



## **Black Women and HIV/AIDS:**

---

Confronting the Crisis and Planning for Action

New Orleans, Louisiana, March 23-25, 2009



IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SOUTHERN AIDS COALITION

## **Summary Report**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
EVALUATION METHODOLOGY .....	4
EVALUATION FINDINGS .....	5
SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....	7
APPENDIX A-AGENDA .....	9
APPENDIX B-BREAKOUT SESSION TRACK DESCRIPTION .....	15
APPENDIX C-REGIONAL FORUM EVALUATION .....	16
APPENDIX D-BREAKOUT SESSION EVALUATION .....	19
APPENDIX E-SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES .....	20
APPENDIX F-PARTICIPANT LIST.....	30

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The regional forum, *Black Women and HIV/AIDS: Confronting the Crisis and Planning for Action*, took place March 23-25, 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana. It was part of an ongoing series implemented by the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) in 2007 to address racial and ethnic health disparities. This forum, supported by cooperative agreement funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP), and in conjunction with the Southern AIDS Coalition (SAC) provided participating health departments (HDs) the opportunity to meet with relevant stakeholders, including the leadership from neighboring HDs and community and federal partners. All participants were provided a platform to share program information, priorities and resources to explore opportunities for collaboration to address the disproportionate impact of HIV/AIDS on black women. The jurisdictions that participated included Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

### Forum Objectives

- Examine the challenges and barriers HDs face in developing and administering effective programs targeting black women;
- Provide a platform for participants to share strategies and lessons-learned around the implementation of effective HIV/AIDS programs targeting black women;
- Provide opportunities for collaboration among traditional and non-traditional stakeholders;
- Establish a venue for on-going technical assistance (TA);
- Develop recommendations for TA tools (information, resources, guidelines) to increase the ability of HDs to establish collaborative relationships with community based organizations (CBOs) and other relevant stakeholders;
- Support the recommendations outlined in NASTAD's [African American Monograph](#) and [Call to Action](#)

NASTAD has long prioritized addressing racial and ethnic health disparities as an overarching goal of its work. In order to increase the capacity of health departments to deliver effective, culturally appropriate HIV prevention programs for black women, there is a need to examine current challenges and barriers as well as redefine priority areas.

The forum provided a foundation for participating jurisdictions to strengthen partnerships and collaborate more effectively to implement prevention and care and treatment programs specifically targeting black women. During the meeting, each team developed action steps which detailed how they would strategically enhance their efforts to address the impact of HIV/AIDS among black women in their state. The preliminary

recommendations gathered at the forum also help shape the direction of NASTAD's black women's TA activities.

The forum agenda was structured to provide opportunity for participants to hear from regional and national experts, as well as, engage in discussion and dialogue relevant to the impact of HIV/AIDS and black women. There was a combination of plenary speakers, panel discussion, breakout sessions and state team activities.

As a follow-up to the meeting, NASTAD will conduct focus groups and technical support visits with all the jurisdictions. The focus groups and subsequent data analysis will provide each state team with a clearer understanding of the needs, gaps, barriers, successes and opportunities for addressing HIV/AIDS among black women in their jurisdiction. Additionally, the data will provide NASTAD greater insight into the community and state-level responses to the HIV crisis among black women in each jurisdiction. NASTAD hopes to utilize the data gathered from the focus groups to frame the national response and recommendations around this issue.

In addition to the focus groups, each team will be asked to complete a state action plan. NASTAD will visit each jurisdiction in order to provide technical assistance on drafting the action plan. The visit will afford an opportunity to: (1) receive on-site support designed to increase the ability of the team to work effectively; (2) enhance the implementation of the state action plan activities; and (3) develop strategies for sustaining the team's efforts to address the disproportionate impact of HIV/AIDS on black women.

## **EVALUATION METHODOLOGY**

NASTAD utilized both quantitative and qualitative methods to evaluate the regional forum. Quantitative data was collected using a survey format and asking participants to respond using a four point scale where, 4=excellent, 3=Good, 2=Fair and 1=Poor. The qualitative data was collected by presenting the regional forum participants with six open-ended questions in which to respond. NASTAD chose to utilize both methods for evaluation in order to have clear and consistent feedback in the form of easily analyzed numbers, as well as rich and unbiased reflection from attendees.

There were two data collection tools used: The overall regional forum evaluation (Appendix B) and the individual breakout session evaluations (Appendix C). NASTAD has used the overall forum evaluation for previously held forums. Rather than try to answer specific questions related to the overall forum objectives, the quantitative section attempts to get the overall impressions of the various agenda sections. The

intent was to keep the evaluation form short, in hopes that attendees would be more apt to complete it. The qualitative section asks for more detail particular to the forum objectives. The evaluations were collected by NASTAD staff at the conclusion of the forum.

The breakout session evaluation tool focused more on quantitative versus qualitative data collection. The tool was created specifically for this regional forum and asked questions directly correlated to the overall forum objectives. These surveys were collected at the conclusion of each breakout session.

NASTAD continues to improve its evaluation of the regional forums. The breakout session evaluations were most helpful in determining the effectiveness of presenters and the utility of the topic areas in relation to accomplishing the overall forum objectives. The larger comprehensive forum evaluation is easy for participants to fill out and provides feedback on each agenda items but does not give NASTAD the robust and comprehensive information and feedback that would be most useful in planning subsequent forums. The tool only affords the opportunity to indicate whether the agenda item was excellent, good, fair or poor. Respondents are not able to quantify specific aspects and reactions to the individual agenda items. The qualitative section of the evaluation form was the only space provided to give more specific and detailed feedback.

## EVALUATION FINDINGS

Of the 97 women and men who attended the Southeast women's regional forum, 43 completed the overall forum evaluation, a response rate of forty-five percent. The average rating was 3.86 with eighty-six percent (37 out of 43) of respondents rating the overall quality of the forum as excellent, while the rest rated the overall quality of the forum as good. Respondents rated the following plenary sessions the highest: Highlights from the Field: Faith Based Initiatives with [Patricia Gould-Champ, Virginia Union University](#) and [Leisha McKinley-Beach, Florida Department of Health's Sistas Organizing to Survive Initiative](#) and Seeing the Big Picture: The Intersection of Data, Program and Policy with [Janet Cleveland, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), with an average rating of 3.91. Other agenda items receiving high scores included: Dissecting the Big Picture Panel Discussion with Andre Rawls, South Carolina's Department of Health and Environmental Control, Devondia Roseborough, Rasberrrose Foundation Inc and Gina Brown, New Orleans AIDS Task Force and March 25's Keynote Speakers [Vanessa Johnson, National Association of People with AIDS](#) and

[Reverend Debra Hickman, Sisters Together and Reaching, Inc.](#) The sessions received an average score of 3.86 and 3.84, respectively.

The five breakout sessions utilized the same aforementioned four point scale. The combined average rating was 3.56. Track five, Access to Care and Retention for Black Women received the highest average rating, 3.87, followed by Track three, Empowering and Mobilizing Young Black Women with an average rating of 3.67. In response to the individual survey questions, respondents did not understand how what they learned in the breakout sessions would aid their work with black women in their jurisdiction (3.46) or how what they learned in the session would aid in the development of their state action plan (3.45).

There was not as much qualitative feedback from the breakout sessions. Respondents enjoyed the facilitators and the opportunity for open and honest dialogue around specific topics. However, some did not feel that the information received was useful or clear as far as the expected outcomes. Forum participants were randomly assigned to one of the five breakout sessions. Although there were clear and distinct topic areas with national experts facilitating each session, the overall objective of each session was not explained to participants. Furthermore, the discussion and interaction was not clearly linked to the overall forum objectives and the state team activities. For example, one participant stated that she “would have preferred to talk more realistically and ‘hands-on’ – things that I could actually use realistically in my state”.

Specific to the overall forum objectives, respondents said that the forum will help their team better meet the HIV/AIDS prevention and care needs of black women because it allowed them to meet as a team and have open, undistracted discussion about the differences in their agencies and the epidemic across their state. Respondents also benefited from the information shared by the presenters and other participants. One participant stated that, “Interacting with different women and hearing how and what we could do to better equip our sisters in my own state” was her favorite part of the forum. It was also said that the forum forced the conversation to be about women and “sounded the alarm” regarding black women and HIV.

