# ANNUAL BEPORT 2018







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# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The shortened version of NMAC's mission is to lead with race to end the HIV epidemic. In April of 2018, NMAC wrote an Open Letter to Dr. Robert Redfield, the new head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This letter challenged him to put together a federal plan and the necessary funding to end the HIV epidemic in America. Little did we anticipate that the letter, along with many other factors, would set off a chain of events that would result in the President saying in his 2019 state of the union address that "his administration would end the HIV epidemic everywhere."

NMAC's job is to fight for health equity and racial justice. We see those as key components in our work to end HIV. Health equity is to ensure that all people living with HIV have access to healthcare, wrap around services, and the necessary medications to live long healthy lives. The fight for justice is very different from the fight for equity. Justice is about prioritizing communities that are hardest hit by HIV. NMAC fights for justice by prioritizing gay men, particularly gay men of color, black women and Latinas, the transgender community, and drug users. We are the people who shoulder the greatest burden of HIV. Too many in our communities face stigma, discrimination and violence.



The irony of working with this administration is not lost on NMAC. However, every year we wait means 40,000 new cases of HIV. This will be the true test of our leadership, to balance the need to get care and services to the 400,000 PLWH who have fallen out of care or are unaware of their HIV status against the toxic environment that is Washington.

NMAC works in collaboration with efforts to get 400,000 PLWH back into care and 1.1 million Americans on PrEP. Since the majority of people living with HIV and the majority of new cases of HIV are among people of color, plans to end HIV should focus on those who shoulder the greatest burden of HIV. The complexity of our diversity is both the challenge and beauty of our work.

Thank you for your support in 2018. While we are starting to plan for the end, there is a long road ahead and we need your continued support.

Yours in the struggle,

Paul Kawata

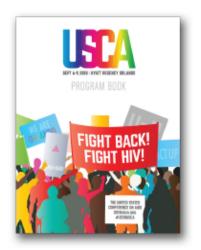
Executive Director





Orlando, FL, was the site of the 22nd annual **United States Conference on AIDS** (USCA). More than 3,000 leaders, advocates, activists, and service providers gathered from September 6-9 to learn, exchange ideas, and network around important issues for the HIV movement across nearly 300 training sessions.

This year's USCA featured the theme of *Fight Back! Fight HIV!* as an homage to the HIV activists of the early epidemic and as a call to action to continue the fight.



On September 5, one day prior to the official opening, executive directors of multiple HIV organizations convened for the Leadership Institute. This all-day meeting focused on the community's roles as the federal government builds a plan to end the HIV epidemic in America. The Leadership Institute partnered with ACT Now: End AIDS Coalition, AIDS United, NASTAD, NCSD, NMAC, The AIDS Institute, and 30 Executive Directors to put together this all-day meeting.

That same evening, the **Orlando Host Committee** presented a lavish opening reception that featured a performance by "RuPaul's Drag Race" contestant **Ongina**.

The opening plenary on September 6 highlighted HIV activism and the overlap with movements for racial justice, LGBT equality, and safety from gun violence. Speakers included **Alicia Garza**, Co-Founder of #BlackLivesMatter; **Abigail Echo-Hawk**, Director, Urban Indian Health Institute; **Richard L. Zaldivar**, Executive Director, The Wall-Las Memorias; **Naina Khanna**, Executive Director, Positive Women's Network - USA; **Larry Walker**, Thrive SS; **David Hogg**, Activist and Survivor of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas School Shooting. The plenary also featured a performance by the legendary **Thelma Houston**.

On the second day, Gilead presented a luncheon plenary focused exclusively on the transgender community. It was nearly immediately named as one of the highlights of the entire conference.







Saturday's plenary focused on trauma-informed care and featured the "Survivor Monologues," stories from long-term survivors. It also featured a moving presentation by **Barbara Poma**, owner of the Pulse night club and CEO and Executive Director of the onePULSE Foundation. Other speakers include **Eric Dube** of ViiV North America; **Dr. Michele Andrasik**, Director of Social-Behavioral Sciences and Community Engagement, HVTN Core; **Ron Stall**, Director of the Center for LGBT Health Research, University of Pittsburgh; **L'Orangelis Thomas Negrón**, Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+); **Ben Schatz**, Member, Kinsey Sicks; and **Phill Wilson**, The Black AIDS Institute.

