This was not the year we had planned for.

It wasn’t easy.

And, somehow, it all worked out.
This was not the year we had planned for.

Like the rest of the world, we were caught by surprise by the COVID-19 pandemic and had to make major changes to how we did our work.

While we entered the year with great concerns about how we would manage this crisis, we ended the year in a stronger and better place. Our switch from an in person to a virtual work space came off smoothly. And we produced one of our best USCHAs even in an online platform.

It wasn’t easy. There were many questions with no easy answers. Like so many other organizations, we had to make things up as we went and take great leaps of faith.

And, somehow, it all worked out.

I want to thank the entire NMAC family for their unbelievable work in this most difficult year. The staff, the Board of Directors, and the Constituent Advisory Panels all went above and beyond to make 2020 a success for NMAC.

I also want to think our supporters and sponsors for stepping up in a year that was difficult for all of us. They came through in many ways and we are forever grateful to them.

We learned a lot about ourselves in 2020. And we are carrying those lessons over into 2021 and beyond to make NMAC a stronger, more effective organization. We look forward to working with you as we move into that brighter future.
The United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA) is the largest HIV-related gathering in the United States, bringing together thousands of participants from all segments of the HIV epidemic.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 24th annual conference was held online instead of in person. The theme for 2021, *Family Reunion 2*, reflected the need for connection and support in the face of isolation brought on by the pandemic.

*More than 6,000 people registered to attend the conference.*

**FORMAT**

The 2021 USCHA was a three-day online conference that featured four plenary sessions, an exhibit hall, institutes, and workshops. USCHA offered nearly 100 workshops and institutes at three levels of instruction (introductory, intermediate, and advanced).

**OPENING PLENARY**

This year’s opening plenary consisted of pre-recorded segments, including remarks from NMAC Executive Director Paul Kawata, Black AIDS Institute Executive Director Raniyah Copeland, NMAC Conferences Director Tara Barnes-Darby, and community leaders and advocates. The plenary was a ringing endorsement of Black Lives Matter and for equality and equity for all.

**GILEAD PLENARY**

*Creating A Different World*

Gilead’s plenary was a live discussion on how to remove stigma and prejudices that create inequalities and health disparities within our system.

**VIIV PLENARY**

*Positive Action: How Arts and Culture Can Spark Change and Combat Stigma*

ViiV’s expert panel discussion spotlighted culture work developed by ViiV Healthcare and their Positive Action grantees and
THE EFFECTS OF HIV CRIMINALIZATION AND STIGMA

Hosted by NMAC 50+ Scholars Program

Presenter: Robert Salt, Vera Project

**MONDAY**
**AUGUST 31**
**3:30PM EST**

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF OLDER PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

Hosted by NMAC 50+ Scholars Program

Presenters: Sean E. Bird, Senior Associate and Jeffrey S. Cohen

**THURSDAY**
**JULY 9**
**2:00PM EST**

HEALTH UPKEEP AND MANAGEMENT FOR OLDER ADULTS LIVING WITH HIV DURING COVID-19

Hosted by NMAC 50+ Scholars Program

Presenters: Dr. Judy Tan, AIDS Professor at Memphis, Center for AIDS Intervention Studies, USC; Dr. David Fassler, Director of Clinical Practice, Whitman-Walker Health
t

**THURSDAY**
**JANUARY 23**
**2:00PM EST**

SUBSTANCE USE AMONG HIV+ ELDERS: IS IT REALLY HAPPENING?

Hosted by NMAC 50+ Scholars Program

Presenters: Quentin Adolphi, Policy Manager, Drug Policy Alliance; Max K. King, Professor, MIT Political Science; Daniel Rovner, PhD, LCSW, The Body Pos

**WEDNESDAY**
**FEBRUARY 24**
**2:00PM EST**

VCRDI COMMUNITY RECAP: RECENT DATA ON HIV AND AGING

Hosted by NMAC 50+ Scholars Program

Presenter: W. David Hardy, MD, scientific and medical consultant, and member of the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute on Drug Abuse

**THURSDAY**
**MAY 20**
**2:00PM EST**
partners and examined the intersection of health disparities, COVID-19, HIV and activism - and how arts and culture can help people understand more clearly the work that needs to be done to address these issues moving forward.

CLOSING PLENARY

This year’s closing plenary featured recorded interviews with multiple federal leaders in the plan to end the epidemic, including Harold Phillips, Chief Operating Officer of Ending the HIV Epidemic; Dr. Maureen Goodenow, Director, Office of AIDS Research, NIH; Dr. Jonathan Mermin, Director of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention; Dr. Laura Chheever, Associate Administrator for HIV/AIDS Bureau, HRSA; and Dr. Neeraj Gandotra, Chief Medical Officer, SAMHSA. The plenary closed with remarks from Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of NIAID.

INSTITUTES

Institutes are in-depth sessions that focus on the issues of impacted populations and interest groups. This year’s topics included COVID, hepatitis, aging, housing, youth, trans populations, and racial/ethnic groups. Institutes are conducted by conference partners and NMAC’s Constituent Advisory Panel members.

