



THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

January 2021 – December 2021

Below is a summary of activities undertaken during the course of the 2021.

1. The Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC) hosted a webinar to officially launch the report: **NCDs and Covid-19 in the Caribbean: A Call to Action – The Case for a Transformative New NCD Agenda (TNA-NCDs)**. *January 22, 2021.*
2. The 29th Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *January 26, 2021.*
3. Healthy Caribbean Youth (HCY), the Healthy Caribbean Coalition’s Youth, and Young Professional NCD Network, in partnership with PAHO and UNICEF hosted **“The Future Talks, Cultivating Healthy School Environments – Navigating Mental Health”**. This is part of the “The Future Talks” miniseries. *January 27, 2021.*
4. HCC Executive Director invited to be a member of the **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** of the **4th Global Youth Meet on Health (GYM)** led by HRIDAY (Health Related Information Dissemination Amongst Youth) and World Health Organization Regional Office for South-East Asia. *February 3, 2021.*
 - a. HCC Youth Technical Advisor, Pierre Cooke Jr, and Healthy Caribbean Youth Coordinator and HCC Advocacy Officer, Danielle Walwyn invited to be Observers in the TAC and members of the **GYM Youth Committee**.
5. HCC President and Executive Director invited to be members of the Steering Committees for the **Caribbean Public Health Law Forum**. *February 5, 2021.*
6. HCC President invited to be a member of the Planning Committee for the **Japan-CARICOM funded Project: CARPHA’s Forum on the Economic Dimensions of NCDs in the Caribbean**. *February 11, 2021.*
7. HCC launched the Campaign **Now More Than Ever: #ProtectPeopleWithNCDs** in lead up to the 32nd Intersessional Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). *February 23, 2021.*
8. HCC Member of the Board of Directors, Dr. Christine Chin and HCC Advocacy Officer, Ms. Danielle Walwyn invited to be members of the **World Obesity Federation (WOF) Stigma and Bias Working Group** with Dr. Chin invited to serve as Co-Chair. *February 2021.*



9. HCC Member of the Board of Directors Mrs. Laura Tucker Longsworth invited to be part of the **UICC Taskforce on Cervical Cancer Elimination in the Commonwealth**. *February 2021.*
10. HCC Member of the Board of Directors, Dr. Damian Greaves invited to be a member of a **Community Advisory Board** for a regional project examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on NCD risk factors and Metabolic Health in Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados. *February 2021.*
11. HCC and CIBC FirstCaribbean hosted the **Third Joint Lunch & Learn Webinar: Creating Healthy Eating Habits - all you need to know about improving your nutrition**. *February 23, 2021.*
12. Caribbean Pediatricians, supported by HCC, wrote an Open Letter to the people of the Caribbean: **Now More Than Ever, We Need To Act Now To Protect Children and Young People**. *March 4, 2021.*
13. HCC in partnership with PAHO, UNICEF and the OECS Commission implemented the joint regional digital /radio campaign: **Now More than Ever: Better Labels, Better Choices, Better Health**. *March 12- April 15, 2021.*
14. HCC hosted the 7th Meeting of **Regional Network (RN) of Chairs of CARICOM National NCD Commissions (NNCDCs) or their equivalents**. *March 15, 2021.*
15. HCC developed a dedicated **Front of Package Warning Labelling webpage** and associated initiatives. *March 2021.*
 - a. **Healthy Caribbean Coalition and Partners Statement of Support for Octagonal Front-of-Package Warning Labels** supported by almost 50 organisations.
 - b. **HCC and Caribbean Academics, Researchers and Health Practitioners Support Octagonal Front of Package Warning Labels** signed by over 300 individuals.
 - c. **Show Your Support for Front of Package Warning Labels (FOPWL)** Letters to Local Standards Bureaus submitted by over 200 individuals.
16. HCC supported the **implementation of national digital campaigns led by five (5) member civil society organisations** in five (5) CARICOM countries in support of the **Now More Than Ever: Better Labels, Better Choices, Better Health** regional FOPWL campaign. *March – May 2021.*
17. HCC President attended a virtual meeting of the Board of the NCD Alliance. *March 15, 2021.*
18. HCC Member Organisation Belize Cancer Society and World Obesity Federation (WOF) cohosted a webinar **World Obesity Live: Obesity & Cancer A Looming Public Health Concern for the Caribbean** moderated by HCC Executive Director and including a presentation by HCC Advocacy Officer Danielle Walwyn in recognition of World Obesity Day 2021. *March 18, 2021.*
19. The 30th Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *March 23, 2021.*