The opioid crisis and its impact on the HIV epidemic was featured in the final plenary on September 9. Speakers included **Deon Haywood**, Women with a Vision; **Robert Suarez**, Peer Network Of New York & VOCAL-NY; **Monique Tula**, Harm Reduction Coalition; **Jesse Milan**, AIDS United; **Megan McLemore**, Human Rights Watch; and **Greg Millet**, amfAR.

USCA offered four scholarship opportunities to attendees. In addition to general scholarships, the conference offered:

- The 50+ Strong and Healthy Scholarship Program, brought 50 people over the age of 50 living with HIV to USCA for training to help them create programs in their local communities to meet the needs of this growing constituency.
- The Youth Initiative Scholarship, sponsored by

  ViiV Healthcare and Advocates for Youth, focused on developing future leaders in the HIV movement.
- The Social Media Fellowship, sponsored by Gilead, was produced in partnership with the Black AIDS Institute. The content produced by the fellows was featured by USCA media sponsor fhi360 during the course of the conference.



# The Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit Comes to the West Coast

The third annual **Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit** was held in Los Angeles in early December. A record number of nearly 1,300 registrants came to learn more about biomedical HIV prevention summit techniques and approaches.

The Summit's opening plenary focused on the intersection of the #MeToo movement and trauma informed care and prevention for HIV. **Tarana Burke**, founder of the #MeToo movement opened the plenary. Numerous other speakers told their stories of sexual assault and survival.

The second plenary of the first day's theme was *The Community's Plan for Ending the Epidemic*. Speakers, including **Anthony Mills**, Chief Medical Officer at Men's Health Foundation, **Oni Blackstock**, Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, NYC Health Department, **Charles King**, CEO of Housing Works, Jesse Milan, President and CEO of AIDS United, and

**Cecilia Gentili** of GHMC, focused on how to incorporate biomedical HIV prevention into local community plans.

The second and final day of the Summit offered two plenaries.

The breakfast plenary, *U=U* and *People* of *Color - The Road to Maintain Suppression* put the spotlight on how the U=U message



could reach communities of color. Speakers included **Bruce Richman**, founding Executive Director of the Prevention Access Campaign, **Gina Brown**, Community Engagement Manager, Southern



AIDS Coalition, **Bryan Jones**, Dirt Advocacy Movement, **Sean Bland**, Senior Associate, O'Neill Institute for National Global Health Law, Georgetown University Law Center, and **Lillibeth Gonzalez**, GMHC.

Closing the Gender & Racial Inequity Gap on ARV-Based Prevention closed the Summit with a discussion about how to close the gap on PrEP use among women and communities of color. Speakers included William Goedel, Brown University School of Public Health, Dr.

**Nina Harawa**, with the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science and the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, **Omar Valentin** of Temple University, **Mannat Malik**, Senior Research Program Coordinator with the Center for Public Health and Human Rights, **Richard Haverkate** of Indian Health Services, and **Daniel Downer** of the Bros in Convo Initiative.

# HIV 50+ Strong & Healthy Highlights

HIV 50+ Strong and Healthy is an NMAC program that offers support and engagement opportunities to individuals living with HIV who are over the age of 50 and struggling with isolation and depression. Through the program, scholars find and affirm their purpose, expand their scope, and receive the chance to become active and productive in their respective communities.

One of the first activities of the program is for scholars to attend the U.S. Conference on AIDS (USCA). During the conference, Scholars participate in sessions to



advance their leadership skills, build confidence, enhance their advocacy skills, increase their knowledge, teach new ways to leverage their expertise, prioritize the unique concerns of long-term HIV survivors within HIV/AIDS programs and policies in their communities, and provide the opportunity to network with their peers and the HIV community at large.

After USCA, the HIV 50+ Scholars have the opportunity to further engage through mini-grants, internships, and sponsorship opportunities.

# **2018 HIV Mini-Grant Recipients**

The HIV 50+ Mini Grant Program works to support our HIV 50+ Strong & Healthy Scholars as they become more involved in their communities and have them develop and implement projects to educate and engage people living and aging with HIV to connect with other peers.