EXHIBIT HALL/JOBS FAIR

Nearly 40 companies, organizations, and providers took part in the USCA Exhibit Hall, offering attendees an opportunity to learn more about their services.

For the first time, USCHA offered a jobs fair to match hiring organizations with community members looking for employment. Nearly 30 organizations participated.

LOUNGES

USHCA offered four virtual lounges at this year’s conference: the Trans Lounge, the 50+ Lounge, the Youth Lounge, and the PLHIV Lounge. Inside the lounges, participants could find opportunities to network, take part in fun activities, or just enjoy the company of others. With so much isolation due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the lounges became popular places to socialize.
The main goal of the HIV 50+ Strong & Healthy program is to offer engagement opportunities to people living with HIV who are 50 or older and struggling with isolation. At the Treatment Division, we seek to support their self-empowerment by providing the tools to become educators and advocates. Among those tools, we provided continuous education, USCHA programming, webinars, online training, and sponsorships to other meetings and conferences. In addition to helping combat isolation, these efforts focused on mobilizing and building leadership within the HIV 50+ community to build a network of advocates, push for essential policy changes impacting their wellbeing, and ensuring their active participation in decision-making processes. See below for a more in-depth look at our program activities.

USCHA
At the Treatment Division, we adapted our program offerings to a virtual format. Through a very competitive application process, 50 individuals aged 50 and over living with HIV were selected, having their first entry point to the program through virtual 2020 USCHA. They attended the Aging and HIV Pathway, a set of workshops specifically designed for them. As part of NMAC’s Biomedical Prevention Summit, we included additional workshops around these topics, featuring virtual spaces for meaningful discussions and networking.

Community Mobilization
We developed an interactive network of support and community building through social media activities, including the HIV 50+ Facebook group, live events, and virtual social events. We developed a plan and a calendar for postings on social media, specifically on the HIV 50+ Facebook group, which provides a platform for scholars and other individuals aged 50 and over living with HIV to connect, share resources, and communicate. In addition, every month, we presented a topic to the group to generate discussion, and we uploaded related articles to enforce the learning on aging and HIV challenges and opportunities. Social networking and community building events were painting, gardening, cooking virtual classes, and dancing events with DJ.

Leadership Development
Members actively engaged in building the infrastructure of the national advocacy network and, in doing so, they learned and developed leadership skills. Supported by NMAC, 12 scholars met weekly to create the National HIV & Aging Network (NHAAN), writing its by-laws and committee structure. The aimed membership of the Network are individuals and not organizations, keeping in mind that the goal was to continue advocacy efforts based on the Denver Principles. In collaboration with the NHAAN, NMAC obtained the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership (FAPP) approval to create an HIV and aging working group. The group has gathered 59 active members and strategize for innovative ways to improve the health of older people living with HIV.

Education Efforts
Another new addition to the program is the peer education initiative named the HIV 50+ Healthy Living Project. NMAC selected 12 scholars with experience as peer trainers. The Treatment Division prepared a curriculum comprised of a slide deck and a training guide on Healthy Living. Treatment Division’s staff trained the scholars for them to train their peers virtually. A parallel effort is also taking place with a curriculum around policy and advocacy featuring ways to take action at national and local levels.

In addition to developing curricula, the Treatment Division hosted six educational webinars focused on topics relevant to program members and the broader community. These topics were around isolation, substance use, women aging with HIV, policy recommendations, and highlights from the most prominent conferences on HIV.
PREPPING YOU FOR PrEP

Providing information and answering questions

A monthly virtual event in collaboration with NMAC Gay Men of Color Fellowship.
PrEP in 10-20 years old will become a HIV prevention tool for a new generation. Participants will be selected using raffle details and virtual links. RSVP is required. RSVP to centeron3656nhalsted.com

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Celebrating our HIV-50+ and Gay Men of Color Fellows

17 December 2020

Virtual Event

SAVE THE DATE!

¿PrEP? ¿PEP?

¿ALGUNA VEZ TE HAS PREGUNTADO QUÉ SIGNIFICA O DÓNDE LO PUEDES OBTENER?

Hablemos de la prevención del VIH en hombres gays de color.
Este entrenamiento en español se llevará a cabo el 31 de marzo a las 5:30 CST. Regístrate aquí: https://bit.ly/mike_prep
Cada participante recibirá un incentivo de $20 luego de completar la pre y post prueba.

Gay Men of Color Fellowship
Biomedical HIV Prevention

CENTER ON 3656 N. HALSTED

Howard Brown Health
The Treatment Division conceived the Gay Men of Color (GMoC)’s Fellowship in Biomedical HIV Prevention to develop an HIV Biomedical Science and Policy training to help the fellows become educators and advocates. The fellowship-trained 19 gay men of color recruited from 48 counties in the federal plan to end HIV. These fellows share biomedical prevention information in their communities. Although the severity of the global pandemic led to the re-configuration of the format, the program reached important achievements.

