

# 2022 Annual Report



# 01

## Welcome

"This was the year that NMAC and the world began to come back."



**PAUL KAWATA**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This was the year that NMAC and the world began to come back.

After two years of Covid shutdowns and conducting all of our programming online, 2022 saw NMAC venture back into in-person activities, from trainings for our ELEVATE and ESCALATE programs around the country to the Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit in Chicago and USCHA in San Juan.

I must say that we approached this change with some trepidation. Would we be caught by another Covid surge? Would our trainings and meetings become super spreader events? What precautions would we need to take to protect our constituents, particularly those who are immunocompromised?

In the end, we were able to return to in-person programming successfully and safely. And we were able to fully renew our commitment to the community we are so proud and grateful to serve.

The successes of 2022 are due in large part to the hard work of the NMAC staff, board of directors, and constituent advisory panel members. But none of that would have mattered if our constituents had not trusted us to provide our programming with strong measures to protect their health and safety. The attendance numbers we saw in Chicago, San Juan, and all of the trainings around the nation showed how strong that trust was and how eager everyone was to come back together in person.

I am forever grateful to our communities for that trust. And I pledge that we will continue to honor that trust as we move forward.

Yours in the struggle,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Kawata'.

Paul Kawata  
Executive Director

## 02

**About the Summit****OPENING PLENARY - THE ROLE OF BIOMEDICAL PREVENTION IN ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC**

This plenary discussed the specifics of well-planned PrEP/TasP initiatives and the indicators to show a relevant and sustainable impact, and how this impact directly contributes to the steady decline and end of HIV infections in America.

**THE BIOMEDICAL HIV PREVENTION SUMMIT**

The Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit is the only major regular conference focused on the prevention of HIV through biomedical means, including PrEP, PEP, and TasP. This year was the sixth Summit.

The 2022 Summit was the first NMAC conference to be held in person since before the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. More than 1,200 people attended.

**FORMAT**

This year's Summit was a two-day in-person conference that featured four plenary sessions, an exhibit hall, and nearly 40 workshops at three levels of instruction (beginner, intermediate, and advanced).

Beginner levels were primarily didactic. Intermediate level sessions were didactic and interactive, while advanced level sessions were designed to maximize interaction between attendees and participants.

### AFTERNOON PLENARY - GRINDING STIGMA IN THE UNDERGROUND. NEGOTIATING SEX IN THE APPS' WORLD

This plenary spoke about having an open discussion about stigma and how it plays out in the virtual space of social/sexual apps like Grindr, Scruff, Adam4Adam, BarebackRT, and Jack'd. Grinding stigma is fundamental for a healthy self-worth system and HIV-free humans.



### MORNING PLENARY - CAN FANTASIES BECOME REALITIES? THE QUEST FOR MULTI-PURPOSE PREVENTION PRODUCTS

Multipurpose prevention technologies, or MPTs, are designed to simultaneously prevent HIV, other STIs, and/or unintended pregnancy. Internal and external condoms are the only MPTs currently available and, while effective, they are less than desirable for many sexually active humans on the planet. However, humans need and deserve a suite of options, and the more types of protection an option provides, the more likely it will be used. Expert presenters shared updates and perspectives about the MPT research pipeline, focusing on the products closest to actual roll-out and implementation



### CLOSING PLENARY - THE PREPPY AWARDS - THE BEST PREP EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND CAMPAIGNS IN 2021

The PrEPpy Awards highlights the best PrEP/TasP program in 2021. We had more than 3 dozen entries for the first PrEPpy Awards that were nominated by the community.



They were all judged by a panel on several categories and 4 incredible finalists were selected to speak for 5 minutes. Each finalist showcased their campaign's uniqueness and strategies. Additionally attendees learned about program development and the best biomedical HIV prevention education approaches. The audience then voted for their favorite to crown the first PrEPpy Winner.



