



2024 Commission on HIV Annual Conference Program

Bold Transformation to Confront and End HIV

November 14, 2024 | 9AM to 4PM

MLK Behavioral Health Center Conference Center | 12021 S. Wilmington Ave, Los Angeles, CA
90059

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE	
TIME CONFERENCE ROOM#	KEYNOTES/PANELS/BREAKOUT SESSIONS
8:15AM - 9:00AM	Breakfast / Registration @ the Courtyard
9:00AM - 9:30AM [Conference Room #1511]	Welcome by Danielle Campbell and Joseph Green, Commission on HIV Co-Chairs <i>Virtual</i> Opening Remarks by Francisco Ruiz, MS, Director, Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP), The White House
9:30AM – 10:15AM [Conference Room #1511]	Keynote: Los Angeles County State of HIV/STIs Division of HIV and STD Programs, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Juli Carlos-Henderson, MPH, Julie Tolentino, MPH; Lauren Simao, MA
10:15AM - 11:15AM [Conference Room #1511]	Panel Discussion: Guaranteed Income Reimagining Prevention and Prescriptions for Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bo-Kyung Elizabeth Kim, PhD, Associate Professor University of California Los Angeles, Fielding School of Public Health, BIG: LEAP Pilot Program • Aaron Strauss, Senior Program Manager, Office of Community Wealth, City of Los Angeles Community Investment for Families Department, BIG: LEAP Program • Kristina Meza, Executive Director, Poverty Alleviation Initiative, Chief Executive Office, Los Angeles County • Nika Soon-Shiong, Founder and Executive Director, The Fund for Guaranteed Income Moderator: Leon Maultsby, MHA, Associate Director, Drew CARES, Charles Drew University

<p>11:15AM – 12noon [Conference Room #1511]</p> <p>Speakers joining via Webex</p>	<p>Virtual Keynote and Panel Discussion: The Promise of a Cure for All Research Innovations and Ensuring Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luis J. Montaner, D.V.M., M.Sc., D.Phil., Executive Vice President, The Wistar Institute, Director, HIV Cure and Viral Diseases Center • Paul Edmonds, City of Hope Patient • Adam Castillejo, London Patient <p>Moderator: Danielle Campbell, MPH, Commission on HIV Co-Chair</p>
<p>LUNCH AND NETWORKING 12:00- 1:00PM [Courtyard]</p>	
<p>BREAKOUT SESSIONS I – 1:15PM-2:00PM</p>	
<p>Conference Room 1500</p>	<p>1. National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition HOME TA Program Overview [Joy Berry, NHAHC] –Virtual</p> <p>The Housing Options Made for Ending the Epidemic (HOME) TA Center aims to provide cutting-edge technical assistance to guide organizations in increasing housing opportunities and develop affordable housing that includes supportive services for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PWH) and persons most vulnerable to HIV/AIDS to End the HIV Epidemic. By supporting organizations and state/local municipalities in developing and implementing a housing plan that leverages resources and other funds to improve the health outcomes of persons experiencing homelessness in your communities.</p>
<p>Conference Room Main/1511</p>	<p>2. “Chasing”: Part 2: of a Story about Addiction and Recovery [Natalie Sanchez, MPH and Dr. Hilda Sandoval, Social Exchange Institute]</p> <p>"Chasing" highlights the complex challenges faced by gay men battling meth addiction, including shame, guilt, isolation, and hopelessness. Episode 2 focuses on the recovery journey, addressing relapse struggles and harm reduction strategies. This episode serves as a teaching tool for healthcare providers, offering insights into effective recovery approaches and promoting hope and healing. It also functions as an intervention for individuals facing addiction, at risk of overdose, or beginning their recovery journey. Through Julio's story, the episode emphasizes the availability of diverse recovery options. Evidence-based approaches like medication-assisted treatment, the 12-steps model, harm reduction, in-patient/outpatient programs, and a supportive network are introduced as potential pathways for Julio's recovery.</p>
<p>Conference Room 1502</p>	<p>3. Cutting Through Stigma: Leveraging Barbershops for HIV Awareness and Community Engagement [Faith Oladimeji, MPH, Charles Drew University]</p> <p>This initiative addresses HIV prevalence in LA County, particularly among Black MSM and cisgender women, by utilizing barbershops as trusted community spaces for health interventions. With many individuals unaware of their HIV status, the program integrates testing services and educational workshops into these environments to foster open</p>