Regional forum participants most liked the opportunity to network and the diversity in topics, presenters and attendees and opinions shared. Respondents liked working with the NASTAD staff because of their knowledge and accessibility. The forum provided the opportunity for some to “re-charge, re-focus and re-commit” to black women and HIV/AIDS.

As there is always room for improvement, the things that respondents liked least about the forum included several themes, but mainly focused on the breakout sessions and

the length of the forum. Regarding the breakout sessions, respondents wanted to be able to choose their breakout session based on their interest. Additionally, the sessions needed more structure for as one attendee noted, “the topic did not get teased out in order for us to leave with action items or constructs”. Criticisms of the length of the forum centered on respondents who stated they felt rushed during several sections of the agenda and could not gain all the necessary information from presentations.

The general comments provided re-emphasized several of the comments already shared. Overall, there was high praise for the food, accommodations and the detailed planning that went into the forum. Attendees commented that they felt energized and empowered to begin the team action planning.

## **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Southeast Women’s Regional Forum was the first regional forum in which NASTAD collaborated with another organization. The Southern AIDS Coalition was a valuable partner. Forum attendees represented nine Southeast states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. State teams included four to nine members representing the state health department, community based organizations and consumers of service. In addition to the state teams, there were several national and federal partners in attendance, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Service’s Office of Women’s Health, American Psychological Association, American Bar Association and National AIDS Fund. Overwhelmingly, the Southeast Women’s Regional Forum was well received and appreciated for its ability to bring together individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences for the purpose of discussing HIV/AIDS and black women in the south and assembling state teams to develop action plans. Attendees valued the opportunity to network and share ideas with local, state and national partners in the fight to end the HIV epidemic. One sentiment that was shared was, “The women were empowered and inspiring. We’re all in this fight together and it’s good to know that”.

As NASTAD moves forward and continues to work with and on behalf of black women nationally there were several comments and recommendations provided that will assist in the process, including:

- Structure agendas to allow for more open dialogue after presentations
- Allow more time for open discussion and dialogue

- Allow more time for state team activities
- Provide more structure to breakout sessions
- Do not pre-assign breakout sessions
- Use fewer PowerPoint presentations

Respondents provided several options as to what other issues related to HIV/AIDS prevention and care they would like addressed at future regional forums or women-focused events sponsored by NASTAD. Topics and issues ranged from domestic violence, mental health and the intersection of poverty and self-esteem. The topics that the most respondents suggested included adding more advocacy, youth and care and treatment topics.

The immediate next steps are to continue the work started at the regional forum with the Southeast states. State teams began the initial steps for developing a comprehensive action plan to address HIV/AIDS and black women in their states. NASTAD will continue to provide each state with individual technical assistance to accomplish their identified goals and objectives.



## **NASTAD REGIONAL FORUM SERIES ADDRESSING RACIAL AND ETHNIC HEALTH DISPARITIES**

The National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), in conjunction with the Southern AIDS Coalition (SAC), is pleased to host the third regional forum on Black women entitled:

***Black Women and HIV/AIDS:  
Confronting the Crisis and Planning for Action  
New Orleans, Louisiana, March 23 - 25, 2009***

### **Agenda**

---

#### **Objectives**

- Examine the challenges and barriers health departments face in developing and administering effective programs targeting black women.
  - Provide a platform for participants to share strategies and lessons-learned around the implementation of effective HIV/AIDS programs targeting black women.
  - Provide opportunities for collaboration among traditional and non-traditional stakeholders.
  - Establish a venue for on-going technical assistance.
  - Develop recommendations for technical assistance tools (information, resources, and guidelines) to increase the ability of health departments to establish collaborative relationships with community based organizations (CBOs) and other relevant stakeholders.
  - Support the recommendations outlined in the NASTAD *African American Monograph and Call to Action*.
-

## Monday, March 23

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

### Opening Welcome and Reception

- Welcome participants
  - Julie Scofield, *Executive Director, NASTAD*
  - Beth Scalco, *AIDS Director, Louisiana Office of Public Health; Chair, Southern AIDS Coalition*
- Entertainment- Shamarr Allen and the Underdawgs
- Networking

## Tuesday, March 24

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

### Registration and Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

### Setting the Stage

- Welcome participants
- Review goals and objectives of the meeting
- Review meeting agenda
- Review guiding principles for meeting

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

### Seeing the Big Picture: The Intersection of Data, Program and Policy

- Janet Cleveland, *Deputy Director of Prevention Programs, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* ([PowerPoint](#))

10:00 a.m. -10:15 a.m.

### Break

10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

### Dissecting the Big Picture

#### Panel Discussion

- Andre Rawls, *Director, STD/HIV/AIDS, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control*
- Marvelyn Brown, *AIDS Activist, Marvelous Connections*
- Devondia Roseborough, *Executive Director, Rasberrrose Foundation Inc.*
- Gina Brown, *Homeless Case Manager, New Orleans AIDS Task Force*

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

### Lunch Plenary: National Partners Overview: Ongoing Efforts in HIV/AIDS

- NASTAD's African American Advisory Committee: overview of NASTAD's AAAC and description of the committee's upcoming women's focused activities
  - Sigga Jagne, *HIV/AIDS Program Branch Manager, Kentucky Department for Public Health* ([PowerPoint](#))
  - Fallon Swinnie, *NASTAD Youth Liaison, Mississippi State Department of Health*
- Southern AIDS Coalition: Overview of SAC and upcoming activities
  - Evelyn Foust, *Director, HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services* ([PowerPoint](#))

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

**Break**

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

**Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

Participants meet in pre-assigned tracks, facilitated by subject-matter experts, to discuss key issues related to the impact of HIV/AIDS on black women

- **Track 1 (Red):** The intersection of HIV, mental health and substance abuse
  - Cheryl Taylor, *Professor, Southern University*
- **Track 2 (Green):** Black women and relationship dynamics: sexual communication, sexual abuse and violence
  - Dazon Dixon Diallo, *President, SisterLove*
- **Track 3 (Yellow):** Empowering and mobilizing young black women
  - Joni Watson and Adrienne Myers, *NASTAD Youth Liaisons*
  - Faye Belgrave, *Professor, Virginia Commonwealth University*
- **Track 4 (Blue):** Cycling through the criminal justice system: Opportunities for HIV prevention for black women
  - Constance West, *Forensic Psychologist, Central State Hospital*
- **Track 5 (Orange):** Access to and retention in care for black women
  - Pamela Payne Foster, *Deputy Director, Rural Health Institute for Clinical and Translational Science, University of Alabama*

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Break**

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

**Plenary: Highlights from the Field: Faith Based Initiatives**

- Patricia Gould-Champ, Professor, Virginia Union University ([PowerPoint](#))
- Leisha McKinley-Beach, Sistas Organizing to Survive Initiative, Florida Department of Health ([PowerPoint](#))

4:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Closing/Wrap-up**

Dinner on your own

## Wednesday, March 25

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

### Registration and Breakfast

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

### Review/Preview

- Housekeeping
- Brief review of the outcomes of Day 1
- Brief overview of the day ahead

8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

### Plenary: Highlights from the Field

Lessons learned from jurisdictions that have successfully implemented their state action plan activities developed during the March 2007 and March 2008 regional forums on black women

- Andrea Perez, *Program Manager, Communities of Color Program Manager, Indiana Department of Health* ([PowerPoint](#))
- Carmi Washington-Flood, *Chief, Office of Community Relations & Initiatives, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene* ([PowerPoint](#))

9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

### Developing the State Action Plans: Framework for Discussion

A facilitated discussion on how to build your state team

- Jacqueline Coleman, *President, Vision Que! LLC*

10:30 a.m. -10:45 a.m.

### Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:15pm

### State Team and National Partner Activity: Developing a Way Forward

- Convene state teams in pre-assigned rooms to discuss strategies for addressing the impact of HIV/AIDS on black women in each jurisdiction
- State teams develop preliminary action steps that they will implement within the next 12 months
- National partners discuss strategies for a national/local response to the impact of HIV/AIDS on black women ([PowerPoint](#))

12:15 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

### Break

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

### Lunch: Keynote Speakers

- Vanessa Johnson, *Executive Vice President, National Association of People with AIDS* ([PowerPoint](#))
- Rev. Debra Hickman, *Co-Founder, Sisters Together And Reaching, Inc. (STAR)* ([PowerPoint](#))

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Closing/Wrap-up**



## **TRACK DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Black Women and HIV/AIDS: Confronting the Crisis and Planning for Action**

#### **Track 1: The Intersection of HIV, Mental Health and Substance Use**

The strong correlation between HIV, mental health and substance use will be presented in this track. Linkages between these public health challenges for black women will be discussed. Discussion will focus on the effects of dual and triple diagnoses for black women and their resulting risks and impact on HIV/AIDS prevalence.

#### **Track 2: Black Women and Relationship Dynamics: Sexual Communication, Sexual Abuse and Trauma**

Black women in the United States experience increased vulnerabilities to HIV, trauma, domestic violence and sexual assault. Discussion in this track will explore the interplay between these factors and heightened risk for HIV infection, as well as the general outcomes for black women's holistic health and wellness. Additionally, discussion will highlight relationship dynamics and the challenges to communication.

#### **Track 3: Empowering and Mobilizing Young Black Women**

This track will examine the challenges and issues that are most relevant to young black women in the South. Discussion will include sexual identity and relationship dynamics relative to HIV/AIDS. Participants will share perspective on effective and ineffective methods for reaching young black women.

#### **Track 4: Cycling through the Criminal Justice System: Opportunities for HIV Prevention among Black Women**

This track will highlight three distinct areas. Participants will examine the unique challenges of HIV prevention and care among black women who are currently, or have been, incarcerated. Discussion will also include the effects of relationships between incarcerated men and the increased vulnerability for HIV. Finally, conversation will focus on the impact of involvement in the criminal justice system on the family and community as a whole.

#### **Track 5: Access to Care and Retention for Black Women**

This track will highlight the issues specific to black women accessing and remaining in care in the South. Participants will discuss the various barriers to access and retention to care, including stigma and cultural insensitivity. Finally, participants will examine how to overcome these barriers to care.



**NASTAD Health Department Regional Forum**  
**Black Women and HIV/AIDS:**  
**Confronting the Crisis and Planning for Action**  
**New Orleans, LA**  
**March 23–25, 2009**

Please rate the quality of each of the sessions listed below

TUESDAY, MARCH 24	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Setting the Stage	4	3	2	1
Seeing the Big Picture: The Intersection of Data, Program & Policy	4	3	2	1
Dissecting the Big Picture Video	4	3	2	1
Dissecting the Big Picture Panel Discussion	4	3	2	1
Lunch Plenary: National Partners Overview: Ongoing Efforts in HIV/AIDS	4	3	2	1
Plenary: Highlights from the Field: Faith Based Initiatives	4	3	2	1
Closing/Wrap-up	4	3	2	1

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Review/Preview	4	3	2	1
Plenary: Highlights from the Field	4	3	2	1
Developing the State Action Plans: Framework for Discussion	4	3	2	1
State Team Activity: Developing a Way Forward	4	3	2	1

Lunch: Keynote Speaker	4	3	2	1
Closing/Wrap-up	4	3	2	1

<b>MEETING LOGISTICS</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>
State team pre-meeting conference call	4	3	2	1
Communication with meeting organizers	4	3	2	1
Booking travel arrangements (flight, train, etc)	4	3	2	1
Booking lodging/accommodations	4	3	2	1

**Please rate the overall quality of the meeting**

<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>
4	3	2	1

**1. Should this forum be repeated for other states?**

- Yes**       **No**

**If “Yes”, what other issues related to HIV/AIDS prevention and care for black women would you like addressed?**





**NASTAD Health Department Regional Forum**  
**Black Women and HIV/AIDS:**  
**Confronting the Crisis and Planning for Action**  
**New Orleans, LA**  
**March 23–25, 2009**

**Track 1: The intersection of HIV, mental health and substance use**

**Please rate each component of the breakout session**

<b>TUESDAY, MARCH 24</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>
Quality of national expert presentation	4	3	2	1
Quality of national expert as discussion facilitator	4	3	2	1
Discussion group participants represented diverse backgrounds	4	3	2	1
Your comfort level sharing your ideas with the discussion group	4	3	2	1
Your comfort level sharing what you learned in this session with the members of your state team tomorrow	4	3	2	1
Your understanding of how what you learned in this session will aid your work with black women in your jurisdiction	4	3	2	1
Your understanding of how what you learned in this session will aid in the development of your state action plan	4	3	2	1

**Please add any additional comments:**

Please return to staff after the session.

*Thank you for completing this survey.*



**Black Women and HIV/AIDS:  
Confronting the Crisis and Planning for Action  
New Orleans, LA  
March 23-25, 2009**

**SPEAKERS BIOS**

**JANET CLEVELAND**

***The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention***

Janet C. Cleveland is the Deputy Director for Prevention Programs in the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). During her 17-year tenure at CDC, Ms. Cleveland has held several leadership positions, including Chief of Capacity Building in DHAP, where she provided counsel to the Division Director on national programs and policies to develop and sustain community capacity for planning and implementing HIV prevention programs, and providing priority prevention services to affected communities. She also served as Associate Director for Community Planning and Capacity Building in the Office of the Director at DHAP.

At CDC, Ms. Cleveland has served as Senior Program Analyst in the Office of the Director, National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention (NCHSTP), and Deputy Branch Chief for the Training and Education Branch of the National Immunization Program. Prior to these positions, she developed, implemented, and evaluated HIV prevention education programs, materials, and training curricula as a Health Education Specialist in the Divisions of STD and HIV/AIDS Prevention at CDC. Before joining CDC, Ms. Cleveland worked in the public health sector, focusing on HIV/AIDS and STD prevention. At the AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta, Ms. Cleveland developed programs and policies to increase the participation of persons of color and women in AIDS clinical trials and research. She also served in a number of state- and local-level public health positions, including AIDS Project Director at Community Action Against Addiction in Cleveland, Ohio; Health Educator and Disease Intervention Specialist with the Ohio State Department of Health, also in Cleveland; and Public Health Project Manager with the Mississippi Safety Council in Jackson, Mississippi.

Ms. Cleveland received both her Bachelor of Science and Masters of Science in Health Education, with a focus in Community Health, from the University of Southern Mississippi. She has also completed Harvard University's Women of Color in Public Health Leadership Institute.

**ANDRE RAWLS**

***South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control***

Andre W. Rawls holds a Jurist Doctorate (Law degree) and a Doctor in Clinical Psychology (PsyD). Rawls is currently Division Director of STD/HIV/AIDS for the South Carolina Division of Health and Environmental Protection. She was formerly Illinois Department of Public Health - Chief of the HIV/AIDS Section.

Rawls was chair of the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) in 2007. In conjunction with NASTAD's global program and the state of Illinois' Brother and Sisters United Against HIV/AIDS (BASUAH) program Rawls represented the Governor as the Illinois Delegate to Northern Cape Province, South Africa in February 2006, and March 2008. She hosted the South African Delegation in their visit to Illinois in April 2006 and 2007. In August, 2006 and July, 2007 she participated in a delegation to Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa where the team assisted the Liberian Health Department in completing a Global Fund grant that resulted in the country being awarded \$44 million to fight Tuberculosis, Malaria, and HIV/AIDS. Historically, Rawls has worked with homeless families and children in Chicago area shelters and provided individual and family counseling for families and children in the process of reunification, crisis intervention and was a psychological seminar facilitator for Hartgrove Hospital.

She is the founder of Visions Investment Network Consortium whose primary goal is to assist African American women in organizing and maintaining investment clubs. There are currently 8 investment clubs in the Network.

## **MARVELYN BROWN**

### ***Marvelous Connections***

Marvelyn Brown is a native Tennessean who works with numerous HIV/AIDS outreach groups. She has extensive radio and television experience, including appearances on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, MTV, BET, and *The Tavis Smiley Show*. She's also appeared in *Newsweek*, *Ebony*, and *Real Health* magazines. Her public-service announcement for Think MTV won an Emmy Award. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.

