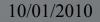


#### CENTER ON AIDS & COMMUNITY HEALTH (COACH)



### Considering the Impact of Stigma on HIV Prevention in Relationship to National HIV AIDS Strategy

Stacey Little, PhD, MPH, MSW



**Dare & Treatment** 

e Research

"...Stigma and discrimination are the major obstacles to effective HIV/AIDS prevention and care."

World AIDS Campaign on Eliminating Stigma & Discrimination

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# AED's Anti-stigma work

- National Anti-stigma Initiative (US) 2003-2008
- Anti-stigma Toolkit
- Proyecto Acción SIDA de Centroamérica
  - Social Marketing Campaign
    - in Central America (5 countries)
- SMARTWork
  - Workplace interventions
- CHIVES Project





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# Anti-Stigma Initiative Framework

**Goal**: To foster and catalyze innovative, replicable approaches to eliminate HIV/AIDSrelated stigma in the United States.

**Approach**: Provide grants to CBOs to support the development of innovative and replicable programmatic approaches ("interventions") that address HIV/AIDS-related stigma at a national-level. Support the creation of initiatives, models of intervention, tools and instruments, and media that have the potential for replication/national significance in the U.S.



## **Initiative Components**

#### • Three-pronged approach:

- Assist CBOs and national organizations in the development of innovative and replicable anti-stigma interventions
- Provide TA for anti-stigma activities
- Support research & information dissemination

Capacity Research Evaluation	
Care & Treatment 🔹	Community Health & Prevention

# Phase I (2003-2005)

- Phase 1: Social marketing interventions to increase knowledge and change behavior
- Challenge grants for researchers
- Information dissemination







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#### **Phase I Grantees**

- African Services
  Committee
- Asian & Pacific
  Islander Wellness
  Center
- O Bienestar
- SC African
  American HIV/AIDS
  Council



está comprometido a mejorar la salud y bienestar de la comunidad latina y otras comunidades menos represen

• Us Helping Us

coach.aed.org

AMORAMADRE



# Phase II (2005-2008)

 Three-pronged approach with a focus on community- & national-level interventions

• Focus areas:

- HIV/AIDS Human Rights
- Health Disparities
- Homophobia and *Trans*phobia
- Racial Discrimination
- Injection Drug Use

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## **Descriptions of Grantee Programs**



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# **AIDS Survival Project**

- Reduce perceived HIV/AIDS-related stigma as a barrier to prevention, care, and treatment in two rural areas of Georgia using the THRIVE! Model
- Approach:
  - Conduct four THRIVE! Programs w/ two local ASOs
  - Develop a THRIVE! Toolkit to facilitate replication
  - Establish online TA for THRIVE! Partners
  - Conduct Media Campaign
- THRIVE! Curriculum
  - Provides current information related to living positively and well with HIV/AIDS: HIV treatment strategies & options, oral health, disclosure, conscious sex, legal issues, nutrition and complimentary therapies and much more.
  - Peer-lead support groups



# Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center

- TALK AIDS, a national, bilingual social marketing campaign to encourage English and Cantonese-speaking Chinese Americans between 18-34 to talk about HIV/AIDS, stigma, and "saving face".
- Target core barrier lack of communication around sex and HIV
- Use highly credible spokesperson



# Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center

- Target Chinese media (TV and print)
- Form a Steering Committee to develop message
  - PSA and Print Ad with Joan Chen
    - English and Mandarin (Chinese subtitles) versions
- Develop a replication package of campaign materials, processes, and evaluation methods for replication in other limited-English communities



## Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center





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# **Gay Men's Health Crisis**

- Anti-Stigma Awareness Program (ASAP)
  - Social Marketing Campaign developed and tested by community members

### • Goals:

- reduce stigma toward individuals at high risk of HIV transmission, and
- build resilience to stigma in those same individuals
- Target MSM of color; HIV+ MSM; and Transgender women through three campaigns



# **Gay Men's Health Crisis**

- Facilitate a 6-session workshop (concept development and distribution strategies for each campaign)
- Facilitate focus groups w/ community members
- Produce campaign materials
- Launch campaign at a community event
- Conduct evaluation surveys

### **Gay Men's Health Crisis**

#### I HAVE HIV

and everyone treats me with the same respect and caring as they would anyone else.



