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GARY A. RHULE
Health Director

May 4, 2017

Dear Provider,

This letter is to inform you of an exciting new project that has come to Hartford! In May 2016, the Hartford Ryan White Part A program was notified that it had been awarded a 3-year grant focused on integrating the Ryan White information system, *CAREWare* with the HOPWA information system, *CaseWorthy*. This pilot project will encompass the Ryan White Transitional Grant Area which includes Hartford County, Middlesex County and Tolland County. The goals of the project are as follows:

- a) *Improve health outcomes and housing status for persons living with HIV/AIDS who are at greater risk for homelessness.*
- b) *Create a bi-directional interface between the CAREWare and CaseWorthy systems used by the project partners;*
- c) *Develop and implement a cross training curriculum to foster improved service delivery, data exchange and analysis;*
- d) *Analyze comprehensive data to assess changes in health outcomes and housing status;*
- e) *Document and disseminate documentation of challenges, lessons learned, best practices, and innovative models;*
- f) *Develop and enact new policies and processes to support data exchange and analysis.*

Since then a special committee aptly called the Data Integration Grant (DIG) Steering committee has been formed. The purpose of the DIG steering committee is to enact policies and procedures that help to create a seamless coordination between the HOPWA and Ryan White service delivery systems which will affect change in Health outcomes and improved housing status for HOPWA and Ryan White Clients. This committee is made up of HOPWA & Ryan White providers and consumers. One of the major task that the committee has completed is the new consent form. They have also finalized the list of data elements that will be imported/exported from the software systems.

Additionally, in January of this year, a full day training for both HOPWA and Ryan White Case Managers was provided and will be provided again in the coming months. Monthly cross-training are being coordinated and provided by AIDS CT for both HOPWA and Ryan White Case Managers. A CAREWare and CaseWorthy training is currently being planned. Information will be disseminated from both Ryan White Part A and HOPWA offices. For more information and recent updates, you can visit our website at <http://www.aids-ct.org/dig.html>

For more information about this project you may contact Peta-Gaye Nembhard at nembp001@hartford.gov or 860-757-4705 or Angelique Croasdale at croaa001@hartford.gov or 860-757-4706

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