



A comprehensive collaboration dedicated to the sexual health of our communities

Welcome Kit

Who we are:

Founded in December of 2010, the Sexual Health Alliance of Linn & Johnson Counties is comprised of community members, organizations and advocates who work together to affect positive change within their communities in the areas of sexual health and sexually transmitted infections (STI) and HIV/AIDS prevention.

- We believe in an inclusive community and are accepting of all individuals regardless of differences.
- As an alliance, we value **inclusive**, comprehensive sex education, which promotes **both** abstinence and age-appropriate, medically accurate information about reproduction and contraception, prophylactics, and sexual health.

What we do:

Provide education, outreach and awareness to improve the sexual health of Linn and Johnson County communities by promoting materials that are engaging, informative and accessible.

What it means to be a member of the SHA:

Being a member of the SHA requires industry, cooperation and initiative. Our outreach efforts are conceptualized and realized by our membership body. Because this is a volunteer organization, it's imperative that members come ready with ideas they'd like to realize. Members are responsible for contributing their skills and knowledge. Participation in the coalition offers many educational and networking opportunities, a chance to work intimately with partner agencies and is a means to directly impact and improve our community. Plus, it's fun!

Committed individuals are expected to:

Attend Alliance meetings and events, keep up with reports and newsletters, share relevant information to relevant community contacts through listservs, websites, and newsletters, and actively participate in the planning and execution of Alliance activities.

Committed organizations are expected to:

Appoint a representative to attend meetings and activities, read minutes, reports, and newsletters to keep up with activities, share relevant information to organization members or employees, and keep the Alliance informed of the organization's related activities.



Questions? Contact SHA at sexualhealthalliance@gmail.com

2018 Executive Board

Johnson County Representatives

Amelia Slaichert
(Johnson County Public Health)

Stanzly Scheetz
(United Action for Youth)

Linn County Representatives

Katie Reasner
(Linn County Public Health)

Anya Ogilvie
(Planned Parenthood)

At Large Representatives

Abigail Lee/Treasurer
(United Action for Youth)

Kimberly Andresen-Reed/Secretary
(Transformative Healing)

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Thursday, Nov. 1st

11:00am – 12:30pm
North Liberty Community Library
Room C/D

Thursday, Dec. 6th

11:00am-12:30pm
North Liberty Community Library
Room A/B

Contact Us

Email

SexualHealthAlliance@gmail.com

Website

www.shacoalition.com



SHALJC

Started in 2010 as the Linn & Johnson County HIV/STD Coalition. Its initial goals were to:

- Overcome barriers to adoption of healthy sexual behaviors
- Develop strong leadership, strengthen investment, and improve systems for STI prevention
- Design and implement essential STI-related services in innovative ways for target populations
- Ensure access to and quality of essential clinical services for STIs

Conducted a survey of corridor schools on sexual health education offerings (2012, 2016)

Created a comprehensive Sexual Health Education Toolkit with more than 25 community accessible resources (2014)

Hosted numerous sexual health awareness events and initiatives:

- Documentary and film screenings:
 - *Someone You Love: The HPV Epidemic* (2017, 2015)
 - *Before You Know It* (2014)
 - *Dallas Buyers Club* (2014)
 - *The Invisible War* (2014)
 - *Sexy Baby* (2013)
 - *How to Survive a Plague* (2013)
- Condom Crawls in Iowa City (2012) and Cedar Rapids (2011)
- Free condom dispensers installed in areas with high rates of STIs
- GYT (Get Yourself Tested) Month
- Fundraisers and informative gatherings
 - The Clinton Street Social Club, Iowa City (2014)
 - Brewhemia, Cedar Rapids (2012)
 - CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids (2012)
 - The Piano Lounge, Iowa City (2010)

Hosted several informative panels about central topics in the sexual health discussion:

- Stalking Awareness: Stalking in the Cinema (2016, with RVAP)
- The HPV Epidemic (2015)
- Criminal HIV Exposure & Transmission Law in Iowa (2012)
- Human Trafficking in Iowa: What Can You Do? (2012)

Featured in several *Gazette* articles:

