to the HCC, invited to become a member of the **Global Advisory Committee of the Our Views, Our Voices initiative of the NCD Alliance and people living with NCDs** for the June 2020 – December 2021 term (replacing HCC Our Views Our Voices Technical Advisor Tara Lisa Persaud). *June 24, 2020.*
34. HCC hosted the second webinar of HCCs special COVID-19 and NCDs in the Caribbean series entitled: [The Future Talks: COVID-19 and NCDs in the Caribbean](#). *June 26, 2020.*
35. The 27th Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *June 30, 2020.*
36. HCC Tobacco Control Advisor, Barbara McGaw, invited to be a member of the **CROSO Regional Technical Sub-Committee (RTC) for Requirements for Tobacco** for the DCRS 60: 201X Requirements for Tobacco Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship. *July 7, 2020.*
37. HCC Member Organisation Belize Cancer Society (BCS) Blog: [A BCS Perspective: Cancer and COVID-19](#). *July 2, 2020.*
38. HCC hosted a training on **Identifying, Mitigating and Managing Conflict of Interest in The Caribbean HCC Capacity Building Series for CSOs PART II: Developing a Conflict**



- of Interest Policy for your Organisation as part of HCC's Capacity Building Series for CSOs. *July 22, 2020.*
39. HCC and CIBC FirstCaribbean hosted a **webinar** entitled **Staying Healthy During the Pandemic**. *July 24, 2020.*
 40. HCC renewed [MOU with COMTRUST \(CIBC FirstCaribbean Bank\)](#) for an additional three (3) years to support workplace wellness across the Caribbean. *July 29, 2020.*
 41. HCC **awarded the NCD Alliance Civil Society Solidarity Fund (SF) grant** on NCDs and COVID-19 aimed at accelerating the response to the pandemic under Category 2: *Developing a comprehensive and cohesive NCD advocacy and communications strategy for the COVID-19 response* to implement the project **A New Transformative NCD Agenda for Building Back Better in the Caribbean**. *July 2020.*
 42. HCC relocated Secretariat to Sagicor Life Inc Offices. *August 2020.*
 43. HCC Press Release: [Stunning Outcome Amidst COVID-19 As Mexico and Chile Deliver Healthy Results on Policies for Front of Package Labelling on Packaged Foods and Beverages](#). *August 1, 2020.*
 44. HCC Board of Directors [Paid Tribute to the Former Honorable Prime Minister of Barbados Owen Arthur for his contribution to the CARICOM NCD Response](#). *August 3, 2020.*
 45. HCC releases [International Youth Day Video](#). *August 12, 2020.*
 46. HCC hosted the fourth webinar of HCCs special COVID-19 and NCDs in the Caribbean series entitled: [Weighing the Impact of COVID-19: Nutrition, Overweight, Obesity and NCDs](#). *August 27, 2020.*
 47. HCC and Sagicor Life Inc. hosted one **webinar** entitled: **Staying Healthy During the Pandemic**. *September 2, 2020.*
 48. HCC launched regional campaign entitled: [It's Time to Act on NCDs, Time to Act on Childhood Obesity](#) as part of the NCD Alliance's annual Global Week for Action on NCDs campaign. *September 7, 2020.*
 49. HCC and CIBC FirstCaribbean hosted a **webinar** entitled **Workplace Wellness During the Pandemic and Beyond**. *September 24, 2020.*



50. HCC hosted the fifth webinar of HCCs special COVID-19 and NCDs in the Caribbean series entitled: [Re-opening Schools: Shared perspectives on navigating mental health during COVID-19](#). *September 25, 2020.*
51. HCC launched blog written by HCC Patron Sir George Alleyne entitled: [NCDs and COVID-19: Reciprocal Burdens](#). *September 26, 2020.*
52. HCC President attended the Virtual **58th Directing Council / 168th Session of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organisation/ 72nd Session of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organisation for the Americas** and made an **intervention** during Agenda Item 4.2 (COVID-19 Pandemic in the Region of the Americas). *September 28-29, 2020.*
53. HCC hosted a training on **Digital Advocacy Training for the CSO Action Team Network: Implementing Mandatory FOPL** as part of HCC's Capacity Building Series for CSOs. *September 29, 2020.*
54. HCC awarded a **grant from Vital Strategies** to implement a 15-month project aimed at supporting the accelerated implementation of healthy food policy in the Caribbean. *September 2020.*
55. HCC President attended the Virtual **Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)**. *September 24-25, 2020.*
56. HCC President and Executive Director wrote a letter to **Mr. Michael Fakhri, Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food** and **Ms. Tlaleng Mofokeng, Special Rapporteur on the Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health** in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) congratulating them on their recent appointment. *September 28, 2020.*
57. The 28th Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *September 29, 2020.*
58. HCC Youth Technical Advisor, Pierre Cooke Jr participated in a **WHO/ NCD Child joint webinar** entitled: [Promoting the health and wellbeing of young people during the COVID-19 pandemic](#). *October 2, 2020.*