## **DeVONDIA ROSEBOROUGH**

### ***Rasberrirose Foundation Inc***

DeVondia Regina Roseborough, aka "The Traveling Advocate" is a 37-year-old native of Charlotte, North Carolina. She is a single mother of two daughters. She is determined and motivated publicly expressing the effect and affects of HIV/AIDS globally. Her message is heartwarming not just based on facts but from a personal context. On December 9, 2003, with a T-cell count of nineteen, she learned that she had AIDS. During her hospitalization of twenty-three days, she healed spiritually and given a directive from God. The directive was to convey that God's love is for **all** inclusive of those with HIV and AIDS.

In addition to her newly released memoir, she is the founder of The Rasberrirose Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose focus is to minister to teenage girls aged 10-18. The Rasberrirose Foundation birthed from attending Central Piedmont Community College and the University of Phoenix, serving over eight years as a Director and Team leader for the YWCA of the Central Carolinas, a member of Toastmasters. She trained under the United Way of the Central Carolinas Speakers Bureau and Metrolina AIDS Project Speakers Bureau being a member of New Covenant Bibleway Church, and volunteering in various sections of Charlotte. She encourages the vision by continued trainings in HIV/AIDS by successfully completing HIV/AIDS Research training in New Jersey, PETS, ACRIA Training; and LEAP training. Because of her passion for youth, the Foundation's motto is, *"To positively impact the mind, body and soul of young ladies 10-18, with a focus on HIV/AIDS prevention."*

In April of 2005, awarded, volunteer of the Year from the Metrolina AIDS Project, she is an active member of the Ryan White Advisory Council, member where she currently serves on the Community Advisory Board and Conducts College tours with No Limit Larry & the Morning Maddhouse of WPEG Power 98. DeVondia received December 2008; nomination from the Tom Joyner's Morning Show Hardest Working HIV/AIDS Traveling Advocate. DeVondia received an added testimony, that the virus is undetectable in her body! She conveys daily that AIDS is not an obstacle because it has brought her closer to The Rock-GOD.

## **GINA BROWN**

### ***New Orleans AIDS Task Force***

Gina is a 43 year old single mother of 2 children. She was diagnosed HIV positive in 1994 while pregnant with her youngest child (who is negative thanks to AZT). Gina is a recovering addict who has been clean and sober for 16 years. She started working in the field of HIV/AIDS in 2002. And is currently the homeless Case Manager at NO/AIDS Task Force. She is a student at Southern University in New Orleans enrolled in the undergraduate school of Social Work. She expects to graduate in the Fall of 2010.

## **SIGGA JAGNE**

### ***Kentucky Department of Health***

Sigga Jagne currently serves as the AIDS Director for the State of Kentucky. She is responsible for planning, developing, directing and evaluating the Department for Public Health's statewide program for HIV/AIDS, including activities related to HIV/AIDS surveillance, prevention and provision of care and treatment services to Kentuckians living with HIV/AIDS. Since assuming the position, Sigga has significantly increased the state's portfolio of HIV initiatives targeting African Americans and led efforts to revamp the population prioritization and resource allocation process to ensure an appropriate response to the Black AIDS epidemic in Kentucky. She serves on the executive boards of the Southern AIDS Coalition (SAC) and the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD); and is the executive liaison to NASTAD's African American Advisory Committee (AAAC). Sigga serves on the board of several other non-profit organizations and is currently the vice chair of Human Touch International (HTI)- an organization developed to provide community health education, human services, and economic empowerment programs in various West African countries to help alleviate the devastating impact caused by infectious diseases. She has served on various HIV related workgroups, review and advisory committees for the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Before joining the Department for Public Health, she worked for seven years as an Infection Control Consultant for the Department of Labor's Kentucky Occupational Safety & Health Program, where she served as one of the premier authorities on Bloodborne Pathogens and general infection control in both public and private healthcare facilities. She coordinated infection control efforts for hospitals, private dentists & physicians, laboratories, local health departments, long-term care facilities, etc. Sigga also directed the implementation of programs relating to HIV, Hepatitis and TB infection control, the provision of post exposure prophylaxis and treatment for employees, as well as data collection & reporting of occupational exposure and infection incidents.

From 1999 - 2000, Sigga participated in several projects as a volunteer HIV prevention educator through a British agency- the Medical Research Council (MRC) - to provide culturally and

linguistically competent education programs to low income/low literacy communities within the Gambia/West Africa on HIV, TB, Hepatitis & Malaria prevention.

### **FALLON SWINNIE**

#### ***Mississippi State Department of Health***

Fallon Victoria Swinnie is a 22 year old native of Jackson, MS. She is currently a senior at Jackson State University majoring in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation with a Recreation Adm. concentration. At JSU, Fallon is a member of the Alpha Chi Chapter of the Nation College Honor Scholarship Society. She is also one of four youth liaisons for the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors' (NASTAD) African American Advisory Committee. Professionally, Fallon is currently employed at the MS State Dept. of Health for the STD/HIV Office – Prevention and Education Branch as a Health Program Specialist Sr. Not only is Fallon intellectually rounded, she is also very spiritually based. She is a very active member of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church – Jackson, MS (Pastor Mark A. Williamson) where she is a lead soloist in the young adult choir. She regularly attends Bible Class and other church events and is the vice president of the church's Health Ministry.

### **EVELYN FOUST**

#### ***North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services***

As Branch Head of Communicable Diseases for North Carolina's Division of Public health, Evelyn Foust is responsible for the oversight of federal and state services for HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases. Ms. Foust's team have worked to facilitate the growth of grassroots community-based agencies to deliver non-traditional, accountable and accessible HIV/STD prevention and care services across North Carolina. Evelyn has twenty-Five years experience with the North Carolina public health programs. Evelyn received her MPH from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

### **CHERYL TAYLOR**

#### ***Southern University A&M College***

Dr. Cheryl Taylor Professor of nursing science led REACH 2010: At the Heart of New Orleans Coalition as its Principal Investigator for 7 years 2000-2007. At the Heart of New Orleans Coalition was an African-American faith-based Cardiovascular Disease intervention study focused on improving African American Women's Health. she earned a B.S.N from Dillard University of New Orleans; a Masters in Systems Oriented Community Mental Health Nursing from the University of Washington at Seattle, and her PhD In Nursing from Texas Woman's University.

Dr. Taylor's previous research contributed to the first generation studies on homelessness. She served on the National Library (NLM) Long Range 2006 -2016 Planning Sub-Committee for public health and clinical systems. She served as commissioner of the Katrina National Justice Commission. She brings to us a unique perspective of African American public health leader, mentor, scholar, health policy advocate, researcher and trained self help Sister Circle™ facilitator.. She teaches PHD level Research and Health Policy courses and chairs nursing research dissertations committees, focused on depression ,obesity, HIV/AIDS , diabetes and other chronic conditions in black women. Dr. Taylor contributed to the first generation of research studies on homelessness and chronic mental illness. The significance of her research findings is cited in the U.S. Congressional Record – Senate Vol. 136 no. 39, 5738, June 5,

1990. In 1989 Dr. Taylor also developed and published taxonomy on homelessness and six senses of home. Her background is in family and community behavioral health research. Southern University selected her for their outstanding mentor award. As a respected community leader and researcher, she consistently mentors nursing and health professions students from all levels to improve their capacity for leadership in promoting health equity.

## **DAZON DIXON DIALLO**

### ***SisterLove***

Dázon Dixon Diallo is Founder and President of SisterLove, Incorporated, established in 1989, the first women's HIV/AIDS organization in the southeastern United States. She is also adjunct faculty in women's health at Morehouse School of Medicine's Masters of Public Health Program in Atlanta, Georgia. Ms. Diallo is a founding board member of SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective. She currently chairs the Fulton County HIV/AIDS Services Planning Council (Ryan White Council) and the Steering Committee of the Global Campaign for Microbicides, and she co-chairs the Community Advisory Board of the HOPE Clinic, Emory University's HIV Vaccine and Microbicides Research Center.