- 1. **Bryan Jones** and **Michelle Jackson-Rollins**, Cleveland, OH. "Sankofa Self-Advocacy Retreat" Garden Valley Neighborhood House.
  - **GOAL**: The overall goal of the Sankofa retreat is to bring those aging with HIV together with other generations of those living with HIV to gain education and self-care while learning to interact on a personal and professional level.
- 2. **Christine Kapiioho**, *Waiuku*, Hl. "Healthy Living for 50+ HIV Individuals" Maui AIDS Foundation.
  - GOAL: The goal is to provide education on two topics of health targeted for individuals living with HIV who are 50 years and older.
- 3. **Debra Parmer**, Akron, OH. "Celebration of Life Workshop and Evening Dinner" Northeast Ohio African American Health Network.
  - **GOAL**: A one-day, eight-hour workshop will be held including 24 people aging with HIV/AIDS. The day will be spent covering HIV Treatment Education Topics and Co-morbidities.
- 4. **Janice Shirley**, Charlotte, NC. "Thriving at 50+" Carolina Care Partnership.
  - **GOAL**: The overall goal for the participants is to have them more aware of their lifestyle of living with HIV and other illness. And to embrace their HIV and learn how and when to ask for help when needed. For men, women, transgender, etc.
- 5. **Jared Hafen**, Salt Lake City, UT. "Positive Force: The Reunion!" Utah AIDS Foundation.
  - **GOAL**: Positive Force is a social support group for people over 50 years old who are living with HIV. The overall goal of Positive Force is to reduce social anxiety and isolation, increase better mental health, increase their knowledge of HIV and age-related conditions to increase their overall health, and raise awareness about people over 50 years old living with HIV.
- 6. Kneeshe Parkinson, Oakland, CA. "IMPACT Party: Strong and Healthy" Positive Women's Network USA (PWN USA).
  - **GOAL**: To enhance, educate and empower the lives of those HIV+ 50 diagnosed with HIV/AIDS to eradicate STIGMA and improve quality of life with a meaningful impact. Additionally, the program goal is to increase the knowledge around the sense of community and accessing meaningful involvement to thrive.
- 7. **Michele Princeton**, Cleveland, OH. "50+ Positive Change Retreat" AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland.
  - **GOAL**: Positive Change Retreat will offer a unique and all-inclusive, participant-centered approach to educating, supporting and empowering 50+ individuals living with HIV. The two-day retreat will offer participants important insight for living and surviving with their illness and related challenges, in addition to providing opportunities to connect socially and emotionally with others in similar situations.
- 8. Nancy Shearer, Los Angeles, CA. "Spring Social: Bringing Older Adults PLWH Together" Special Service for Groups, Inc./APAIT.
  - **GOAL**: The goal of the project is to provide opportunities for older PLWH to make long-lasting relationships with people of similar experiences, and combat the stigma of HIV together. The project ultimately aims to dispel feelings of stigma and shame and allow participants to live their lives to the fullest.
- 9. **Raphiatou Noumbissi**, *Wilmington, DE. "New Castle Co. 50+ Support Group" Delaware HIV Consortium.* 
  - **GOAL**: The goal of the project is to conduct a support/peer education group for HIV clients 50+ in New Castle County for a six-month period, with the goal of reducing isolation and connecting participants with support services and socialization.
- 10. **Rick Guasco**, Chicago, IL. "For all ages" TPAN/Positively Aware Magazine.
  - **GOAL**: The basic premise of For All Ages is that older and younger generations living with HIV can offer each other knowledge, experience, insight, and support. It is intended to serve as an intergenerational forum for long-term survivors and younger people more recently diagnosed to share their experiences and find common ground.
- 11. Robert Cornelius, Chattanooga, TN. "Survivors Network" Cempa Community Care (Chattanooga CARES).
  - **GOAL**: This project is to get the 50+ individuals involved again in the community and to learn valuable skills and information that is needed in the 50+ community.
- 12. **Thomas Sampson**, *Chicago*, *IL. "Reclaiming our time" Georgia DOTY Comprehensive Health Foundation*.
  - **GOAL**: The proposed project seeks to build community among individuals ages 50 and above who are presently living with HIV. The central idea is to counter the social isolation experienced by mobilizing this population, regularly bringing them together, and building community around addressing issues and social concerns that individuals are currently experiencing.
- 13. Patricia Kelly, Orangeburg, SC. "Raising Our Awareness and Representation (ROAR)" Carla Rose Foundation for a Family Affair.
  - **GOAL**: As women living with HIV age there are things, they need to know that is more than just medical. Women are more than a pill and expanding their knowledge to live the best quality of life as they age is essential.
- 14. **Terry Munn**, Durham, NC. "New Beginnings Plus" Triangle Empowerment Center, Inc.
  - **GOAL**: The overall goal of the program is to work with the key population (people over the age of 50 currently living with HIV) to develop a workshop that will address stigma and discrimination as a barrier to making sound decisions to better care.

