



## SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

January 2024 – December 2024

Below is a summary of activities undertaken during the course of 2024.

1. The HCC held a Capacity Building Session for CSOs, "Meaningful Engagement of youth within the CSO space". January 18, 2024.
2. HCC and Partners, the Heart Foundation of Jamaica (HFJ), the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Barbados (HSFB), and the Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network (JYAN) launched the "[See The Truth](#)" regional digital media campaign. January 22, 2024.
3. HCC People Living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) Advisory Committee Meeting. January 23, 2024.
4. HCC signed a grant with Resolve to Save Lives to support regional project: Civil Society Promoting TFA Regulation in the Caribbean. February 1, 2024.
5. GHAI Grant Visit. February 5-7 2024.
6. The HCC and HCY, in partnership with the Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network (JYAN), the Heart Foundation of Jamaica (HFJ), The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Barbados (HSFB), and UNICEF Jamaica, hosted a regional youth meeting, "[Caribbean Youth Voices in Health Advocacy Spaces – Healthy Food Policy Action](#)". February 7-9, 2024.
7. HCC and Partners, the Heart Foundation of Jamaica (HFJ), the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Barbados (HSFB), and the Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network (JYAN) hosted the "[See The Truth](#)" Campaign Webinar. February 22, 2024.
8. HCC hosted a Sagicor Team sensitisation on the [OWAPSI- Organisational Wellness Action Planning and Social Impact Tool](#). February 2024
9. HCC Released its Partnership update ahead of the Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU) Awards and Gala. The HCC will this year [sponsor two \(2\) themed categories](#) of the CBU CMAs in Print and Television. The awards will be held in Belize. HCC Communications Officer will attend the Awards and Annual General Assembly. February, 2024.
10. HCC Advocacy Officer (AO) attended the Johns Hopkins 2024 Latin America and the Caribbean Tobacco Control Leadership Program in Mexico City. February 26-March 1, 2024



11. HCC/HCY hosted the "[Let's talk about Obesity & the Right to Healthy School Food Environments in the Caribbean](#)" Webinar for World Obesity Day. *March 8, 2024*.
12. HCC President and Executive Director present at the Ross University School of Medicine Obesity Symposium. *March 9-10, 2024*.
13. The 42nd Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *March 14, 2024*.
14. The Global Center for Legal Innovation on Food Environments Center, O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, Georgetown University in Washington D.C. in partnership with the Law and Health Research Unit at the University of the West Indies and the HCC hosted a joint [webinar](#) to launch report entitled: "[Public Health Decision-making in CARICOM: Strengthening the Front-of-Package Nutrition Labelling Standardisation Programme](#)". *March 19, 2024*.
15. HCY member/PLWNCDs Advisory Committee Member attended **SIDS Global Children & Youth Action Summit Pre-Consultations for Barbados**. *March 16, 2024*.
16. HCY Young people living with NCDs Brainstorming meeting. *March 16, 2024*.
17. [Youth See the Truth Advertorial](#) printed in regional newspapers in support of the See the Truth Campaign. *March 22, 2024*.
18. HCY spoke out against [food industry interference tactics that are obstructing food policy in support](#) of the See The Truth Campaign. *March 22, 2024*.
19. HCY meeting. *March 27 2024*.
20. HCY members participated in a collaborative booth with the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Barbados for Dance4Life's Big Event. *April 3 2024*
21. HCY members launched the [World Health Day Video, My Health, My Right](#). *April 5 2024*
22. HCY Members participated in Barbados' National Mental Health Legislation Review Stakeholders' Consultation. *April 4 2024*.
23. The HCC partnered with the HSFB, the PAHO, Ministry of Health and Wellness Barbados, Barbados Defence Force, UN AIDS and University School of Medicine, Ross University, to execute a World Health Day Expo held at the National Stadium, Barbados. HCC Communications Officer was a member of the planning committee. *April 7th, 2024*
24. HCC AO and HCY Member, prepared an article for Word Physical Activity Day that was featured in the [Jamaica Gleaner](#) and [Jamaica Observer](#). *April 8, 2024*
25. Lake Health and Wellbeing collaborated with HCC to host the "*Effectively Reaching your Target Audience: Brand Identity*" Webinar, the first of a 2-part capacity building series. *April 27, 2024*.