Ms. Dixon Diallo hosts a weekly radio program focused on black women, called "Sistas' Time" on WRFG 89.3FM and [www.wrfg.org](http://www.wrfg.org) in Atlanta. She has coordinated delegations of African American women to Brazil, China, Egypt, Jamaica, South Africa, Senegal and Uganda. In 2001, Dixon Diallo opened a SisterLove program office in Mpumalanga a rural South African Province near Johannesburg, where the project focus is capacity building and sustainable development for local women-led HIV/AIDS organizations. She has received numerous awards and recognitions over the 23 years she has been working in HIV/AIDS and women's human rights. Ms. Diallo holds a master's degree in public health from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (C'97) and a bachelor's degree from Spelman College (C'86) in Atlanta, GA.

## **FAYE BELGRAVE**

### ***Virginia Commonwealth University***

Dr. Belgrave is Professor of Psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University and the Founding Director of the Center for Cultural Experiences in Prevention. Her programmatic and research interests are in the areas of drug and HIV prevention among African Americans. Her research also focuses on the role of culture and context in prevention interventions and also on gender and female related issues. Much of her work has been conducted in collaboration with community based organizations. Dr. Belgrave has published extensively including over 75 articles and book chapters, four books, and is an invited speaker on the topics of African American culture and community based research. Dr. Belgrave has received numerous awards for her work including the American Psychological Association Dalmas Taylor Distinguished Contribution Award, the Association of Black Psychologists Distinguished Psychologists Award, The State Council of Higher Education in Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Addie Jane Key Prevention Award. Dr. Belgrave received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, her masters' degree from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and her B.S. from North Carolina A& T State University.

## **CONSTANCE WEST**

### ***Central State Hospital***

Dr. Constance A. C. West is a clinical psychologist specializing in health and forensic psychology. Her work focuses on the provision and evaluation of services for culturally and socio-economically diverse populations. Dr. West obtained a Ph.D. in Health Clinical Psychology from the University of Miami in December 1999. Prior to obtaining her doctoral degree, she obtained a B.A. in Human Biology (Stanford University, 1989). Dr. West has over 17 years of experience in the area of clinical research involving physical and/or mental health conditions. Her primary research area has been the consideration of cultural factors in the design, implementation, and evaluation of clinical research studies involving racial and ethnic minority populations. Her clinical research training has included active involvement in studies examining the psychological, immunological, and/or physical health effects of a number of acute and chronic stressors, such as, dementia caregiving, surviving natural disasters, coping with HIV/AIDS. The primary focus of her clinical research experience has been HIV/AIDS treatment, with an emphasis on the development, implementation, and evaluation of culturally sensitive, psychoeducational interventions for HIV+ African-American women. She also has experience and training in the area of HIV prevention, with an emphasis on community-based interventions for African-American adolescents and their parents.

Within the field of public health, Dr. West has over 16 years of experience in conducting and/or directing community outreach efforts aimed at increasing the participation of racial and ethnic minorities in mental and physical health programs in order to decrease health disparities related to race, ethnicity, and/or culture. In addition, she has been actively involved (over the past 20 years) in a wide variety of training efforts to increase the cultural competence of professionals in the medical, mental health, law, and education fields.

As a licensed psychologist, the majority of Dr. West's experience has been in the area of juvenile forensic psychology. More recently, Dr. West served as the Behavioral Health Services Coordinator at the Fulton County Juvenile Court, the largest juvenile court in the Southeastern United States. Currently, Dr. West is actively involved in the provision of evaluation services (i.e., qualitative and quantitative analyses to evaluate HIV testing and prevention interventions), the provision of consultation and expert testimony (related to juvenile forensic psychology), and the provision of clinical services as a private practitioner in Atlanta, Georgia.

**PAMELA PAYNE FOSTER**  
***University of Alabama***

Pamela Payne Foster is a Preventive Medicine/Public Health physician and currently serves as Deputy Director of the Rural Health Institute for Clinical and Translational Science at the University of Alabama. Her career has focused on a variety of experiences in both academic and non-academic settings with the primary goal of decreasing disparities in health in underserved communities such as African Americans and Latinos. She has recently authored her first book, "Is there a balm in Black America? aimed at educating and empowering African American church leadership on HIV/AIDS. The book is part of the work she and her husband, William Foster, Jr, a social worker, started in the founding of AframSouth in 2007. The nonprofit organization, AframSouth, aims to develop community-based health, social service, as well as cultural projects aimed at lifting up and enhancing the strengths of the Black family.

Dr. Foster received her B.S. from Xavier University of Louisiana where she pledged Gamma Alpha Chapter in Spring 1979. After graduating from Xavier in 1981, she received both a M.S in Biomedical Sciences and M.D. from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. She completed her internship in Internal Medicine and residency in Preventive Medicine/Public

Health at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Dr. Foster also received her M.P.H. at Columbia University (NY, NY). Dr. Foster's faculty appointments have also included Tuskegee University's National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care, Morehouse School of Medicine, The George Washington University Medical Center, and the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

### **PATRICIA GOULD- CHAMP**

#### ***Virginia Union University***

Reverend Dr. Patricia Gould-Champ is a well prepared and faithful servant of God, called to the forefront for such a time as this. She is an Assistant Professor of Practical Theology and the Director of Field Education at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University. Dr. Gould-Champ is the Founding Visionary and pastor of Faith Community Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia, a church whose mission is the spiritual, social, educational, and economic empowerment of the residents in the inner-city of East Richmond.

After receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Virginia Union University and a Master of Education degree from Virginia State University, Dr. Gould-Champ later earned a Doctorate degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) in Educational Administration. She received her seminary training at the School of Theology at Virginia Union University where she earned her Master of Divinity degree, summa cum laude. Her senior sermon entitled "*An Unfinished Agenda*," is published in Ella Mitchell's book "*Those Preaching Women, Volume II*." In addition to serving as a pastor and a seminary professor, Dr. Gould-Champ made history by becoming the 35<sup>th</sup> president of The Baptist General Convention of Virginia in June 2003. The wife of James Champ, III and the mother of nineteen year-old Pamela Ann Champ, Pastor Gould-Champ firmly adheres to the belief that "*without faith it is impossible to please God.*"

### **LEISHA MCKINLEY-BEACH**

#### ***Florida Department of Health***

Leisha McKinley-Beach currently serves as a Program Prevention Supervisor with the Bureau of HIV/AIDS. Mrs. McKinley –Beach provides oversight of the statewide community planning process, including the Prevention Planning Group and Florida Comprehensive Planning Network. She serves as liaison for other state and national HIV/AIDS prevention programs. She manages the statewide minority media campaign and provides guidance to contractor on all contract deliverables. She also works in collaboration with the Statewide Minority AIDS Coordinator, the Statewide Latino HIV/AIDS Coordinator and community partners to ensure the creation of products that are relevant to community needs. She represents the bureau with faith-based and Black women initiatives.

Prior to working with the State of Florida, she was the Founder and Executive Director of a minority AIDS Service Organization. Mrs. McKinley-Beach is the former co-chair for the Florida Community Planning Group where she was instrumental in ensuring that racial/ethnic HIV/AIDS issues were being addressed. She has served as a minority network liaison since the beginning of the network. Mrs. McKinley-Beach is a strong advocate for the black community and is very passionate about equality for all racial/ethnic groups.

### **BRANDI WILLIAMS**

#### ***Florida Department of Health***

Brandi Williams received her Bachelor's of Science degree in elementary education from Florida A&M University. Working on a Master's of Science in health education, she is currently a counseling testing and linkage field representative with the Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control, in the Bureau of HIV/AIDS. In her current position, she is responsible for providing technical assistance to individuals and agencies statewide, conducting HIV counseling and testing. She also serves as the lead on the Social Networks Strategy. Prior to employment with the Florida Department of Health, she was a health and human services specialist at Florida State University, a community health educator, and an HIV counselor at Big Bend Cares. At Florida State University, she coordinated the Anonymous HIV Clinic and implemented the policies and procedures for conducting rapid HIV testing on campus. Additionally, she has taken pride in educating the community on HIV prevention and care, conducting HIV counseling and testing, and facilitating small and large group prevention interventions.

