

Positive Sexuality & HIV Concurrence
March 11, 2009
SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

HELP/PSI

HELP/PSI is an AIDS service organization created to respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic sweeping through the minority, substance-abusing community in New York City. For 17 years, the HELP/PSI mission has been to help people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) achieve health, recovery and independence. We provide comprehensive services to PLWHA who have a history of HIV comorbidities and are committed to substance abuse recovery, emotional stability and reentry into mainstream society. The HELP/PSI model of care demonstrates success in the stated goals of our clients to live their lives healthier and free of substances. Our model combines the self-help and peer support principles of the therapeutic community with the medical and mental health care and support services of a health care facility. Outpatient care includes medical monitoring and treatment adherence counseling, psychiatric care and medication monitoring, substance abuse treatment; support services, case management; mental health counseling, nutritional services and education; rehabilitation services; and complementary and alternative therapies.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center

Established in 1983, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center (the Center) has grown to become the largest LGBT multi-service organization on the East Coast and second largest LGBT community center in the world. The Center's mission is to "provide a home for the birth, nurture and celebration of our organizations, institutions and culture; cares for our individuals and groups in need; educates the public and our community; and empowers our individuals and groups to achieve their fullest potential." To this end, every week, 6,000 people visit the Center, and more than 300 groups meet here. In addition, our myriad meeting rooms are booked months in advance, indicating the community is as hungry as ever for a place to call its own. We provide groundbreaking social service, public policy, educational and cultural/recreational programs including programs specifically for persons living with HIV. We also serve as an incubator for grassroots groups that meet here. Indeed, we were the birthplace of organizations such as the AIDS activist group ACT UP and the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD).

ACRIA

AIDS Community Research Initiative of America (ACRIA), a collaborative and independent not-for-profit organization, studies new treatments for HIV/AIDS and related diseases, and conducts a comprehensive HIV health literacy program.

New York University, Center for Health, Identity Behavior & Prevention Studies

The Center for Health, Identity, Behavior & Prevention Studies (CHIBPS) at the Steinhardt School, New York University conducts cutting-edge behavioral research in the synergistic areas of HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, and mental health. We situate ourselves at the hyphen of theory-

practice and conduct research informed by mixed methodologies with and for the communities affected by these forces. Our work is centered on the biopsychosocial paradigm, and is informed by health & prevention models, development & counseling theories, as well as public and health policies, with an underlying understanding that our stakeholders hold multiple identities (i.e., sexual orientation, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, and, socioeconomic status). Because the dynamics underlying HIV and drug abuse prevention are constantly shifting, our research has focused longitudinal studies, studies that follow the same group of people over time. We do this to better understand how cultural, social and historical variables influence health behaviors. To these endeavors we bring a team of highly able scholars from the fields of psychology, public health, public administration, and social work. We collaborate on our projects with numerous agencies including: The Mind-Body Center at NYU Medical, the NYU Medical Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), Harlem United, Gay Men's Health Crisis, The LGBT Community Center, and St. Vincent's Hospital.

Columbia HIV Mental Health Training Project

As the NY/NJ AETC Regional Resource Mental Health Center (RRC), CUMH provides in-services to prescribers working in agencies that provide HIV and mental health services in the community. This includes service providers in both public and private practice settings who routinely work with persons with HIV/AIDS facing mental health issues. CUMH is able to provide these trainings free of charge, through funding from HRSA.

The HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies

The HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies at N.Y. State Psychiatric Institute has been continuously funded since 1987 with a center grant from NIMH and a large number of individual research and training grants from federal and private foundation sources. Now in its 22nd year, the HIV Center is one of the oldest and most productive continuously funded AIDS research centers in the United States. The HIV Center responds to the evolving challenges of the HIV epidemic by conducting scientific investigations at the forefront of the field and making important contributions to the scientific literature. The HIV Center has steadily increased its role as a resource for both the national and international scientific communities and, more broadly, for community organizations and for government representatives and policy makers. The Center has been a leader in innovative training and teaching programs and has a strong record of attracting and nurturing fellows and junior investigators who have become independent researchers, clinical investigators, and public health officials. Our research focuses on studying sexual risk behavior and gender in order to design effective interventions to reduce risk for HIV infection among children and adolescents, heterosexual women and men, persons who engage in same-sex behavior, and people with mental illness. In addition, our work aims to help HIV+ individuals cope with HIV infection, including its mental health consequences, accessing medical care, and adhering to medication regimens. In all of our research, we are committed to reaching the populations – especially those in urban centers – who are at highest risk and, thus, ethnically diverse and often disenfranchised. Our work in this area has led to the development of training programs to help mental health providers work with patients on issues involving HIV and sexual risk behaviors and the establishment of a major ground-breaking clinical care setting, the Special Needs Clinic at Babies Hospital, that meets the mental health

needs of families affected by HIV while conducting research to develop intervention programs for inner city women and their families.

NY/NJ AIDS Education and Training Center

As part of a national network of 11 regional and 4 national centers (and more than 130 associated sites) the NY/NJ AETC conducts targeted, multi-disciplinary education and training programs for healthcare providers treating persons living with HIV/AIDS. The NY/NJ AETC's mission is to assist health care professionals, through education and training, to provide optimum quality services and sensitive care to HIV positive persons, and to provide access to current research and treatment of HIV/AIDS. We serve the New York and New Jersey healthcare community by providing AIDS and HIV education and training to treat, manage, diagnose, or counsel individuals with HIV infection or to help prevent high risk behaviors that lead to HIV transmission.

National Association of People with AIDS

Founded over two decades ago as the first network of people living with AIDS and HIV (PLWHA), the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) is the oldest national AIDS organization. We believe in making a difference in the lives of our constituents. We do this by: 1) providing information and resources; 2) telling our collective stories in HIV from the past, present, and future; and 3) being the trusted independent voice of people living with HIV. By engaging in the aforementioned activities, NAPWA remains a strong voice in policy, capacity building, leadership development, and social networking. For more information about NAPWA, please visit www.napwa.org.

Cicatelli Associates

Cicatelli Associates Inc. (CAI) is a nonprofit organization that provides training and capacity development for health and human services providers, both nationally and internationally. For 30 years our work has enhanced the breadth and quality of health care and social services delivered to underserved and vulnerable populations. CAI addresses some of the most challenging health issues of our times by working to overcome health disparities, eliminate stigma and discrimination, and provide solutions to addressing increasing needs with decreasing resources.

Adolescent AIDS Program at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center

Based in the Bronx, New York, the Adolescent AIDS Program at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center is a leader in the field of HIV/AIDS among adolescents. The AAP serves as a local and national resource for those living with HIV/AIDS; adolescents who are at-risk for HIV infection; healthcare providers who treat adolescents living with or at-risk for HIV infection; and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning adolescents, their families and caregivers.