**The First Annual PrEPpy Awards:****WINNER:**

WAP Campaign (Wellness,  
Access, Prevention)  
REACH LA

**2nd PLACE**

Power Over HIV  
Corktown Health

**3rd PLACE**

"Be a Superhero"  
Prevention Resource Network

**4th PLACE**

LoveLeadsHere "I Take PrEP"  
and "You're Welcome"  
Cuyahoga County Board of  
Health & Better World Advertising

**COMMUNITY CORNERS**

Community Corners are a unique feature of the Summit. They are 15-minute presentation sessions from community partners on a variety of topics connected to biomedical HIV prevention. This year's Community Corner sessions included:

- **Latin X** presented by Maria De Los Santos, Esperanza
- **Peer group designed to empower the Latinx community**, presented by Daniel Mendez, Puerto Rican Cultural Center
- **Gay Men of Color Fellowship Social Media Campaign**, presented by Damian Cabrera, NMAC
- **Healing LGBTQ youth of color through the arts**, presented by Chris Balthazar, Taskforce Prevention
- **State of Transgender People: HIV and Homeless Disparities**, presented by Gizele Lewis, Zahara Bassett
- **The Value of PCSI during an Epidemic**, presented by Mariah Foster, MA, Ariq Cabbler, ED

**WORKSHOPS**

This year's summit offered nearly 40 workshops in the following tracks: Finance and Access Models; "The National HIV/AIDS Strategy" on implementing PrEP; Capacity Building and Training to strengthen organizational effectiveness on PrEP and TasP services; Community mobilization and advocacy strategies proven to have an impact; The underground and sexual culture of PrEP; Transgender and gender nonconforming communities; Cisgender Women and PrEP; Community participation and representation in HIV biomedical prevention research; and Prevención biomédica para personas hispanoparlantes.

**LOUNGES**

The Summit hosted two lounges during the conference. One lounge was organized for transgender/gender nonconforming attendees. The other catered to attendees living with HIV.

**EXHIBIT HALL**

Twenty-three organizations had a booth in the Summit Exhibit Hall, offering attendees an opportunity to learn more about their services.

# 03

## About USCHA

### THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE ON HIV/ AIDS

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.



#### OPENING

This year was the 26th annual USCHA and the first in-person conference since before the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. With a theme of "Fighting For Our Lives," this year's conference brought together more than 3,200 people in San Juan, Puerto Rico to focus attention on HIV in the Latinx community and the cultural barriers that can hinder effective HIV outreach and care delivery.

#### FORMAT

USCHA offered more than 150 training sessions at three levels of instruction (beginner, intermediate, and advanced).

#### ATTENDANCE:

Registered attendees: 3,312  
Exhibitors: 168  
Speakers: 103  
Host Committee: 92  
GLOW: 3

Youth Scholars: 36  
50+ Scholars: 48  
Social Media Fellows: 16  
Gay Men of Color Fellows: 5  
SCOTUS: 14  
Scholarships: 156  
Volunteers: 91



#### INSTITUTES

Institutes are in-depth sessions that focus on the issues of impacted populations and interest groups. This year's topics included faith, trans issues, monkeypox, housing, substance abuse, and race/ethnicity issues. Institutes are conducted by conference partners and NMAC's Constituent Advisory Panel members.



### OPENING PLENARY

#### HIV in Puerto Rico and Latinx Communities

The 2022 Opening Plenary highlighted HIV in Puerto Rico and Latinx communities with a focus on gay men. To end the HIV epidemic by 2030, NMAC believes our movement needs to not only understand, but also celebrate the cultures of the communities hardest hit by HIV. Latinx Gay men have surpassed White Gay men in the number of new cases of HIV. They are second in numbers only to Black Gay men. This plenary was held in Spanish with simultaneous English interpretation. The session gave attendees an immersive experience of the culture, music and food of Puerto Rico.



### GILEAD PLENARY

#### Celebrating the Art of La Brega to Help End the HIV Epidemic

"La Brega" loosely translates to "the hustle" or "the struggle." It speaks to the tenacity and ingenuity that the Puerto Rican people demonstrate when responding to life's challenges. La Brega expresses a sense of solidarity and pride in the way Puerto Ricans face and overcome adversity. While there have been significant obstacles since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, the community continues to persevere and lead the way toward a better future. Even with the unprecedented challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the HIV community has responded with characteristic determination and innovation. This plenary luncheon celebrated La Brega and the unwavering resolve of the HIV community to help bring about the end of the HIV epidemic.