20. HCC nominated Mrs. Francine Charles, Programme Manager Obesity Prevention Programme at HCC member organisation the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Barbados, to be a member of the **NCD Alliance 2021 Global Week for Action on NCDs Advisory Group**. *March 24, 2021.*
21. HCC and CIBC FirstCaribbean hosted four (4) **Let's Move Sessions**. *March – April 2021*
22. HCC published the **New Transformative NCD Agenda for Building Back Better in the Caribbean Action Plan**. *April 2021.*
23. HCC in partnership with PAHO, OECS Commission and UNICEF as part of the regional campaign “Now More Than Ever: Better Labels, Better Choices, Better Health” hosted a webinar entitled **“A Conversation About the Urgency to Introduce Front-of-Package Warning Labeling in the Caribbean”**. *April 7, 2021.*
24. HCC Advocacy Officer and Project Assistant attended by invitation the **UNICEF Youth Advocacy Guide (YAG) Training of Trainers**. *April 7 and 8 2021*
25. HCC President and Executive Director attended the **Intergovernmental Working Group on Unhealthy Diets – Health; Officials Meeting and Ministerial Meeting**. *April 9, 2021 and April 12, 2021.*
26. HCC Executive Director and Alcohol Policy Advisor, Professor Rohan Maharaj, attended the **Intergovernmental Working Group on Alcohol – Health; Officials Meeting and Ministerial Meeting**. *April 9, and April 12, 2021.*
27. HCC President and Executive Director attended the **Twenty-seventh Special Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) – Health; Officials Meeting and Ministerial Meeting**. *April 9, and April 12, 2021.*
28. HCC and HCY in partnership with the Caribbean Sport and Development Agency conducted a joint special webinar – **“The Future Talks: Cultivating Healthy School Environments – Exploring Physical Activity Opportunities”**, as part of the “The Future Talks” webinar miniseries. *April 15, 2021.*
29. HCC Executive Director moderated a session at the *Center for Science in the Public Interest - Sugary drinks summit*. *April 22, 2021.*
30. HCC President presented at the **Guyana National Commission for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Meeting No. 3/2021**. *April 12, 2021.*
31. HCC Advocacy Officer and HCC Youth Technical Advisor invited to moderate and participate in a panel during the **Global Youth Meet (GYM) on Health**. *April 20, 2021*
32. HCC Advocacy Officer and Project Assistant invited to contribute to the **2022 UNICEF Youth Advocacy Guide**. *April 30, 2021*



33. HCY hosted **silent demonstrations** in territories across the Caribbean (Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago) indicating their support for high-in-front of package nutrition warning labelling. April 2021.
34. HCC alongside PAHO developed and disseminated a survey which aimed to gather experiences of People Living with NCDs (PWLNCDs) during the COVID-19 pandemic. HCY member Tara Armour serves as research assistant on the project. April - August 2021.
35. HCC collaborated with HCC Member Diabetes Associations to develop policy brief on diabetes prevention and control in the Caribbean, in the context of the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Diabetes Compact (GDC) entitled "**Policy Brief: The Global Diabetes Compact: Diabetes Prevention And Control In The Caribbean**". *May 2021.*
36. HCC and Partners shared a statement of support for the **Final Draft CARICOM Regional Standard for Labelling of Foods – Pre-Packaged Foods – Specification (Revision) (FDCRS 05)** which incorporates octagonal front-of-package warning label specifications on pre-packaged products. May 2021.
37. The 31st Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *May 18, 2021.*
38. HCC shared a **Press Release** detailing the growing support across the region for the introduction of **octagonal front of package warning labels (FOPWL)**. May 21, 2021
39. HCC President and Executive Director attended virtual sessions of the **74th World Health Assembly**. *May 24-31, 2021.*
40. HCC **awarded NCD Alliance Funding for their NCD Global Charter Grant Programme**. *May 26, 2022.*
41. HCC in partnership with the UWI Law and Health Research Unit (CaveHill Campus) with funding from GHAI, co-hosted a sensitisation workshop entitled: **Law and Front-Of-Package Warning Labelling: Exploring the Trade and Human Rights Arguments - HCC Capacity Building Series: Strengthening legal capacity to support healthy food policy in the Caribbean region** facilitated by HCC Policy Advisor Mrs. Nicole Foster. *May 27, 2021.*
42. HCC Project Assistant was invited to be a member of the **UNICEF Youth Advisory Board** for the staging of the inaugural Global Forum for Children and Youth held in December 2021. *June 6th 2021.*
43. HCC and CIBC FirstCaribbean hosted the **Fourth Joint Lunch & Learn Webinar: Healthy Minds and Mindful Practices**. *June 9, 2021.*