She received her certification from the Florida Department of Health to administer HIV Counseling and Testing. She has also received HIV prevention intervention training from the Mississippi Urban Research Center at Jackson State University, the CDC Institute for HIV Prevention Leadership, the Center on Health & Behavioral Training in Rochester, NY, and Cicutelli and Associates.

#### **UNEEDA BREWER**

##### ***Florida Department of Health***

Uneeda Brewer earned a bachelor's degree in communication from Salem College, Winston-Salem, NC. In her position as statewide training coordinator, she coordinates behavioral intervention and capacity-building trainings, as well as technical assistance, for Florida's county health departments and community based organizations.

Uneeda joined the Bureau of HIV/AIDS, Prevention Section, in February 2007. Prior to joining the Bureau of HIV/AIDS, Uneeda worked as the Department of Health's records analyst, in the Bureau of General Services, and she has been with the department for over 5 years. In October 2008, Uneeda became a certified trainer for the SISTA intervention.

#### **APRIL S. HOGAN**

##### ***Florida Department of Health***

April Hogan received her Masters of Public Health, with a concentration in behavioral science from Florida A&M University Institute of Public Health. She has been employed with the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of HIV/AIDS since 2007. In her current capacity as Mobilization Specialist, April provides technical assistance and support to communities related to community mobilization and organizing. In addition, April serves as the Department of Health Liaison for the S.O.S. Black Women's Advisory group. In October 2008, April became a certified trainer for the SISTA intervention.

#### **ANDREA PEREZ**

##### ***Indiana Department of Health***

Andrea Perez currently serves as the Communities of Color Program Manager for the Prevention Program at the Indiana State Department of Health, Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis. She is also the team lead for INSPIRE created after the March 2007 Regional Forum

in Chicago. Ms. Perez has been with the Division for 2.5 years. Prior to that, she worked as a Sr. Career Development Executive for the Full Employment Council in Kansas City, MO, assisting unemployed and underemployed individuals with employment and training opportunities. Ms. Perez is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a B.S. in Psychology, as well as a Diploma of Practical Nursing from Sanford Brown College.

### **CARMI WASHINGTON-FLOOD**

#### **Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**

Carmi Washington Flood, a native of Baltimore Maryland, and a graduate of Michigan State University, presently serves as the Chief of the Office of Community Relations & Initiatives for the Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene AIDS Administration. Carmi has more than 30 years in the field of public health with clinical and training experience spanning mental health, addictions, incarceration, youth services and infectious disease. Carmi possesses excellent written communication skills and extensive public speaking experience. She is well versed in developing and delivering public health training.

### **VANESSA JOHNSON**

#### ***National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA)***

Vanessa Johnson currently serves as the Executive Vice President of National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA). Vanessa Johnson has volunteered and worked in the HIV/AIDS field for approximately 14 years. Vanessa is experienced in designing innovative and effective HIV prevention and leadership development initiatives as well as writing successful proposals to fund such initiatives. She is also experienced in forming collaborations and partnerships between community, government, and academic institution to ensure effective planning, implementation, evaluation, and sustainability of these programs and trainings. This combination of work, community, and voluntary related experiences has provided opportunities for Vanessa to serve as a speaker, presenter, lecturer, workshop facilitator, trainer, and conference planning committee member for a wide variety of HIV related programming, trainings, and conferences. She currently serves as the Board Secretary for the National Black Women HIV/AIDS Network; Leadership Team Member for the National Women and AIDS Collective; and Founding Member and Co-Chair of the Policy Committee for the U.S. Positive Women Network. Vanessa is a 1990 graduate of Temple University Law School and is the recipient of the 2007 Gloria Award (Ms. Foundation), the 2004 NYS Harriet Tubman Humanitarian Award, and the 1999 Paul G. Hearne/Association of People with Disabilities Award.

### **REVEREND DEBRA HICKMAN**

#### ***Sisters Together And Reaching, Inc (STAR)***

Rev. Debra Hickman is the Co-Founder and President/CEO of Sisters Together And Reaching, Inc. (STAR), a faith based, non-profit community organization that provides spiritual support, direct services and prevention education to HIV/AIDS infected, and affected African-American women and men. She is an ardent worker on issues related to health and human services with over twenty years of experience working in research and administration with various organizations, including the University of Maryland (UM) School of Medicine Division of Infectious Diseases, the Center for Vaccine Development-G.R.E.A.T. Study, and the University of Maryland Baltimore T.R.I.A.L.S Project. Rev. Hickman's background in the capacity of community organizing is a gift and her knowledge of HIV/AIDS is constant and consistently

growing. She has a thirty-six year history as a Licensed Practical Nurse, an AA degree in Business Administration from Catonsville Community College and a Masters of Divinity from Virginia Union University.

Rev. Debbie, as the youth call her, serves as a member of the CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee, a commissioner of the Mayor's HIV Commission, and is the recent past Co-Chair of Maryland Community Planning Group, the past Co-Chair Vaccine Trials Network for Institute of Human Virology, University of Maryland and past member of the Baltimore City Ryan White Planning Council where she served for seven years on each. She is a frequent consultant at the tables of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on various topics related to HIV/AIDS from a community perspective/community base perspective. She is the mother of three children: Rev. Dr. Donte' Hickman, Sr., Kelly Woolford and Randi Woods and a grandmother of four: Kiara, Kayla, Donte' Jr., and Dawson and a beautiful daughter-in-law Danielle Hickman and devoted father, Johnnie Hickman, Sr.

**Black Women and HIV/AIDS:  
Confronting the Crisis and Planning for Action  
New Orleans, LA  
March 23-25, 2009**

**PARTICIPANTS LIST**

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Title/Organization</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Joni Watson	AAAC	NASTAD Youth Liaison	(347) 882-1366	<a href="mailto:jonitwatson@yahoo.com">jonitwatson@yahoo.com</a>
LaQueisa Wilson	AAAC	Training Specialist, Texas Department of Health	(512) 533-3138	<a href="mailto:laqueisa.wilson@dshs.state.tx.us">laqueisa.wilson@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
LaTeisha Akin	Alabama	Education & Outreach Manager, AIDS Action Coalition	(256) 536-4700	<a href="mailto:lakin@aidsactioncoalition.org">lakin@aidsactioncoalition.org</a>
Jane Cheeks	Alabama	Director, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention	(334) 206-2625	<a href="mailto:jcheeks@adph.state.al.us">jcheeks@adph.state.al.us</a>
Bridgett Dunn	Alabama	Consumer, AIDS Action Coalition	(256) 417-7992	<a href="mailto:lakin@aidsactioncoalition.org">lakin@aidsactioncoalition.org</a>
<b>Sharon Jordan</b>	<b>Alabama Team Lead</b>	<b>Asst. Director, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention</b>	<b>(334) 206-2623</b>	<a href="mailto:sjordan@adph.state.al.us">sjordan@adph.state.al.us</a>
Niasha Brown	APA, BSSV Program	University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, School of Nursing	(919) 966-3119	<a href="mailto:nabrown@email.unc.edu">nabrown@email.unc.edu</a>
Edna Davis-Brown	APA, BSSV Program	BSSV Program Director	(202) 336-6176	<a href="mailto:Edavis-brown@apa.org">Edavis-brown@apa.org</a>
Barbara Haile	APA, BSSV Program	Florida A&M University	(850) 412-7554	<a href="mailto:barbara.haile@famu.edu">barbara.haile@famu.edu</a>
Murelle Harrison	APA, BSSV Program	Southern University and A&M College	(225) 771-2990	<a href="mailto:Murelle_harrison@subr.edu">Murelle_harrison@subr.edu</a>
Cherry Houston	APA, BSSV Program	Belmont University	(615) 460-6539	<a href="mailto:houstonc@mail.belmont.edu">houstonc@mail.belmont.edu</a>
Amanda Houston-Hamilton	APA, BSSV Program	BSSV Program Consultant	(415) 931-3031	<a href="mailto:docdmh@aol.com">docdmh@aol.com</a>