#### the art of **BREGA** to Help End the HIV Epidemic







## VIIV PLENARY

### Love In Gravity

The love we have. The love we give. The love we hold. Love In Gravity is six original stories featuring some of your favorite actors like Robin de Jesús, Harvey Guillén, Jessica Marie Garcia, Jason Genao and Wilson Cruz, set everywhere from the halls of a Miami high school to a six train barreling through the Bronx. It's all about the forces we exert on each other that draw us together and sometimes push us apart. This plenary took attendees on a journey and gave them a glimpse of Love in Gravity; a collection of six original stories from the gay and queer Latinx and Afro-Latinx community. Stories of love, heartbreak, intimacy, and family – the places we can find each other, the places we find ourselves.



## CLOSING PLENARY

### The Federal Response to the Emergence of Monkeypox

During this plenary, leaders discussed the federal response and gave recommendations on the role of the HIV Community in the fight against Monkeypox.



## EXHIBITORS

Nearly 90 companies, organizations, and providers took part in the USCHA Exhibit Hall, offering attendees an opportunity to learn more about their services.



## YOUTH SCHOLARS

The 2022-2023 Youth Initiative Cohort recruited 28 scholars from the United States of America. Youth Initiative scholars attended the United States Conference on HIV & AIDS in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Scholars attended sessions related to HIV biomedical prevention, epidemiology, social determinants of health, public health program planning, stigma, and medical mistrust. Scholars received internal grant funds to facilitate HIV community projects within their communities. Specifically, scholars' projects included testing and prevention, stigma reduction, community education, and mental health. In addition, scholars were able to attend the HIV Biomedical Prevention Summit in Las Vegas, Nevada.



# 04

## About ESCALATE

# ESCALATE

**Ending Stigma through Collaboration And Lifting All To Empowerment**

### OVERVIEW

In 2022, NMAC began conducting our first in-person ESCALATE trainings across the country. While we conducted virtual trainings in 2022 due to COVID restrictions, we began to see increasing numbers of RWHAP who wanted to participate in-person. Each training built on the previous successes to eliminate HIV-related stigma in their RWHAP. ESCALATE—Ending Stigma through Collaboration and Lifting All To Empowerment—is an innovative training and capacity-building initiative specifically designed to address HIV-related stigma at multiple levels within the HIV care continuum.

NMAC created ESCALATE to reflect its mission and commitment to the communities of people living with HIV. NMAC “leads with race” as the

burdens of the HIV/AIDS epidemic are most deeply felt in racial and ethnic minority communities. ***The ESCALATE program offers three tracks to mitigate and eliminate stigma in HIV-related service provision in the United States.***

### STIGMA REDUCTION TRAINING

Training is designed to reduce HIV-related stigma through evidence-informed interventions and strategies with an emphasis on cultural humility for HIV service systems, organizations, and individuals. Training is designed to meet the needs of individual RWHAP care providers (e.g., clinicians, administrators, patient navigators) who acknowledge the impact of HIV-related stigma on their client populations and communities. These individuals are ready to create change but may not

**NMAC created ESCALATE to reflect its mission and commitment to the communities of people living with HIV.**

## ENDING STIGMA THROUGH COLLABORATION AND LIFTING ALL TO EMPOWERMENT

have the organizational capacity needed to create change across their clinical setting.

### TRAINING IMPACT

- 13 Community, Academic, and Public Health Leaders— certified as ESCALATE Training
- 37 organizations nationally engaged.
- 167 individuals completed stigma reduction training.
- 6,680 Hours of curriculum delivery.
- 65 subject matter experts engaged in the development of ESCALATE Curriculum.
- 37 ESCALATE Organizational Stigma Assessments Completed.
- 111 hours of organizational coaching provided.

**ESCALATE en Español:** In August 2022, NMAC conducted its first ESCALATE en Español training in Miami, FL. We chose Miami, FL as the first city to present our new training due to the many Spanish speaking communities in the region. The translation of ESCALATE aligns with NMAC's work to reduce disparities and promote equity in all aspects of prevention and treatment of HIV including leadership and participation of Latinx people living with HIV.