44. HCC released the first episode of 'NCD Conversations - The Power of our Food' featuring Professor Fitzroy Henry. The episode was moderated by HCY member and nutritionist Charity Dublin. *June 15, 2021*
45. HCC welcomed **team member**, Ms. Janea Ifill, part-time **HCC Administrator**. *June 15, 2021.*
46. HCC Executive Director participated as a panelist on a GHAI *MH GHAI Webinar: **Advocates supporting advocates: Understanding and countering industry interference in healthy food policies.*** *June 24, 2021.*
47. HCC **awarded the NCD Alliance Civil Society Solidarity Fund (SF) grant Year 2** (also awarded Year 1) 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 action plan associated with the **New Transformative NCD Agenda for Building Back Better in the Caribbean** developed in the first round of the grant. *June 2021.*
48. HCC received funding from the NCD Alliance and the Civil Society Engagement Mechanism (CSEM) of UHC2030 to **Conduct virtual regional consultation on the state of UHC in the Caribbean.** *June 2021.*
49. HCC and CIBC FirstCaribbean hosted five (5) **Let's Move Sessions – Summer Edition.** *June – July 2021*
50. HCC President panelist at launch of **Caribbean Public Health Law Forum.** *June 30, 2021*
51. HCC **renewed Sagicor Life Inc. MOU** for an additional two (2) years until 2023. *July 1, 2021.*
52. HCC held first regional virtual conference, **Our Food, Our Health, Our People: Accelerating Healthy Food Policies to Tackle NCDs.** *July 1, 2021.*
53. HCC held the 32nd Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *July 13, 2021.*
54. HCY members Jared Spencer and Charity Dublin invited to give remarks during UWI and Food4Change Caribbean Webinar **“Shifting to Sustainable Healthy Diets: A dialogue in preparation for the World Food Systems Summit”**. *July 29, 2021*
55. HCC President and Executive Director attended the **First Sub Committee Meeting of The Inter-Governmental Working Group (IGWG) on Unhealthy Diets and Obesogenic Food Environments.** *July 30, 2021.*
56. HCC President, Sir Trevor Hassell took a leave of absence. *August - December 2021.*
57. HCC Executive Director and Alcohol Policy Advisor attended the **Second Meeting of The Inter-Governmental Working Group (IGWG) on Harmful Use of Alcohol.** *August 3, 2021.*

58. HCC Executive Director and Alcohol Policy Advisor attended the **First Sub-Committee Meeting of The Inter-Governmental Working Group (IGWG) on Harmful Use of Alcohol**. *August 3, 2021.*
59. HCC Team participated in the Bloomberg/ GHAI Food Policy Programme Partner Meeting. *August 12-14, 2021.*
60. HCC signed a 4th **Letter of Agreement (LoA) with PAHO** for the project entitled: **Accelerating progress towards 100% Smoke-Free Caribbean by 2022**. *August 13, 2021.*
61. **HCC Advocacy Officer and Youth Technical Advisor took part in GHAI Youth Webinar, “Rising in their Power”, Aug 31 2021.**
62. HCC Advocacy Officer, Ms Danielle Walwyn invited to be a member of the World Obesity Federation **Global Advisory Group for World Obesity Day 2022**. *August 24, 2021.*
63. HCY released a video calling for healthy food policies for International Youth Day 2021. *August 12, 2021.*
64. HCC implemented a regional digital campaign entitled: **“You’ve Got a Say”** as part of the consultation and promotion for the NCD Alliance Global Charter for Meaningful Involvement of People Living with NCDs. *August - September 2021.*
65. HCC Executive Director attended the **Third Meeting of the CCH IV Steering Committee**. *September 9, 2021.*
66. HCC implemented a regional digital campaign entitled: **It’s Time to Speak Up** as part of the NCD Alliance’s annual Global Week for Action on NCDs campaign. *September 6-12, 2021.*
67. HCC held the 33rd Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *September 14, 2021.*
68. HCC Team Members attend the Virtual **UN Food Systems Summit 2021**. *September 23, 2021.*
69. HCC Executive Director Board Member Mrs. Laura Tucker Longworth attended the Virtual **Forty-first Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)**. *September 28/30, 2021.*
70. HCC was one of the implementers of the regional **Virtual Conference on Climate Change and Health in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with a focus on the Caribbean**. HCY member Ms. Priyanka Lalla was invited to give opening remarks. *October 5-8, 2021.*
71. HCC Executive Director and Board Member Mrs. Laura Tucker Longworth attended the **Forty-First Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)**. *October 12, 2021.*
72. HCY launched the Youth **Mental Health Call to Action** Consultations by inviting persons to review and comment. *October 18, 2021.*