The Treatment division successfully re-conceptualized and developed the structure needed to provide administrative support to the fellows to execute their virtual training to organizations and groups directly working with gay men of color. In addition, taking advantage of NMAC’s reach, the fellows’ Network expanded as they contacted organizations and individuals they had not collaborated with in the past.

Treatment supported the personal growth and development of the fellows by providing a space for them to hear and learn from each other, a much-needed opportunity during the isolation caused by the pandemic. Additionally, one of the main goals and one of the most significant accomplishments of the program was the self-improvement of the fellows as leaders and educators. Many of them expressed how becoming part of the program made them feel more confident in their work and in their abilities to go out into the community.

The experience with this peer-education program led to yet another transformation of the fellowship, the development of biomedical HIV prevention influencers. This new iteration seeks to develop a campaign grounded in its members and their networks with the primary goal of increasing biomedical HIV prevention awareness among gay men. The program is currently in the implementation phase and includes 19 members from the US, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. The campaign will start from the optic of sex and pleasure to discuss PrEP and PEP and TasP, understanding the need to have conversations away from the clinical discourse.
FACEBOOK LIVE with Moisés Agosto-Rosario to discuss USCHA

Did you know on October 19th and 21st, the United States Conference on HIV and AIDS is happening virtually? It is going to be a conference you do not want to miss, especially because it’s FREE.

On Tuesday, October 13th from 2:00-3:00 pm EST, we will go live on Facebook with the Director of Treatment at NMAC, Moisés Agosto-Rosario! He will discuss all the fun and educational sessions USCHA will offer for people 50+ living with HIV. Hope to see you there.

As the president of LKAPS.org, an organization serving long-term survivors and witnesses to the plague years, I advocate for Ryan White to establish standards of care for people aging with HIV. Why? Not only because people with HIV are showing signs of aging sooner than most, but because once it's on paper—once the healthcare and HIV communities establish how care and treatment should proceed—those standards will become a model for healthcare everywhere and for everyone.

Jax Kelly

HIV policy impacts the work that I do globally to support the women who are marginalized in their communities. These women are not able to speak up or disclose their status in fear of being inflicted with trauma and pain towards their diagnosis. The importance of Medicaid, Ryan White Services, and decriminalization matters to reduce barriers to health disparities among all creeds, ethnicities, and social-economic statuses. We must continue to do the work for our world.

Kneese Parkinson
Because of the nature of policy, NMAC merged Government Relations and Policy with Strategic Partnerships to what's now known as the Strategic Partnerships and Policy (SP&P) department.

NMAC hosted a very successful first annual Capitol Hill Champions Awards Ceremony. We sought and were given permission to establish two awards: the John Lewis Good Trouble Award and the Elijah Cummings Award for Minority Health Equality. Both awards bear the namesake of historic figures in the civil rights arena. We were honored to present the inaugural John Lewis award to Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the Elijah Cummings award to Congresswoman Barbary Lee. We were pleased to have been joined by Congressman Jim Clyburn, Congressman Kwasi Mfume, and Dr. Maya Rockeymoore Cummings, wife of former Congressman Cummings.

In addition to merging divisions, SP&P added more personnel. With generous dedicated funding, NMAC established an Advocacy Coordinator position, as well as added the power of Kelley Drye, a D.C. based law firm. We fully expect to broaden our reach with the addition of these two new positions.

SP&P is setting policy goals with other NMAC divisions. We led aging coalitions on meetings with the Senate Select Committee on Aging. NMAC recognizes that seniors, and those 50+ living with HIV face complex health challenges that must be addressed by Congress. Some of these challenges include CMS related reimbursements, mental health, and substance abuse. We are also engaging other populations, such as women living with HIV, the transgender community, and the Native American community. Each of these communities rely on tailored services and NMAC is engaging these communities so that policies we are actively engaged in have input from those who live with the realities.
Financials

Revenue (Total: $7,580,814)
- Grants & contributions: $7,036,433
- Conferences: $100,179
- Membership dues: $56,243
- Investment income: $300,063
- Other revenue: $87,896

Expenses (Total: $4,120,947)
- Program Services:
  - Education Adherence: $422,706
  - Conferences: $836,958
  - Communications: $417,569
  - The Center: $855,985
- Support Services:
  - Management & General: $1,353,288
  - Development: $234,441

Net Assets
- Beginning Net Assets: $8,992,002
- Ending Net Assets: $12,451,869
- Change in Net Assets: $3,459,867
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Paul Kawata, Executive Director
Kim Ferrell, Director of Operations

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Tamara Combs, Program Manager, Capacity Building
Robin Kelley, Evaluation Manager
Munir Ahmed, Evaluation Specialist
Genoa Rucker, Program Coordinator
Dustin Baker-Holley, Program Coordinator
Navneet Sehdev, Program Coordinator

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Daniel Pino, Communications Strategist

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Alison McKeithen, Conferences Manager
Shanta Gray, Meetings and Registration Coordinator
Aryah Lester, Program Coordinator
Gabriella Spencer, Program Associate

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Diane Ferguson, Development Associate

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Fernando De Hoyos, Treatment Coordinator
Sable K. Nelson, Policy Analyst
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Marissa Miller, Program Coordinator
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