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The ESCALATE TA program is designed to increase the capacity and readiness of RWHAP recipients and subrecipients to address HIV-related stigma within their organizations and communities. Activities are designed to create organizational-level change through targeted work plans. In 2022—NMAC selected 14 sites (40 individuals) to participate in technical assistance. NMAC's TA activities with selected stigma reduction teams begin January 2023.

### LEARNING COLLABORATIVES

The ESCALATE Learning Collaboratives will support organizations in addressing HIV stigma at organizational and structural levels to engage staff, clients, and those organizations to whom they refer. Ideally, these organizations will either be ready to implement a stigma-reduction program focused on a population of interest or have already begun implementing such a program. LC participation will assist organizations in reaching the next stage of implementation (and/or overcoming barriers to successful implementation) of their program.

During 2022, NMAC engaged nine organizations (38 individuals) from around the United States in the ESCALATE learning collaborative. Learning collaborative activities will formerly begin in May 2023.

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# 05

## About ELEVATE



**Engage Leadership through Employment,  
Validation & Advancing Transformation & Equity**

The year 2022 was a transformative period for ELEVATE. Our commitment to advancing community health services, fostering partnerships, and promoting leadership skills has been unwavering throughout the year.

We supported trainings in the Midwest, the Pacific Northwest, in the South, and Eastern region. ELEVATE was also proud to offer trainings catered to individuals of transgender and non-conforming experience. Our trainings in Oakland and Houston, TX were conducted in Spanish, and focused on Latinx community. In the summer, ELEVATE hosted a 3-part webinar series, delving into topics like partnership building, motivational interviewing techniques, and quality management techniques for workers in HIV service delivery. Later, we hosted an additional

webinar on preventing addressing and preventing burnout for community health providers.

ELEVATE was also pleased to have an impact beyond our programmatic training sessions. At the 2022 Biomedical Summit and USCHA national conferences, ELEVATE contributed to discussions, emphasizing the crucial intersection of biomedical research and community health.

### ENGAGE LEADERSHIP THROUGH EMPLOYMENT, VALIDATION & ADVANCING TRANSFORMATION & EQUITY

In 2022, ELEVATE strengthened its position as a catalyst for positive change in community health and building leaders among People Living with HIV/AIDS. Through active participation in national conferences, impactful webinars, and local training sessions, we have consistently strived towards building leadership, fostering partnerships, and advancing the mission to end the HIV epidemic in America. Training our participants on how to meaningfully get involved in the planning, improving, and delivering of Ryan White HIV and AIDS Program services. ELEVATE looks forward to continued growth and impact in the coming years.





# 06

## About Treatment



### HIV 50+ STRONG & HEALTHY

In 2016, NMAC began the HIV 50+ Strong and Healthy Program, designed to offer support and engagement opportunities for individuals who are over the age of 50 and living with HIV. This population often battles a series of mental health issues including isolation, depression, and anxiety. On top of these mental health issues, this population still faces one of the many common problems associated with HIV, stigma. Recently, the HIV 50+ population faced a new challenge, a global pandemic. The emergence of COVID-19 presented many obstacles for the HIV 50+ population. In efforts to keep the program moving and keeping this community engaged and connected, NMAC created virtual and in-person components for the HIV 50+ program. The HIV 50+ program allowed these individuals to reinvent themselves and create a network to become active



individuals in the community. Through participation in various program activities (USCHA, Peer education project, HIV advocacy network, and educational webinars), these HIV 50+ scholars became prepared to face HIV aging-related challenges. More

**In the 2021-2022 program year, the program successfully supported more than 50 community leaders over the age of 50 and living with HIV, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to advocate for their needs.**

### THE TREATMENT DIVISION AT NMAC

than five years later, NMAC's HIV 50+ program has grown and adapted to help this population educate, advocate and end the HIV epidemic in America.