59. **Healthy Caribbean Youth** officially formed with inaugural meeting led by HCC Youth Technical Advisor Pierre Cooke Jr and HCC Advocacy Officer, Danielle Walwyn. *October 3, 2020.*
60. HCC Executive Director presented virtually at **NCD Advocacy Institute Training** on meaningful involvement of people living with NCDs. *October 8, 2020.*
61. HCC Youth Technical Advisor, Pierre Cooke Jr, sent a **high-level advocacy letter to WHO Director General, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, following the WHO/ NCD Child joint webinar held on October 2, 2020. *October 10, 2020.*
62. HCC finalized **HCC Individual and Organisational Conflict of Interest Policy: A guide for identifying, preventing, mitigating and managing conflict of interest in NCD prevention and control in the context of Small Island Developing States in the Caribbean – Working Document.** *October 20, 2020.*
63. HCC Op-Ed written by HCC Executive Director Maisha Hutton entitled: [Public Health Before Industry Profits – Consumers Right to Know What’s in our Food.](#) *October 16, 2020.*
64. HCC President attended and presented virtually at **PAHO/WHO Advisory Group (TAG) on Advancing the Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) Agenda in the Caribbean.** The presentation was entitled: *How should PAHO and Civil society address the commercial determinants of NCDs now and post-Covid.* *October 20, 2020.*
65. HCC GHAI project team attended the 2-day virtual regional strategic planning meetings. *October 26-27, 2020.*
66. HCC signed a 3rd **Letter of Agreement (LoA) with PAHO** for the project entitled: **Strengthening civil society’s contribution to building back better for NCD prevention and control in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.** *October 27, 2020.*
67. HCC releases video [Do You Want to Know What’s in Your Food?](#) to promote the introduction of front of package nutrition warning labels. *October 30, 2020.*
68. HCC in collaboration with PAHO and other partners hosted a joint special webinar entitled: [The Human Rights Approach to Front of Package Labelling in the Caribbean.](#) *November 9, 2020.*



69. HCC President and Executive Director attended virtual sessions of the **73rd World Health Assembly**. *November 9-14, 2020.*
70. HCC, in partnership with the Rotary District 2030 and the Caribbean Association of Nutritionists and Dieticians (CANDi) hosted a joint special webinar within the COVID-19 and NCDs Caribbean series entitled: [Transforming the way we eat: The relationship between agriculture, food and nutrition and NCDs](#). *November 13, 2020.*
71. HCC Executive Director invited to serve as a member of the **Governing Council of NCD Child**. *November 13, 2020.*
72. HCC published an [Open Letter Calling on CARICOM Heads of State and Government and Ministers of Health calling on them to commit to the Elimination of Cervical Cancer](#) in support of the WHO Global Strategy to Accelerate the Elimination of Cervical Cancer. *November 17, 2020.*
73. HCC President and Advocacy Officer, Ms. Danielle Walwyn, presented at the Barbados Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition World Children’s Day **Webinar: People before Profits and Politics – What has COVID-19 taught us?** *November 20, 2020.*
74. HCC hosted the [5th Annual Caribbean Alcohol Reduction Day \(CARD\): Alcohol and COVID-19](#). The 5th Annual CARD was hosted in partnership with PAHO, CARPHA and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission. *November 24, 2020.*
 - a. The [Webinar](#) moderated by HCC Executive Director with introductory remarks from Dr. Tamu Davidson, Head of Chronic Disease and Injury Department at CARPHA and presentations from: Dr. Maristela Monteiro, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Advisor at PAHO; Dr. John Dillet, Consultant Psychiatrist, Mental Health Professional, The Bahamas; Ms. Safiya Clarke-Mendes, Recent MHP Graduate, HCC Volunteer Researcher, Youth Advocate; and Professor Rohan Maharaj, HCC Alcohol Policy Advisor and Professor of Family Medicine of University of the West Indies. The webinar was attended by over 100 individuals.
 - b. Infographics were also launched and can be found on the CARD 2020 webpage.
 - i. [Alcohol and COVID-19: What you should know](#)
 - ii. [Alcohol and COVID-19: The way forward](#)



75. HCC President invited to sit on a Review Committee for the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)'s new [Research Ideas Competition](#). *November 25, 2020.*
76. HCC Executive Director attended the first meeting of the **Governing Council of NCD Child**. *November 25, 2020.*
77. HCC was awarded the NCD Alliance 2020 Act on NCDs Campaign Fuel Award in recognition of HCC's Global Week for Action on NCDs campaign [It's Time to Act on NCDs, Time to Act on Childhood Obesity](#). *November 25, 2020.*
78. HCC President attended the reconvening of the Virtual **Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)**. *November 25-26, 2020.*
79. HCC Project Assistant and member of Healthy Caribbean Youth, Kerrie Barker, released a blog for Barbados Independent Day entitled: [If Left to Chance, Gains Achieved in the Caribbean since Independence can be Wiped out BY NCDs](#). *November 28, 2020.*
80. HCC President and Board Member, Dr. Karen Sealey attended and presented, respectively, at the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) **Expert Group Meeting on addressing non-communicable diseases in the Caribbean in fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals and the SAMOA Pathway**. *November 30, 2020.*
81. HCC welcomed **new team member**, Ms. Shanoy Coombs, part-time **Communications Consultant** on the Vital Strategies Food Policy Project. *December 1, 2020.*
82. HCC hosted a regional media training: **Public Health Matters and FOPL: A Journalist Sensitization and Panel Discussion**. *December 3, 2020.*
83. HCC President, HCC Executive Director, HCC Policy Advisor, Mrs. Nicole Foster, HCC Trade and Policy Advisor Mr. Vincent Atkins, and HCC Board Member Dr. Carlene Radix held a virtual meeting with **Ms. Tlaleng Mofokeng, Special Rapporteur on the Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health** in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). *December 7, 2020.*
84. Sixth (6th) HCC General Assembly. *December 8, 2020.*



85. HCC Alcohol Advisor, Professor Rohan Maharaj, submitted an HCC intervention via the WHO in response to the **web-based consultation on a working document for development of an action plan to strengthen implementation of the Global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol**. *December 8, 2020.*
86. HCC President attended a virtual meeting of the Board of the NCD Alliance. *December 18, 2020.*

For more information visit our website at www.healthycaribbean.org. or contact us at hcc@healthycaribbean.org.