	<p>discussions, break down stigma, and encourage regular testing. Emphasizing cultural competence, it empowers community members to engage in conversations about sexual health without fear of judgment. Complementing this effort, health fairs provide resources and create supportive atmospheres that enhance awareness and participation in HIV prevention and care. This innovative, community-based approach aims to improve health equity and reduce HIV-related stigma, ultimately contributing to better health outcomes for at-risk populations.</p>
Conference Room 1521	<p>4. Exploring Preferences for Conditional Cash Transfers among MSM of Color [Dillon Trujillo, MPH, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health]</p> <p>This study explores the preferences of conditional cash transfers (CCTs) designed to improve HIV testing among Black and Latinx men who have sex with men (MSM) in Los Angeles County. The study responds to the gaps in HIV testing coverage among Black and Latinx MSM in Los Angeles County, despite their high incidence rates. Using a discrete choice experiment (DCE), the study assessed three preferences for a CCT design to increase HIV testing: payment amount, payment frequency, and payment type. The results indicate a strong preference for higher payment amounts, with a total of \$1200 annually being the most attractive, specifically when this payment is distributed quarterly payments and in cash. Black MSM preferred quarterly payments more, while cash was favored overall. This study provides valuable insights to key implementation questions regarding the design and delivery of CCT interventions that could effectively optimize testing rates among those at greatest risk.</p>
Conference Room 1506 + 1507	<p>5. Rapid Linkage to Care: An Innovative Service Delivery Model [Harold Glenn San Agustin, MD, JWCH]</p> <p>Rapid Linkage to Care with Rapid ART Initiation is increasingly being recognized nationally as the new standard of care for newly diagnosed people with HIV. Studies demonstrate that linking clients into care quickly and starting medication early is associated with improved health outcomes, including higher rates of retention in care and sustained virologic suppression. This session will summarize the experience of one local Ryan White Clinic with implementing a Rapid LTC Model, including potential barriers, successes, lessons learned, and best practices to educate and empower others to do the same.</p>
Conference Room 1522	<p>6. Community Review of the Commission on HIV, (Cheryl Barrit, Commission on HIV)</p> <p>Using anonymous polling, this session will seek community input on the effectiveness of the Commission as a local planning council and gauge the participants' understanding of the purpose and functions of the Commission on HIV.</p>
Conference Room 1508	<p>GREEN ROOM - FOR STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, AND SPEAKERS' USE ONLY</p>
<p>TRANSITION TO BREAKOUT SESSIONS II – 2:00PM-2:10PM</p>	