In the 2021-2022 program year, the program successfully supported more than 50 community leaders over the age of 50 and living with HIV, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to advocate for their needs. The program's impact was evident through the highly positive feedback from the participants who attended the 2022 United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA). The scholars expressed feeling energized, empowered, and motivated to continue their participation in the HIV 50+ Strong and Healthy cohort. The workshops and activities at USCHA received high ratings, demonstrating the effectiveness of the program in providing valuable content and opportunities for networking and learning. The scholars reported feeling respected and welcomed at the conference, highlighting the inclusive and supportive environment created by the program.

The program successfully organized a series of educational

webinars open to the community on topics relevant to the HIV 50+ population. Over 325 attendees rated the pace and content of these webinars as excellent, indicating that they were well-received and provided valuable insights.

NMAC has continued to develop the National HIV Aging & Advocacy Network (NHAAN), a working group dedicated to mobilizing and training advocates on issues affecting those aging with HIV. The network worked to identify the policy issues that NHAAN should focus on, including addressing HIV criminalization laws, implementing new models of care for HIV, geriatric care specifically for this demographic, and mental health services.

In addition, NMAC awarded 7 mini-grants of \$2,500 each. The projects covered a range of topics, including educational and social gatherings, a focus group to identify the needs of verticals, educational workshops, and scholarships to attend a conference that provides a safe space for LGBT+ Christians, among others.

In summary, the HIV 50+ Strong and Healthy Program has made significant strides in educating and empowering community leaders, fostering advocacy, and providing valuable resources and support to individuals over the age of 50 living with HIV. These accomplishments contribute to the program's overarching goal of addressing the unique challenges faced by the HIV 50+ population and ending the HIV epidemic in America.



### **GAY MEN OF COLOR FELLOWSHIP**

In 2019, NMAC created the Gay Men of Color (GMoC) Fellowship Program. The program was designed to connect gay men of color across the United States and train others on biomedical HIV prevention. In this third cohort, the program successfully trained 24 fellows on biomedical HIV prevention, empowering them to become biomedical prevention influencers through social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram. The fellows developed impactful social media campaigns that focused on increasing awareness around PrEP and PEP among gay men of color. The program fostered collaboration and camaraderie among the fellows, who were divided into groups and worked together throughout the program.

The Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit, held in Chicago, played a pivotal role in the fellowship program. The in-person kick-off training had a positive impact on the fellows, creating a sense of empowerment and providing them with valuable knowledge and information. The training was highly rated by the fellows, who expressed feelings of being informed, motivated, organized, and energized. The fellows felt prepared to use social media effectively to raise awareness about biomedical HIV prevention.

In addition to the training, the program included follow-up cohort calls, guided conversations, and webinars that further enhanced the fellows' understanding and engagement. The fellowship also facilitated graphic

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Overall, the 2022 GMoC Fellowship program has had a transformative impact on its participants.



design support for social media posts. The fellows managed to complete their social media posts and events successfully, resulting in significant engagement metrics found in the table below:

Total # of reach	Total # of impressions	Total # of reactions	Total # of comments	Total # of shares
99044	132167.5	6820	354	429

The fellows' enthusiasm extended beyond social media, with insightful ideas for increasing PrEP and treatment awareness among GMoC outside of online platforms. Furthermore, the program's participation in the United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA) allowed the fellows to curate workshops and contribute to important discussions on HIV prevention and treatment.



Overall, the 2022 GMoC Fellowship program has had a transformative impact on its participants. The fellows expressed high levels of satisfaction, citing the expansion of their social media reach, the development of leadership skills, and the creation of networking opportunities as major outcomes. The Biomedical HIV Prevention Summit was particularly highlighted as a favorite program activity, facilitating in-person connections and collaboration among the fellows. In summary, the fellowship has successfully equipped gay men of color with the tools and knowledge to make a meaningful impact in their communities and push one step further to end the HIV epidemic.



# 07

## About Policy



NMAC's Policy division had a number of successes in 2022 on Capitol Hill:

- NMAC worked with members of Congress to bring the Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) back to its original intent to serve HIV/AIDS organizations that are minority-led. Language was successfully included in 2022 Appropriations bills to direct the administration to make that change. However, in anticipation of a Supreme Court decision on Affirmative Action, the direction was ignored.
- NMAC held a briefing for Congressional staff on the Minority AIDS Initiative with Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) and Harold Phillips, Director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy,

and why the MAI should revert back to its original intent.