26. HCC team participated in the GHAI Caribbean Strategic Planning Meeting held in Barbados. *April 16-17, 2024.*
27. HCC held the first RTSL iTFA Project Capacity Building session. *April 24, 2024.*
28. HCC Project Assistant (PA) attended the Youth Leadership in Tobacco Control Summit hosted by CTFK and CREA in Lima, Peru. *April 29th - May 3rd 2024.*
29. HCY Member presented at the Working on Decriminalising Suicide in the Caribbean Region (led by United for Global Mental Health and Let's Unpack It). *May 1 2024.*
30. HCC Policy Advisor and Head of the Law and Health Research Unit of the Faculty of Law, The University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus was selected as a small group of Experts globally that has been selected by the World Health Organization to contribute to its first ever Global Report on the Commercial Determinants of Health. *May 2, 2024.*
31. The 12 Government Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Directories that were developed by AO and HCY Member in collaboration with Let's Unpack It and funding by UNICEF Eastern Caribbean were launched on May 8 via the [youngcaribbeanminds.com](http://youngcaribbeanminds.com) website. *May 8, 2024.*
32. HCY Members participated in *WHO/PAHO QualityRights Workshop on Mental Health and Human Rights. May 7-10, 2024.*
33. *PLWNCDs Advisory Group Meeting. May 7, 2024.*
34. The 43rd Virtual Meeting of HCC Board of Directors. *May 9, 2024.*
35. Lake Health and Wellbeing collaborated with HCC to host the "*Effectively Reaching your Target Audience: Marketing as an Advocacy Tool*" Webinar, the second of a 2-part capacity building series. *May 11, 2024.*
36. HCC AO led a presentation during the Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network's, Discussion on Front-of-Package Warning Labels. *May 15, 2024.*
37. HCC ED and Communications Officer took part in a Meeting of the Key Stakeholders and the School Nutrition Policy Implementation Committee of Barbados to review the first year of the Policy and to map the way forward. An Implementation Plan is the proposed outcome of the meeting. *May 16th - 17th, 2024.*
38. HCC and partners hosted webinar "[Caribbean Mobilising to Eliminate Industrially Produced Trans Fats](#)". *May 17, 2024.*
39. HCC's Vice President attended the SIDS4 in Antigua and Barbuda and moderated the high-level side event: [By the SIDS, for the SIDS: Next decade of action on NCDs and mental health](#). *May 27-30, 2024.*



40. HCC PA published an article, "[Did you know the Tobacco Industry has a hold on our youth?](#)" which was published in media houses across the Caribbean. 30 May 2024.
41. HCY members participated in a WNTD video. May 31, 2024
42. HCC AO moderated a session during a PAHO and partners webinar: *Experiences and Innovative Strategies to Protect Children and Youth from Tobacco Marketing* to highlight World No Tobacco Day. June 3, 2024
43. HCC PA participated in a global video for WNTD along with youth ambassadors from the CTFK and CREA Leadership Summit. June 6, 2024
44. HCC hosted a discussion for World No Tobacco Day: [Ignite Change: Tobacco-Control Efforts in the Caribbean](#). June, 5, 2024
45. HCC in collaboration with Rotary District 7030 held a webinar: [A happy and healthy start to a lifetime of wellness and wellbeing](#). June 13, 2024.
46. HCC submitted feedback to the International Dialogue on Sustainable financing for NCDs prepared by the HCC and supported by the Trinidad and Tobago NCD Alliance (TTNCDA). June 17, 2024.
47. HCC submitted feedback to the WHO Web-based consultation: Informing key priorities before the next High-level meeting on NCDs (Phase 1: 1 May–17 June 2024) prepared by the HCC and supported by the Trinidad and Tobago NCD Alliance (TTNCDA). 17 June 2024.
48. HCC Youth Voices Technical Advisor and HCY Member attended the International Dialogue on Sustainable financing for NCDs where he presented on a panel. 20 - 21 June 2024.
49. HCY Q2 Meeting. June 24, 2024
50. HCY crafted a Letter to the Editor entitled "[Are We Hitting Healthy Food Policies for a Six?](#)" which has been published regionally. June 24, 2024.
51. HCC Youth Voices Technical Advisor received the Emerging Youth Leader Award from The World Obesity Federation (WOF) at the ICO held in São Paulo Brazil. June 29, 2024.
52. HCC People Living with NCDs (PLWNCDs) *Advisory Group Meeting*. June 25, 2024.
53. HCC partnered with the HSFB on the re-broadcast of the People Over Profits Campaign on social media with a specific target audience of Barbados. This is a supporting campaign to the HSFBs Octagonal Warning Labels Saves Lives. HCC Communications Officer took part in their radio communications campaign. July 1-31, 2024.
54. HCC hosted the 2024 Meeting of the Network of Chairs of CARICOM National NCD Commissions or Equivalents. July 11, 2024.
55. HCC signs seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) Letter of Agreement with the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO). July 12, 2024.