# 2018 HIV 50+ Internships

Returning HIV 50+ Scholars were placed in a community-based organization or community health clinic that serves people of color living with HIV aged 50 or above to continue outreach, educational and engagement activities for their peers living and aging with HIV.

- 1. **Angel Luis-Hernandez**, Arecibo, PR. "Foro Comunitario Lo Mejor de Nosotros: 50+ Positivos, Fuertos y Saludables" Ministerio en Jehova Seran Provistos. **GOAL**: The scholar will work with MEJSP to present a community forum on HIV and Aging. The scholar will be assisted by MEJSP's selected participants, whom the scholar will mentor in the design, development, and hosting of the forum.
- 2. **Dean Edwards**, Columbia, SC. "50+ Think Tank" Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services.
  - **GOAL**: The NMAC's HIV 50+ intern will be responsible for facilitating a think tank to identify the unique needs of PLWH over 50, advocate for services focusing on PLWH over 50 and to ensure that the voices of PLWH over 50 are heard at HIV care and prevention planning activities.
- 3. Teresa Sullivan, Philadelphia, PA. "We are Stronger Together Building an HIV 50+ Alliance" Philadelphia FIGHT.
  - **GOAL**: The goals of the project will be to bring educational awareness on how to successfully live healthy and well as we age with HIV.
- 4. **Eric Jankee**, Palm Springs, CA. "Let's kick ASS" Let's Kick ASS Palm Springs.
  - **GOAL**: The overall goal of this internship project is to enhance members' experience of the organization to raise larger community awareness of us and to provide leadership experiences for the intern.
- 5. **Lillibeth Gonzalez**, New York, NY. Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC).
  - **GOAL**: This internship will be used to cover 2019 USCA expenses.
- 6. **Michael G. Smith**, *Santa Fe*, *NM. "Phx Rising: 2.0: Work, Financial Stability, and Aging with HIV/AIDS" NM Coalition to End Homelessness.* **GOAL**: To address issues related to Work, Financial Stability, and Aging with HIV/AIDS.
- 7. **Miguel Delgado-Ramos**, *Cidra*, *PR. "HIV 50+ Strong and Healthy/Atrevete Project" COSSMA, Inc.* 
  - **GOAL**: Develop a strategy aimed to identify the HIV 50+ population needs and prepare an action plan to promote integral health.
- 8. Randal Lucero, Santa Fe, NM. "Southwest CARE HIV 50+ Summit Positively Strong and Healthy" Southwest CARE.
  - **GOAL**: This one-day summit will consist of a mix of facilitated discussions and speaker panels with fun and educational presentations led by key researchers, physicians, psychologists, pharmacists, wellness coaches, and long-term survivors.
- 9. **Esther Ross**, *Washington*, *D.C. "Leaders, Advocating, Mentoring, other leaders for Personal Growth and Support (LAMPS)" Circle of Friends Task Force.* **GOAL**: Educate 5 POCLHIV 50+ using BLOC curriculum and equip participants POCHIV 50+ with leadership skills to address internal and external stigma.

# 2018 HIV 50+ Sponsorships

NMAC sponsored HIV 50+ Strong and Healthy Scholars to the conferences listed below. The goal of the sponsorship is to provide a platform for scholars to advocate, learn and represent the HIV 50+ community. The logistics for the sponsorship awards will be handled by NMAC.

- 1. **2018 Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit**, Los Angeles, CA, December 2-4, 2018.
  - **DESCRIPTION**: This meeting brings together HIV leaders to discuss, learn, and share biomedical HIV prevention interventions. Scholars Attended: Paul Grace-Neal, Zeke Garcia, Michelle Jackson-Rollins, Debra Parmer, Nancy Shearer, and Lillibeth Gonzalez
- 2. 2018 National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment, Oxon Hill, MD, December 11-14, 2018.
  - **GOA**I: The 2018 National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment is the largest national conference for comprehensive HIV care and treatment providers, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program recipients, and stakeholders, sponsored and funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB). *Scholars Attended: Robert Riester*

# PrEP Education and Awareness Program Highlights

As the PrEP landscape begins to shift, there is a need for clear and concise policies to allow us to provide guidance and set long-term standards. With the rise of HIV diagnoses among gay men of color, it is crucial to educate not only young Black and Latino MSM but also health navigators and service providers. They must learn about policies that facilitate access to PrEP, related services, cost, and access points. Cost, service and access issues vary at the local, state and federal level.