- On Dec. 1, NMAC held the third annual World AIDS Day Hill Champions Awards ceremony honoring Congresswoman Shelia Jackson Lee (D-TX) with the John Lewis "Good Trouble" award, Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC) with the Elijah Cummings Health Equity award, and Congresswoman Jenniffer Gonzalez Colón (R-PR) with the Hill Champion award. Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA) also attended.
- When the Mpox epidemic erupted, NMAC spearheaded a nationwide Mpox initiative with the White House to ensure equity and hesitancy are addressed when targeting communities with the MPOX vaccine.



# 08

## About GLOW



In 2022, the Growing Leadership Opportunities for Women (GLOW) program focused on the theme of "we GLOW when we listen." The GLOW leadership team was committed to creating a program that incorporated community input, and as a result, we organized multiple virtual and in-person community engagement sessions in English and Spanish across the United States. Approximately 150 women actively participated and shared their insights during these sessions. Their valuable input was carefully considered and incorporated into the curriculum, ensuring its relevance and applicability.

To guarantee the scientific accuracy of the curriculum, the GLOW team took diligent measures. We reviewed and verified the content, ensuring that it aligned with the latest research and expert knowledge in the field. By doing so, we aimed to equip women with up-to-date information and empower them with the most accurate tools for leadership development.

Recognizing the importance of expanding our reach, the GLOW team actively participated in conferences such as USCHA, Essence Fest, and the HIV Biomedical Prevention conference.

### GROWING LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN (GLOW)

Our presence at these events served as an opportunity to engage with and recruit women interested in applying for the training program. As a result of our efforts, GLOW successfully reached out to over 1000 women through the training sessions conducted in 2022.

The groundwork laid in 2022 paved the way for an upcoming launch of the GLOW program in 2023. Building on the community input, scientifically accurate curriculum, and a significant outreach effort, GLOW is well-positioned to empower and support women in their leadership journeys in the year ahead.

**GLOW successfully reached out to over 1000 women through the training sessions conducted in 2022.**

# 09

## Financials

OVERVIEW 2021	2021	2022
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Grants and Contributions	\$5,451,745	\$6,610,147
Conferences	852,806	1,759,645
Membership Dues	40,548	104,455
Other Revenue	37,500	37,250
Investment Income	1,060,373	(1,226,263)
Total Assets	5,820,195	12,963,467
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Expenses	5,820,195	10,773,529
<b>PROGRAM SERVICES</b>		
Education Adherence	882,654	1,679,977
Conferences	990,754	2,976,537
Communications	278,666	617,804
The Center	2,060,040	3,982,326
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>		
Management and General	1,360,849	1,196,262
Development	247,232	320,623
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Beginning Net Assets	12,451,869	14,074,646
Ending Net Assets	14,074,646	10,586,351
Change in Net Assets	1,622,777	(\$3,488,295)



# 10

## NMAC Staff & Board

### STAFF

#### Executive Office

Paul Kawata, Executive Director  
Kim Ferrell, Deputy Director of Operations  
Asia Moore, Executive Operations Assistant

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Chip Lewis, Director of Communications  
Dernell Green, Social Media Coordinator

#### Finance and Administrative Division

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Ron Dorsey, Consultant

#### Development

Robert York, Director of Development  
Diane Ferguson, Development Associate

#### NMAC Training Center to End the Epidemic

Charles Shazor Jr., Acting Director  
Terrell Parker, Program Manager  
Gabriella Spencer, Program Manager  
Lauren Miller, Health Equity Program Coordinator  
Cora Trelles Cartagena, HIV Systems Coordinator

Christopher J. Paisano, Program Coordinator, Indian Country  
Marshun Redmond, Executive Assistant

#### Treatment

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Damián Cabrera-Candelaria, Program Manager  
Jonathan Ayala, Program Coordinator

#### Government Relations

Joe Huang-Racalto, Director of Strategic Partnerships & Policy

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