73. HCC in partnership PAHO with funding from GHAI, co-hosted a sensitization workshop entitled: **Identifying, Preventing, Mitigating and Managing Conflict of Interest in Public Health Policymaking - An Essential Element of Good Governance - Sensitisation Workshop For The Public Sector** facilitated by HCC Policy Advisor Mrs. Nicole Foster. *October 28, 2021.*
74. HCC in partnership with the UWI Law and Health Research Unit (CaveHill Campus) with funding from GHAI, co-hosted a sensitisation workshop entitled: **Regulating the Availability And Marketing of Unhealthy Beverages and Food Products in and Around Schools in the Caribbean’ A Human Rights Based Approach to Healthy School Food Policies in the Caribbean HCC Capacity Building Series: Strengthening legal capacity to support healthy food policy in the Caribbean region** facilitated by HCC Policy Advisor Mrs. Nicole Foster. *October 29, 2021.*
75. HCC Advocacy Officer invited to present at the **Barbados Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition webinar: Marketing in Schools Reimagining the School Environment.** *November 3, 2021*
76. HCC collaboration with the PAHO, the OECS Commission and UNICEF jointly launched a regional digital campaign entitled: **Now More Than Ever: We Need to Protect our Children.** *October 21, 2021 – November 26, 2021.*
77. HCC supported the **implementation of national digital campaigns led by five (5) member civil society organisations** in five (5) CARICOM countries in support of the **Now More Than Ever: We Need to Protect Our Children** regional campaign. *October – November 2021.*
78. HCC and the Rotary District 7030 hosted a joint webinar entitled: **Transforming the way we eat: A journey through the life course from the early to the golden years.** *November 18, 2021.*
79. HCC and CIBC FirstCaribbean hosted a **Joint Lunch & Learn Webinar: Men’s Health.** *November 19, 2021.*
80. HCC awarded the **2021 ACT on NCDs Campaign Fuel Award** from the **NCD Alliance** for the contribution in the 2021 Global Week of Action campaign **It’s Time to Speak Up.** *November 19, 2021.*
81. HCC and the World Obesity Federation (WOF) hosted a joint webinar “**Let’s reimagine a better world: World Children’s Day 2021**” in celebration of World Children’s Day to launch the jointly developed advocacy toolkit “**Youth Voices in Health Advocacy Spaces: A Guide for You(th) Advocates in the Childhood Obesity Space**”. *November 20, 2021.*
82. HCC Executive Director delivered a presentation on *Healthy Food Policies: Our Children Deserve Better* at the virtual **12th IAAH World Congress on Adolescent Health** in a session entitled:



- Changing Behaviour: *Malnutrition, Obesity, Tobacco, Non-communicable Diseases*. November 21, 2021.
83. HCC Youth Voices Technical Advisor Pierre Cooke Junior presented at the virtual global meeting: **From Nutrition commitments to action: The Importance of a Coalition for Action on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems for Children and All in this the Decade of Action on Nutrition**. November 23, 2021.
 84. HCY, the Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network (JYAN) and Barbados Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition Youth Subcommittee hosted a youth advocacy 101 session. November 27th, 2021
 85. HCC partnered with PAHO to host the **6th Annual Caribbean Alcohol Reduction Day (CARD): Live Better, Drink Less** including a webinar entitled: **“Live Better, Drink Less: Challenges and Opportunities in the Caribbean”**. December 3, 2021.
 86. HCC Executive Director published an Op Ed in the HCC roundup entitled: **It’s Time for a Conversation about Conflict of Interest and Public Health in the Caribbean**. December 3, 2021.
 - a. Published in the Jamaica Gleaner on December 12, 2021.
 - b. Published in Movendi International on February 6, 2022.
 87. HCC Executive Director and Youth Voices Technical Advisor featured in NCD Alliance BBC Storyworks piece: **How Barbados is Transforming its Health Environment**. December 2021.
 88. HCC GHAI project team attended the 2-day virtual regional strategic planning meetings. December 1, 2021.
 89. HCC held the 34th Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. December 3, 2021.
 90. HCC President attended a meeting of the **PAHO/WHO Advisory Group (TAG) on Advancing the Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) Agenda in the Caribbean**. December 13, 2021.
 91. HCC President attended a virtual meeting of the Board of the NCD Alliance. December 13, 2021.
 92. HCC hosted the first People Living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) Advisory Committee meeting; the PLWNCDs Advisory Committee will support HCC’s work to continuously advocate for and provide opportunities for PLWNCDs to have a voice in the NCD policy and programming. December 2, 2021
 93. HCC and GHAI partners submitted **statement at the Inter American Court of Human Rights (IAHCR)** at the first ever hearing on the right to food, life & health of children. December 14, 2021.

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