Tamara Moss-Knight	APA, BSSV Program	Howard University	(301) 379-9153	<a href="mailto:publichealthsocialworker@yahoo.com">publichealthsocialworker@yahoo.com</a>
Nanetta Payne	APA, BSSV Program	Jackson State University, MS Urban Research Center	(601) 979-0290	<a href="mailto:npayne@murc.org">npayne@murc.org</a>
Rahsheda Perine	APA, BSSV Program	Southern University and A&M College	(225) 771-2990	<a href="mailto:rdperine@yahoo.com">rdperine@yahoo.com</a>
Janet St. Lawrence	APA, BSSV Program	Mississippi State University, Division of Arts and Science	(601) 484-0145	<a href="mailto:jlawrence@meridian.msstate.edu">jlawrence@meridian.msstate.edu</a>
Susan Walch	APA, BSSV Program	Univeristy of West Florida, Department of Psychology	(850) 474-2273	<a href="mailto:swalch@uwf.edu">swalch@uwf.edu</a>
Annice Yarber	APA, BSSV Program	Auburn University, Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology	(334) 244-3687	<a href="mailto:ayarber@mail.aum.edu">ayarber@mail.aum.edu</a>
Uneeda Brewer	Florida	Florida Department of Health	(850) 245-4444	<a href="mailto:Uneeda_Brewer@doh.state.fl.us">Uneeda_Brewer@doh.state.fl.us</a>
April Hogan	Florida	Florida Department of Health	(850) 245-4444	<a href="mailto:April_Hogan@doh.state.fl.us">April_Hogan@doh.state.fl.us</a>
Brandi Williams	Florida	Florida Department of Health	(850) 245-4444	<a href="mailto:Brandi_Williams@doh.state.fl.us">Brandi_Williams@doh.state.fl.us</a>
<b>Leisha McKinley-Beach</b>	<b>Florida Team Lead</b>	<b>Florida Department of Health</b>	<b>(850) 245-4444</b>	<a href="mailto:leisha_mckinley-beach@doh.state.fl.us">leisha_mckinley-beach@doh.state.fl.us</a>
Dazon Dixon Diallo	Georgia	Founder/President, SisterLove, Inc.	(404) 505.7777	<a href="mailto:ddiallo@sisterlove.org">ddiallo@sisterlove.org</a>
Denise Stokes	Georgia	Community Building & Retention Specialist	(404) 870-7810	<a href="mailto:denise.stokes@aidatlanta.org">denise.stokes@aidatlanta.org</a>
<b>Raphael Holloway</b>	<b>Georgia Team Lead</b>	<b>HIV Unit Director</b>	<b>(404) 463-0414</b>	<a href="mailto:rlholloway@dhr.state.ga.us">rlholloway@dhr.state.ga.us</a>
Sigga Jagne	Kentucky	HIV/AIDS Branch Manager	(502) 564-6539	<a href="mailto:sigga.jagne@ky.gov">sigga.jagne@ky.gov</a>
Paulette Jewell	Kentucky	Preventive Case Manager	(502) 574-5487	<a href="mailto:paulette.jewell@louisvilleky.gov">paulette.jewell@louisvilleky.gov</a>

Beverly Mitchell	Kentucky	HIV Minority HRH Initiatives Program Coordinator	(502) 564-6539	<a href="mailto:beverly.mitchell@ky.gov">beverly.mitchell@ky.gov</a>
Patsy Mozee	Kentucky	Volunteers of America	(502) 550-0726	<a href="mailto:noemail@nonegiven.com">noemail@nonegiven.com</a>
<b>Medina Tipton</b>	<b>Kentucky Team Lead</b>	<b>HIV/AIDS Surveillance Coordinator</b>	<b>(502) 564-6539</b>	<a href="mailto:medina.tipton@ky.gov">medina.tipton@ky.gov</a>
Swanzanette Bonnet	Louisiana	Program Director	(337) 233-2437	<a href="mailto:Swan@acadianacares.org">Swan@acadianacares.org</a>
Gina Brown	Louisiana	Homeless Case Manager	(504) 821-2601	<a href="mailto:GinaB@noaidstf.org">GinaB@noaidstf.org</a>
Jack Carrel	Louisiana	Prevention Manager, Louisiana Office of Public Health	(504) 568-7474	<a href="mailto:jcarrel@dhh.la.gov">jcarrel@dhh.la.gov</a>
Kira Radtke Frederic	Louisiana	Services Program Manager, Louisiana Office of Public Health	(504) 568-7474	<a href="mailto:kradtke@dhh.la.gov">kradtke@dhh.la.gov</a>
Gabrielle Johnson	Louisiana	Executive Director	(225) 268-9358	<a href="mailto:Gjohnson@facetofacecenter.org">Gjohnson@facetofacecenter.org</a>
Beth Scalco	Louisiana	AIDS Director, Louisiana Office of Public Health	(504) 568-7474	<a href="mailto:bscalco@dhh.la.gov">bscalco@dhh.la.gov</a>
Franda Thomas	Louisiana	Coordinator Supervisor, Louisiana Office of Public Health	(504) 568-7474	<a href="mailto:fthomas@dhh.la.gov">fthomas@dhh.la.gov</a>
<b>Jacky Bickham</b>	<b>Louisiana Team Lead</b>	<b>Coordinator Supervisor, Louisiana Office of Public Health</b>	<b>(504) 568-5512</b>	<a href="mailto:jbickham@dhh.la.gov">jbickham@dhh.la.gov</a>
Kenya Darden	Mississippi	HIV Instructor Trainer, American Red Cross	(601) 527-9432	<a href="mailto:kenya_burton@hotmail.com">kenya_burton@hotmail.com</a>
Juanita Davis	Mississippi	STD/HIV Prevention & Education Director	(601) 576-7723	<a href="mailto:Juanita.Davis@msdh.state.ms.us">Juanita.Davis@msdh.state.ms.us</a>
Jennifer Davis	Mississippi	Health Education Specialist, Students Involved in Prevention	(601) 979-1410	<a href="mailto:jdavis@murc.org">jdavis@murc.org</a>
Marilyn Moering	Mississippi	Executive Director, Building Bridges Inc	(601) 922-0100	<a href="mailto:mmoering@aol.com">mmoering@aol.com</a>

Adrienne Myers	Mississippi	SIP Undergraduate Assistant	(601) 918-5681	<a href="mailto:adriannemyers06@yahoo.com">adriannemyers06@yahoo.com</a>
Thomascene Washington	Mississippi	Consumer - Building Bridges Inc	(601) 922-4855	<a href="mailto:jaytown2004@yahoo.com">jaytown2004@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Fallon Swinnie</b>	<b>Mississippi Team Lead</b>	<b>Health Program Specialist Sr.</b>	<b>(601) 573-7723</b>	<a href="mailto:Fallon.Swinnie@msd.h.state.ms.us">Fallon.Swinnie@msd.h.state.ms.us</a>
Michelle Batchelor	NASTAD	Senior Manager, Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:mbatchelor@NASTAD.org">mbatchelor@NASTAD.org</a>
Jermaine Ivy	NASTAD	Manager, Meetings & Travel	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:jivy@NASTAD.org">jivy@NASTAD.org</a>
Gary Jenkins	NASTAD	Manager, Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:gjenkins@NASTAD.org">gjenkins@NASTAD.org</a>
Joy Mbajah	NASTAD	Manager, Prevention	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:jmbajah@NASTAD.org">jmbajah@NASTAD.org</a>
Terrance Moore	NASTAD	Associate Director, Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:tmoore@NASTAD.org">tmoore@NASTAD.org</a>
Francisco Ruiz	NASTAD	Manager, Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:fruiz@NASTAD.org">fruiz@NASTAD.org</a>
Julie Scofield	NASTAD	Executive Director	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:jscofield@NASTAD.org">jscofield@NASTAD.org</a>
Angela Seegars	NASTAD	Manager, Care & Treatment	(202) 434-9090	<a href="mailto:aseegars@NASTAD.org">aseegars@NASTAD.org</a>
Lynn Shaul	NASTAD	Associate, Prevention/Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:lshaul@NASTAD.org">lshaul@NASTAD.org</a>
Sophia Nur	NASTAD	Intern, Prevention/Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities	(202) 434-8090	<a href="mailto:snur@NASTAD.org">snur@NASTAD.org</a>
Jacqui Coleman	NASTAD Consultant	Vision Que!, LLC	(202) 460-1407	<a href="mailto:visionque@netzero.com">visionque@netzero.com</a>
Lauren Anderson	National Partner	Living Quilt Team, Southern AIDS Coalition		<a href="mailto:lauren@livingquilt.org">lauren@livingquilt.org</a>
Frances Ashe-Goins	National Partner	Deputy Director, Office of Women's Health	(202) 690-6373	<a href="mailto:frances.ashe-goins@hhs.gov">frances.ashe-goins@hhs.gov</a>
Renata	National	Centers for Disease	(404) 639-	<a href="mailto:rellington1@cdc.gov">rellington1@cdc.gov</a>