In order to address these issues, NMAC brought stakeholders together in a Learning Collaborative to combine their resources and help implement a set of plans and community goals from eight jurisdictions

in the southern United States: Baton Rouge, LA; Columbia, SC; El Paso, TX; Jackson, MS; Orlando, FL; Savannah, GA; Washington, DC; and Winston-Salem, NC.

Based on the experiences of the Learning Collaborative, NMAC debuted its PrEP Cascade Best Practices. For each of the "steps" of the PrEP Cascade (awareness, access, utilization, and adherence), this Best Practices document outlines barriers, strategies, and resources in an easily digestible infographic format with limited explanatory text.



# **Policy Work**



# **Congressional Engagement**

In 2018, NMAC's Treatment Division's Policy Team engaged with Members of the 115th Congress in several ways:

- Reaching out to critical members of the House and Senate Appropriations and relevant authorizing committees (House Energy and Commerce Committee as well as Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee).
- Hosting briefings for and/or directly educating Members of Congress as well as their staff who were members of the following racial/ethnic caucuses on the associated HIV/AIDS Awareness Days.

# **Federal Administrative Agency Work**

In 2018, NMAC's Treatment Division engaged the following Federal Administrative Agencies:

CDC: NMAC worked to increase accountability and transparently of Centers from Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding and evaluation for people of color community. Moreover, NMAC worked with the CDC to structure and shift social marketing campaigns to be more tiered, impactful and responsive.

**HRSA:** NMAC worked with the Health Resource Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Healthcare (BPH) around development of a tool to support assess routinized opt-out testing. Additionally, NMAC looked at how we can increase PrEP support with BPH.

**HUD:** NMAC met with career staff at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to underscore the message that housing is healthcare and to support implementations of the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Program.

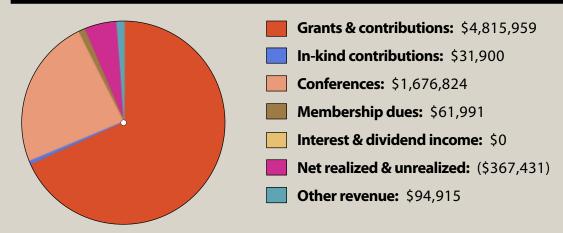
**SAMSHA:** NMAC worked to increase and deepen our relationship with SAMSHA contacts including a more meaningful engagement for their Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) program.

OMB: NMAC met with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to underscore the importance of federal funding for HIV prevention and treatment programs. The OMB is accountable for evaluating the quality of federal agency programs, policies and procedures to ensure they align with the president's budget and administration policies. NMAC expressed concerned regarding the repeated proposed cuts and/or eliminations in the President's budget.

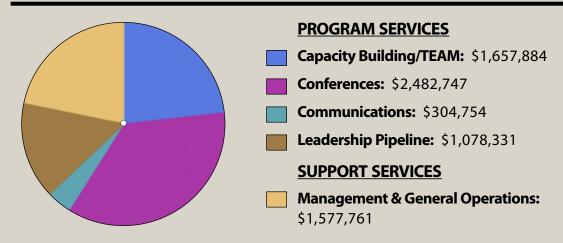
**DoD:** NMAC worked with the Department of Defense (DoD) to increase PrEP access for servicemembers and integrations of services in highly impacted cities with strong military presence. Moreover, NMAC supported work from the HIV working group on the updates to DoD policy for the retention, care and utilization of service members.

# **FINANCIALS**

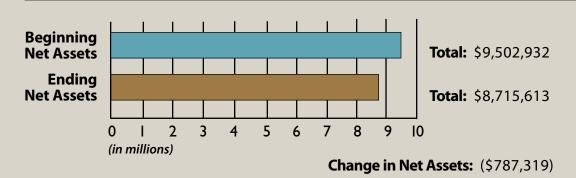
# **REVENUE** (TOTAL: \$6,314,158)



# **EXPENSES** (TOTAL: \$7,101,477)



# **NET ASSETS**



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