- *HPV Vaccine Vital Part of Prevention* (2014)
- *Linn County STD rates higher than state, U.S.* (2014)
- *Teaching the birds and the bees: State sexual education requirements lead to gaps* (2014)
- *Evidence-based sex education more effective* (2014)

SHA has been involved with ongoing local events such as:

- Cedar Rapids Pride Fest and Iowa City Pride Festival
- Cedar Rapids Farmer's Market
- The Five Seasons STAND Down

BYLAWS OF THE SEXUAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

OF LINN & JOHNSON COUNTIES

Article I: Name

This organization shall be known as the Sexual Health Alliance of Linn & Johnson Counties (hereto referred to as the Alliance).

Article II: Purpose/Vision

The Alliance is a coalition of community agencies, organizations, and individuals who seek to affect positive change within their communities in the areas of sexual health, sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and HIV/ AIDS prevention. The Alliance understands that STDs and HIV/AIDS are present in our communities and have deleterious effects to the health of our residents. As an alliance, we value comprehensive sex education, which promotes both abstinence and age-appropriate, medically accurate information about contraception, prophylactics, and sexual health. The Alliance believes in an inclusive community and is accepting of all individuals regardless of differences.

Our mission is "A comprehensive collaboration dedicated to the sexual health of our communities."

Article III: Membership/Voting

- A) In no aspect of its activities shall there be any difference in the treatment of persons on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, ability, veteran status, real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preference, or any other classification which would deprive the person of consideration as an individual.
- B) Membership shall be open to all people who live, work, or volunteer in Linn or Johnson Counties who maintain a vested interest in combating STD and HIV infections in their local communities & promoting sexual health. This may include members from the fields of public health, sexual health, general medicine, nursing, student health services, aging services, and health promotion as well as representatives from support fields such as the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities, art communities, minority communities, and communities of faith. Individual members will need to sign a statement of individual commitment when they first join the Alliance in order to be able to vote and be considered an official member of the Alliance.
- C) Community Based Organization (CBOs) and local agencies will have no limitations on the number of members that may be sent to represent their organization at coalition meetings. However, voting will occur on an agency basis requiring that each agency appoint one voting member who will maintain voting responsibility. The appointment of said voting member shall be reported to the coalition Secretary for recordkeeping and should be updated promptly in the event of change.
 - a. In the event of a voting member's absence from a voting meeting, a proxy vote must be submitted via email or in writing to the coalition secretary no later than 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time.
- D) Membership is open to any member of the public, who lives, works or volunteers in Linn or Johnson counties, who has a vested interest in the cause and mission of the coalition. Seated members are expected to actively recruit new members from their respective communities to take part in the coalition. Membership revocation, while unanticipated, will be handled by the executive board on a case-by-case basis.

Article IV: Officers and Duties

The Alliance shall be led by an executive board comprised of no less than three persons elected and appointed by the voting members as deemed appropriate in Article V of this document.

- A) President

- a. The President shall be vested with the responsibility of calling and leading all Alliance meetings, both Executive and general. The President will manage regular e-mail correspondence with members (other than the minutes and agenda).

B) County Representatives

Two County Representatives shall be elected: One representing Linn and the other Johnson County. Unlike other Executive positions, to which any voting member of the Alliance may be elected, eligibility for County Representatives shall be limited to representatives for the four agencies (Planned Parenthood, United Action for Youth (UAY), Johnson County Public Health, and Linn County Public Health—as identified in the 2016 Member Survey) who have vested interest in the Alliance’s success.

Each County Representative shall share the responsibilities of keeping inventory and safeguarding Alliance materials (e.g., literature, tabling items, etc.). Additionally, County Representatives will be expected to secure meetings locations within in their respective counties and preside over those meetings whenever the President is unable to attend.

- a. Johnson County Representative

The Johnson County Representative shall organize booking and preparation of all Johnson County meeting spaces as well as manage the Alliance’s website.

- b. Linn County Representatives

The Linn County Representative shall organize booking and preparation of all Linn County meeting spaces as well as manage the Coalition’s social media pages.

C) Secretary

- a. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all meetings, votes, and of all membership/committee participation. The Secretary shall be responsible for the compilation of minutes and their distribution in a timely manner following each meeting.

D) Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer shall receive all funds for the coalition and maintain records or all receipts and transactions. The Treasurer shall report current account balances at each executive meeting.

E) Historian

- a. The Historian shall be elected on an as-needed basis. The Historian is responsible for archiving coalition activities.

Article V: Meetings

- A) Coalition meetings shall occur no less than once per quarter— and more frequently should the executive board feel it is appropriate.
- B) Due to the nature of participation Quorum shall not be required to conduct official business. A majority of votes (50% + 1) will be the necessary standard for passage on all proposed business during normal business meetings.
- C) Scheduled coalition meetings shall be held rotationally between designated sites within Johnson and Linn Counties.
- D) Meetings shall be led by the President, or a designated delegate in his/her Absence, and follow the guide of Robert Rules of Order.

Article VI: Elections

- A) Executive board elections shall be held once per calendar year at the last or first coalition meeting of the year.
- B) Members will be notified one meeting in advance of upcoming or impending elections with a reminder to be included (via email) in the distributed minutes from that meeting.

C) Members will be eligible to vote in any election of the executive board if they meet the following criteria:

a) The member has been a voting member of the coalition for no less than two consecutive general meetings prior to the election of the executive board.

D) Should a vacancy occur on the executive board at a time not consistent with scheduled elections remaining board members shall call a special election which may take place at a normal business meeting as long as the voting members are given proper notice of one calendar month prior to it taking place.

Article VII: Finances

Finances shall be considered any monetary asset maintained by the coalition. Finances shall be handled with transparency by the elected Treasurer and reported upon quarterly at general business meetings of the coalition.

Article VIII: Amendments

A) Any member or the executive board may propose amendments to this document at any time by presenting a written modification to the executive board and requesting that a discussion be placed on the agenda for an upcoming coalition meeting.

B) Proposed amendments shall be distributed, via email, to all eligible voting members following introduction and discussion.

C) Voting on proposed amendments shall occur at the next business meeting following the amendment's introduction, initial reading, and electronic distribution.

D) A supermajority (2/3) vote of all eligible voting members shall be required to satisfactorily amend this document.

Article IX: Ratification

A) The proposed version of this document shall be introduced to Coalition members at a general business meeting, distributed via email for review after the initial reading, and scheduled for discussion and vote at the Coalition meeting following the initial introduction.

B) A supermajority (2/3) vote of all seated voting members shall be required for the adaptation of this document.

2018 Statement of Individual Commitment

I, _____, as a member of the Linn and/or Johnson County communities am committed to be an active and contributing member of the Sexual Health Alliance of Linn & Johnson Counties. As individual; I am committed to the vision, goals, objectives and strategies that have been decided by The Alliance.

As general evidence of my commitment, I agree to do the following:

Represent my community at Alliance meetings and events.

Read minutes, reports and newsletters to keep abreast of decisions and/or activities.

Disseminate relevant information to relevant community contacts through listservs, websites and newsletters.

Actively participate in the planning and execution of all Alliance activities.

Name of Individual: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

I hereby give permission to the Sexual Health Alliance to use any photographic images that result from participation in coalition activities (meetings, outreach events, etc.) in any form of marketing or promotion, including the website, Facebook page, and any future social media sites that the coalition may create and operate.

Yes, I give my permission

No, do not use my image

2018 Statement of Organizational Commitment

Our organization, _____, is committed to be an active and contributing member of the Sexual Health Alliance of Linn & Johnson Counties. As an agency; we are committed to the vision, goals, objectives and strategies that have been decided by The Alliance.

As general evidence of our commitment, we agree to do the following:

Appoint a representative(s) to attend meetings and activities.

Authorize said representative to make decision on our behalf, except for decisions regarding _____.

Read minutes, reports and newsletters to keep abreast of decisions and/or activities.

Disseminate relevant information to organizational members or employees through listservs, websites and newsletters.

Keep The Alliance informed of organization's related activities.

Name of Organization: _____

Name of Appointing Agent (Director/Supervisor): _____

Signature of Supervisor: _____

Name of Appointed Representative: _____

Signature of Representative: _____

Date: _____

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