We're all affected by HIV. Through kindness and support, we can have a greater impact in reducing the spread of the virus.

Are we ready to be there for each other? Check out: www.gmhc.org/NoSTIGMA



The Tisch Building 119 West 24th Street New York, NY 10011



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## **Harm Reduction Coalition**

- Syringe Exchange Communication Project aims to reframe the debate on syringe exchange in order to reduce stigma toward IDUs and the practice of syringe exchange
- Develop effective and diverse message(s) for targeted audiences
  - Message analysis: examination of how the issue is portrayed in media and politics
  - Communications: developing materials, generating favorable editorials, circulating sign-ons and action alerts
  - Coalition work: linking HIV, hepatitis C, substance use, and public health with progressive allied groups & movements



## **Harm Reduction Coalition**

- Coalition work: linking HIV, hepatitis C, substance use, and public health with progressive allied groups & movements
- Producing materials for education and advocacy based on these messages



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## **National Council of La Raza**

- Salud Es Cultura: ¡Protégete!
- Formative data collection revealed
  - "Stigma" (the word itself) is problematic for Latinos
  - Latinos are experiencing stigma due to their ethnicity
  - HIV-positive Latinos experienced rejection and discrimination from their families and felt stigmatized due to the ignorance related to the lack of understanding about risk factors and transmission



# **National Council of La Raza**

- The Kit: *Rotafolio*, bilingual- flip chart, to guide community education sessions (*charlas*)
  - Moderators guide- with detailed information on the charla and the evaluation process
  - CD containing all materials
  - Bilingual HIV/AIDS brochures and Outreach cards
- Charlas
  - Conduct 150/site (450 total)



## **Documentary Film**

- Oiscussion Guide
- Interviewees include:
  - Rep. Jose Serrano (NY-16)
  - Dr. Shannon Hader, DC HIV/AIDS Administration
  - Marjorie Hill, GMHC
  - Grantee and local CBOs Program Staff
  - Five Personal Stories from Volunteers



# **HIV-related Stigma and NHAS**

#### Reduce HIV Incidence

- Fear and Silence
- Social Isolation
- Social Complexity-Religion, Culture, Gender
- Routine HIV Testing in Primary Care
- Normalizing Testing
- Increase Access for PLWHA and Optimize Health Outcomes
  - Medical Provider Awareness and Education
  - Increase the number Medical Providers



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# **HIV-related Stigma and NHAS Cont.**

• Reduce HIV Related Disparities

- Increase Access to Culturally Competent Prevention and Care
- Increase Community Engagement and Awareness
  - Increase Understanding
  - Reduce Discrimination
- Personal and Structural Barriers
  - Self-stigma and Criminal Laws



## Recommendations

- Create comprehensive anti-stigma interventions/curricula
  - self-actualization, increased dialogue, and promote behavior change
- Assess existing research, interventions, and tools to determine best practices that can be promoted and diffused
- Promote diverse approaches that engage, educate, and catalyze community
  - Not all social marketing campaigns
  - Targeted community –level approaches that address specific community needs and level of understanding of HIV



## **Recommendations Cont.**

- Require enhanced HIV care and treatment education CEUs for all licensed medical/clinical providers annually
- Mobilize national leadership and partnership to change community norms that help eradicate HIV-related stigma in communities
- Engagement of faith leaders who are already active in HIV prevention to eradicate HIV-related stigma among their communities.

#### Thank You

#### Stacey Little, PhD, MPH, MSW Associate Director and Domestic Team Leader AED Center on AIDS & Community Health (COACH) Office: 202-884-8727 Email: slittle@aed.org



Center on AIDS & Community Health (COACH)

We are committed to helping communities develop and implement creative and evidence-based programs to address and mitigate critical health problems—with a major focus on domestic and international HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, and hepatitis.