BREAKOUT SESSIONS II 2:10PM-2:55PM

<p>Conference Room (Main/1511)</p>	<p>7. Empowering Voices: Innovative Support for Women with HIV with Docuseries Podcast [Natalie Sanchez, Elia Silveyra, and Marilyn Ramos, UCLA LAFAN]</p> <p>Confessions: HIV+ Women is a bilingual docuseries podcast launched by UCLA's Los Angeles Family AIDS Network in 2023 and now in its third season. This podcast serves as a vital platform for amplifying the voices of women living with HIV, offering them emotional support and fostering connections with others who share similar experiences. It addresses the social determinants of health that impact various communities, highlighting barriers such as limited access to support groups, transportation issues, confidentiality concerns, stigma, and personal apprehensions. While traditional support groups are often inaccessible to many women due to these obstacles, the podcast provides an alternative avenue for engagement. By creating a supportive community and linking women to medical care, Confessions aims to empower its listeners, reduce feelings of isolation, and enhance their overall well-being.</p>
<p>Conference Room 1500</p>	<p>8. The Role of Emergency Departments (EDs) in Ending the HIV Epidemic [Thomas Donohoe, Julie Tolentino, Dr. Christian Takayama]</p> <p>EDs are frontline community providers, even for patients with primary care services available to them. This interactive session will describe the key roles emergency departments can play in ending the HIV epidemic and help address the interconnected epidemics of Hepatitis C and Syphilis. PAETC-LAA and DHSP presenters will discuss current ED resources for screening and rapidly treating or linking positive patients to treatment and services programs as quickly as possible. Presenters will also address the HIV prevention and other needs of patients visiting EDs.</p>
<p>Conference Room 1502</p>	<p>9. Enhanced Navigation of African Americans Living with HIV [Shellye Jones, LCSW and LaShonda Spencer, MD, Charles R Drew University]</p> <p>Disparities exist in engagement, retention, and adherence to HIV care for Black Americans with HIV (BWH) Enhanced patient navigation (EPN) services were utilized to address barriers causing disparities in HIV care among BLWH who have fallen out of clinical care. The intervention offered personalized support through peer/patient navigators (PN) to increase health literacy and identify barriers affecting social determinants of health (SDOH).</p>
<p>Conference Room 1506 + 1507</p>	<p>10. Structural Change: Addressing Social Determinants of Health Through Coalitions [Toni Cooper and Joaquin Gutierrez, Children's Hospital Los Angeles]</p> <p>Four decades into the HIV epidemic, there are several promising strategies that can dramatically slow the epidemic's advance. However, serious structural barriers remain, like stigma, racism, and poverty, which limit the success of any effort not directly challenging these obstacles due to agencies being siloed and having limited funding/ workforce resources. With limited resources, there is a clear need for organizations to form coalitions that reduce the impact of social determinants of health to maximize HIV prevention efforts.</p>

	<p>Together we will explore the unique opportunities of coalitions to reduce the impacts of social determinants of health through structural level interventions. As an example, we will share the work of Connect 2 Protect Los Angeles (C2P LA), a coalition working to mobilize the community to reduce HIV/AIDS. Lastly, participants will learn strategies that can strengthen existing HIV prevention coalitions in their community.</p>
<p>Conference Room 1522</p>	<p>11. Enhancing PrEP Uptake: Addressing HIV and STI Co-Infections in Los Angeles County [Tiffany Hogan, Charles Drew University]</p> <p>From April 2023 to March 2024, Los Angeles County reported 1,761 new HIV diagnoses, reflecting a stagnant trend in cases. Approximately 58,000 individuals are living with HIV, with a significant number undiagnosed. The prevalence is particularly high among Black men and women, despite the availability of PrEP resources. Current initiatives to increase PrEP uptake have seen limited success, attributed to factors such as medical mistrust and misinformation. In response, Drew CARES has implemented a proactive outreach strategy targeting individuals tested for STIs at local urgent care facilities. This initiative involves timely PrEP education and referrals to healthcare providers, aiming to improve access for high-risk individuals. Initial outcomes indicate increased interest in PrEP among patients aged 25-35, showcasing the potential for similar strategies to expand PrEP coverage and reduce new HIV infections across additional clinical sites.</p>
<p>Conference Room 1521</p>	<p>12. Transgender Empathy Training [Mallery Jenna Robinson]</p> <p>Transgender Empathy Training is a multifaceted and accessible training in response to the growing apathy and indifference trans people were facing when encountering healthcare staff, education staff, business staff, to just everyday people all will learn empathetic approaches and strategies to assure an increase in interpersonal connectedness between our TGI2+ and cisgender community.</p>
<p>Conference Room 1508</p>	<p>GREEN ROOM – FOR STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, AND SPEAKERS’ USE ONLY</p>
<p><i>TRANSITION TO MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM – 2:55PM-3:05PM</i></p>	
<p>3:05PM – 3:35PM Conference Room 1511</p>	<p>Artistry and Activism for the HIV Movement A Performance by Pickle Drag Queen, City of West Hollywood Drag Laureate</p>
<p>3:35PM - 4:00PM Conference Room 1511</p>	<p>Closing, Evaluations and Recognitions</p>