Ellington	Partner	Control and Prevention	2006	
Shelley Hayes	National Partner	Chair, ABA AIDS Coordinating Committee	(202) 234-0831	<a href="mailto:sdhayes@sandhconsulting.biz">sdhayes@sandhconsulting.biz</a>
Kimberly Hinton	National Partner	Deputy Director of Programs, National AIDS Fund	(202) 408-4848	<a href="mailto:khinton@aidsfund.org">khinton@aidsfund.org</a>
Wendy Lyons	National Partner	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	(404) 639-5243	<a href="mailto:wendy.harringtonlyon@cdc.hhs.gov">wendy.harringtonlyon@cdc.hhs.gov</a>
Kendra Moses	National Partner	New Orleans Regional AIDS Planning Council	(504) 821-7334	<a href="mailto:kendra@norapc.org">kendra@norapc.org</a>
Patrick Packer	National Partner	Executive Director, Southern AIDS Coalition	(205) 249-7333	<a href="mailto:patrickpacker@charter.net">patrickpacker@charter.net</a>
Maya Poree	National Partner	Program Officer, National AIDS Fund	(504) 940-7441	<a href="mailto:mporee@aidsfund.org">mporee@aidsfund.org</a>
Anne Prince	National Partner	Living Quilt Team, Southern AIDS Coalition	(202) 879-5838	<a href="mailto:anne@livingquilt.org">anne@livingquilt.org</a>
John Procter	National Partner	Living Quilt Team, Southern AIDS Coalition		<a href="mailto:john@livingquilt.org">john@livingquilt.org</a>
Joyce Turner-Keller	National Partner	Founder/CEO, Aspirations	(225) 288-8161	<a href="mailto:aspiringdreams2005@yahoo.com">aspiringdreams2005@yahoo.com</a>
Brian Burton	National Partner	Southwest Louisiana Health Education Center		
Kayla Allison	National Partner	Southwest Louisiana Health Education Center		
Donna Alexander	National Partner	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention		
Evelyn Foust	North Carolina	Head, Communicable Disease Branch	(919) 733-9490	<a href="mailto:evelyn.foust@ncmail.net">evelyn.foust@ncmail.net</a>
Connie Jones	North Carolina	Testing Coordinator	(910) 486-1710	<a href="mailto:constance.jones@ncmail.net">constance.jones@ncmail.net</a>
Devondia Roseborough	North Carolina	Executive Director, Rasberrrose Foundation	(704) 906-5544	<a href="mailto:rasberrrose@aol.com">rasberrrose@aol.com</a>
<b>Kimberly Hoke</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>HIV Prevention and Community Planning</b>	<b>(919) 733-9560</b>	<a href="mailto:kim.hoke@ncmail.net">kim.hoke@ncmail.net</a>

	<b>Team Lead</b>	<b>Unit Manager</b>		
Joyce Belton	South Carolina	Consumer Advocate	(803) 898-0367	<a href="mailto:beltonjd@dhec.sc.gov">beltonjd@dhec.sc.gov</a>
Bambi Gaddist	South Carolina	Executive Director-SC HIV/AIDS Council	(803) 254-6644	<a href="mailto:bamewame@aol.com">bamewame@aol.com</a>
Adrena Harrison	South Carolina	Project Director SC Linkage Program for Inmates	(803) 744-1651	<a href="mailto:adrena.harrison@uscm.edu">adrena.harrison@uscm.edu</a>
Pamela Sykes	South Carolina	Consumer	(843) 552-5310	<a href="mailto:pysykes@yahoo.com">pysykes@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Andre Rawls</b>	<b>South Carolina Team Lead</b>	<b>Division Director</b>	<b>(803) 898-0625</b>	<a href="mailto:rawlsaw@dhec.sc.gov">rawlsaw@dhec.sc.gov</a>
Faye Belgrave	Speaker/Panelist	Virginia Commonwealth University	(804) 827-3908	<a href="mailto:fzbelgra@vcu.edu">fzbelgra@vcu.edu</a>
Marvelyn Brown	Speaker/Panelist	AIDS Activist and Author of <i>The Naked Truth</i>	(347) 512-9250	<a href="mailto:marvelyn@marvelynbrown.com">marvelyn@marvelynbrown.com</a>
Janet Cleveland	Speaker/Panelist	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	(404) 639-8980	<a href="mailto:igz6@cdc.gov">igz6@cdc.gov</a>
Patricia Gould-Champ	Speaker/Panelist	Virginia Union University	(804) 262-6052	<a href="mailto:pgchamp@aol.com">pgchamp@aol.com</a>
Rev. Debra Hickman	Speaker/Panelist	Sisters Together and Reaching, Inc. (STAR)	(410) 383-1903	<a href="mailto:info@sisterstogetherandreaching.org">info@sisterstogetherandreaching.org</a>
Vanessa Johnson	Speaker/Panelist	Executive Vice President, NAPWA	(240) 247-1016	<a href="mailto:vjohnson@napwa.org">vjohnson@napwa.org</a>
Pamela Payne Foster	Speaker/Panelist	Rural Health Institute, The University of Alabama	(334) 322-1138	<a href="mailto:ppayne-foster@cchs.ua.edu">ppayne-foster@cchs.ua.edu</a>
Andrea Perez	Speaker/Panelist	Communities of Color Program Manager, IN Dept of Health	(317) 233-7949	<a href="mailto:anperez@isdh.IN.gov">anperez@isdh.IN.gov</a>
Cheryl Taylor	Speaker/Panelist	Off. of Nursing Research/ Black Women's Health Imperative	(225) 771-2472	<a href="mailto:cheryl_taylor@subr.edu">cheryl_taylor@subr.edu</a>
Carmi Washington-	Speaker/Pan	Maryland Department of Health and Mental	(410) 767-	<a href="mailto:washingtonc@dhmh.sta">washingtonc@dhmh.sta</a>

Flood	elist	Hygiene	5252	<a href="http://te.md.us">te.md.us</a>
Constance West	Speaker/Pan elist	Fulton County Juvenile Court	(404) 483- 8841	<a href="mailto:cacwest@bellsouth.net">cacwest@bellsouth.net</a>
Marquietta Alston	Virginia	Assistant Director of HIV Prevention	(804) 864- 8006	<a href="mailto:marquietta.alston@vdh.virginia.gov">marquietta.alston@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Vendetta Reynolds	Virginia	Community Health Educator	(757) 486- 8425	<a href="mailto:venreyn@cox.net">venreyn@cox.net</a>
Ruth Royster	Virginia	Community Educator/CPG Member	(757) 625- 6992	<a href="mailto:RRoyster@accessaids.org">RRoyster@accessaids.org</a>
<b>Jennifer Flannagan</b>	<b>Virginia Team Lead</b>	<b>HIV Prevention Community Planner</b>	<b>(804) 864- 8015</b>	<a href="mailto:jennifer.flannagan@vdh.virginia.gov">jennifer.flannagan@vdh.virginia.gov</a>
Chandrill Mobley	Youth Participant	Southern University	(985) 510- 0732	<a href="mailto:chandrill_mobley_do@subr.edu">chandrill_mobley_do@subr.edu</a>
Meghan Fontenot	Youth Participant	Southern University	(225) 773- 6808	<a href="mailto:meghan_fontenot_do@subr.edu">meghan_fontenot_do@subr.edu</a>