56. 9th Virtual General Assembly. *July 16, 2024.*
57. HCC's President was invited to CARPHA's Seventh Meeting of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee: Six Point Policy Package (6-PPP). *August 6, 2024.*
58. [HCY member article published](#) in the Jamaica Observer. *August 11 2024.*
59. HCC's Communication Officer attended the 55th Annual General Assembly of the Caribbean Broadcasting Union and 35th Caribbean Media Awards in Placencia, Belize. The HCC sponsored two (2) themed category awards in Print Media and Television Media. *August 2024*
60. HCC partners with the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) on a social media campaign for Caribbean Wellness Week 2024 under the theme Power Through Collective Action, Good Health Is Our Right. *September 10-16, 2024.*
61. HCC President presented at the Inaugural NCD Forum hosted by the National NCD Commission Barbados in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Wellness. *September 11 2024.*
62. HCC Awarded two Bursaries to the CBU Caribbean Media Award winners in print and television categories Nation Publishing Company and Barbados Government Information Service respectively, to contribute towards the production of additional content. *September 18 2024.*
63. HCC ED and CO presented at the HSFB Barbados Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition Stakeholder Engagement. *September 20 2024.*
64. HCC and NCD Alliance convened world leaders on the sidelines of the 79th United Nations General Assembly on September 24th to discuss links between NCDs and the broader development agenda, including co-benefits of tackling NCDs; broader determinants of health that will continue to challenge progress on NCD prevention and control and what we need from the next HLM on NCDs. *September 24 2024.*
65. HCY Member to participate in global Sport and Health Capacity Development Initiative on October 8-9 in Kingston, Jamaica. *October 8-9 2024.*
66. HCC AO participated in the WHO Youth Council Young leaders for healthy societies: Building well-being, resilience and trust in Berlin, Germany. *October 9-12 2024*
67. HCC Founding President honoured by the National NCD Commission Barbados and Ministry of Health and Wellness for his outstanding contribution to public health. *October 15 2024.*



68. HCC Founding President conferred the degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa on regional and international advocacy for the prevention and control of NCDs by the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus. *October 19 2024.*
69. HCC Co and HCC Founding President attend the Stakeholder Engagement spearheaded by the Office of Reparations and Economic Enfranchisement, Division of Culture, Prime Minister's Office in Barbados in partnership with the National NCD Commission Barbados on NCD Health, Climate and Reparations at the Marriott Hotel. *October 23 2024.*
70. HCY Member Offneil Lamont represented HCC at the Sport and Health Capacity Development Initiative in Jamaica. *October 29 2024.*
71. The HCC hosted a Virtual Media Sensitisation on November 5th, in partnership with the CBU entitled "Media and the Environment- Healthy Nutrition Food Policies", for media professionals around the region including media managers. Featured presenter Ms. Naledi Sikhakhane, a journalist based in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal South Africa who works with the Daily Maverick provided insights on investigative and solutions journalism in the food justice space. *November 5 2024.*
72. HCC team participated in the GHAI Legal workshop at the Courtyard Marriott, Bridgetown Barbados.
73. HCC participates in PAHO Regional UN HLM Meeting Consultation. *November 13 2024.*
74. HCC and Sagicor sign Memorandum of Understanding. *November 13 2024.*
75. HCY Member participate in IFMSA COP29 Panel Discussion (representing HCC/HCY and WHO Youth Council). *November 2024.*
76. The HCC CO attended the Media Launch of the HSFB Barbados Childhood Obesity Prevention Public Opinion Poll- Octagonal Warning Labels on World Children's Day. *November 20 2024.*
77. The HCC Team joined the rest of the Barbados Childhood Prevention Coalition in recognising World Children's Day on November 20th in a social media advocacy campaign under the guise - "It's time to act and enforce health policies that protect our children" while tagging policymakers. *November 20 2024.*



78. HCC Policy Advisor presented with the Principal's Award for Excellence 2024/25 in the category of Outstanding Contribution to Public Service on November 23rd, 2024, in recognition of her unique and impactful public service work focussed on the use of law in NCD prevention and control, together with broader community engagement.
79. **3rd School Policy Network Meeting. November 27 2024.**
80. HCC Participated in the Eighth meeting of the CARPHA 6PPP Inter-Agency Technical Committee. *November 28 2024*
81. **9th Caribbean Alcohol Reduction Day (CARD) 2024, Unmasking Influence: Regulating Alcohol Marketing in the Caribbean. November 30 2024.**
82. The Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU) opens its call for entries for the 36th CBU Media Awards to be held in Barbados in August 2024. The HCC has been welcomed as a category sponsor in Print and Television themed-categories. The HCC will this year sponsor the travel and accommodation of two journalists to attend the Caribbean Media Awards (CMA). The closing date for entries is February 28, 2025.
83. 1st HCY Advisory Committee Meeting. *December 3 2024.*
84. HCC ED presented on HCC UNHLM 4 Preparation thus far during NCDA Q1 Advocacy Webinar. *December 5 2024.*
85. HCC Webinar Feeding Communities in the Eye of the Storm. *December 5 2024.*
86. HCCs President joins Professor Dwayne Devonish to co-host **the Wellness Effect**, a podcast series focused on health and wellness sponsored by Sagicor Life Inc. in collaboration with HCC and the UWI, Cave Hill Campus. The launch date was December 6th, 2024. The podcast series will run for 2025. *December 6 2024.*
87. HCCs President joins an esteemed panel on December 11 for the World Bank Caribbean Webinar - The Impact of Non-Communicable Diseases in the Caribbean, to discuss the economic impact of NCDs on the Caribbean and what immediate and long-term steps can be taken to protect our economies. *December 2024.*
88. HCY Q4 meeting. *December 11 2024.*
89. HCC AO to participate in Grenada NCD Commission Capacity Building Meeting. *December 14 2024.*