

LOCAL CAPACITY INITIATIVE (LCI) PROJECT

SUCCESS STORY



BARBADOS

Movement Against Discrimination Action Coalition and (MOVADAC) and the Family Care Support Group (FCSG)

Multi-stakeholder partnership to educate law enforcement on LGBTI Rights

The Local Capacity Initiative (LCI) project funded by PEPFAR/USAID and implemented by the PANCAP Coordinating Unit in collaboration with University of the West Indies, Health Economics Unit worked to build the policy advocacy capacity of local civil society organisations (CSOs) that specifically focus on key populations to become more sustainable as they continue to support the overall goal of reducing transmission of HIV in the Caribbean.

MOVADAC and FCSG are civil society organisations (CSO) that work to mobilize communities against stigma and discrimination in Barbados. In an effort to promote LGBTI human rights and sustain sensitization efforts of LGBTI issues, MOVADAC and FCSG developed a training based on best practices in sensitizing law enforcement officers and advocated for its inclusion in the Royal Barbados Police Force (RBPF) training curriculum for recruits. With support from the National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC), MOVADAC and FCSG met with the RBPF Deputy Commandant Mr. Rodney Archer to discuss the need for the LGBTI sensitization training and its inclusion in the RBPF training curriculum for recruits. This initiative received the support of the RBPF and a LGBTI sensitization training was conducted with 16 police officers and six CSOs representatives. Apart from outlining LGBTI issues in Barbados and the wider Caribbean, the training educated and enhanced the policing methods of RBPF new recruits when engaging members of the LGBTI community. This initiative seeks to create an environment where members of the LGBTI community can seek assistance from RBPF when needed without fear of discrimination.



Barbados Royal Police Force (BRPF) Deputy Commandant Mr. Rodney Archer (seated second from right) along with Officers of the Regional Police Training Unit and facilitators at the LGBT Sensitization Training (picture courtesy of MOVADAC and FCSG)

Mr. Archer acknowledged the value of this initiative by expressing his profound interest in having more police officers exposed to the LGBTI Sensitivity Training and recommended that a trainer of trainers for LGBTI sensitization for senior training officers be considered. The RBPF has committed to supporting this initiative in partnership with the NHAC and MOVADAC and FCSG

In summary, MOVADAC and FCSG achieved the following:

- Fostered multi-stakeholder (NHAC, and RBPF) partnerships to promote rights and legal literacy;
- Promoted international best practices used by law enforcement in addressing LGBTI issues;
- Increased awareness and commitment of duty bearers to human rights approaches targeted to the needs of key populations.

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