

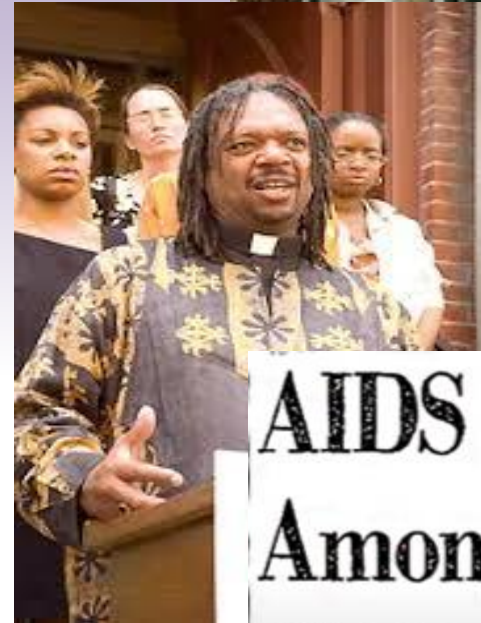
**Us Helping Us, People Into Living, Inc.:
Community-Based Institutions @ the
Center of Health Equity**

An Internal Case Study

October 11, 2023

**DEMARC A. HICKSON, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

- Founded in 1985, and later incorporated on October 5, 1988.
- Self-help support group; followed principles of mind, body and spirit.
- Today, the oldest and one of the largest Black gay-founded/led HIV service organizations in the U.S.
- **Mission:** To improve the health and well-being of Black gay men* & to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS in the entire Black community.



**AIDS Spreading Faster
Among D.C. Blacks**
Officials Fear Education Efforts Failing

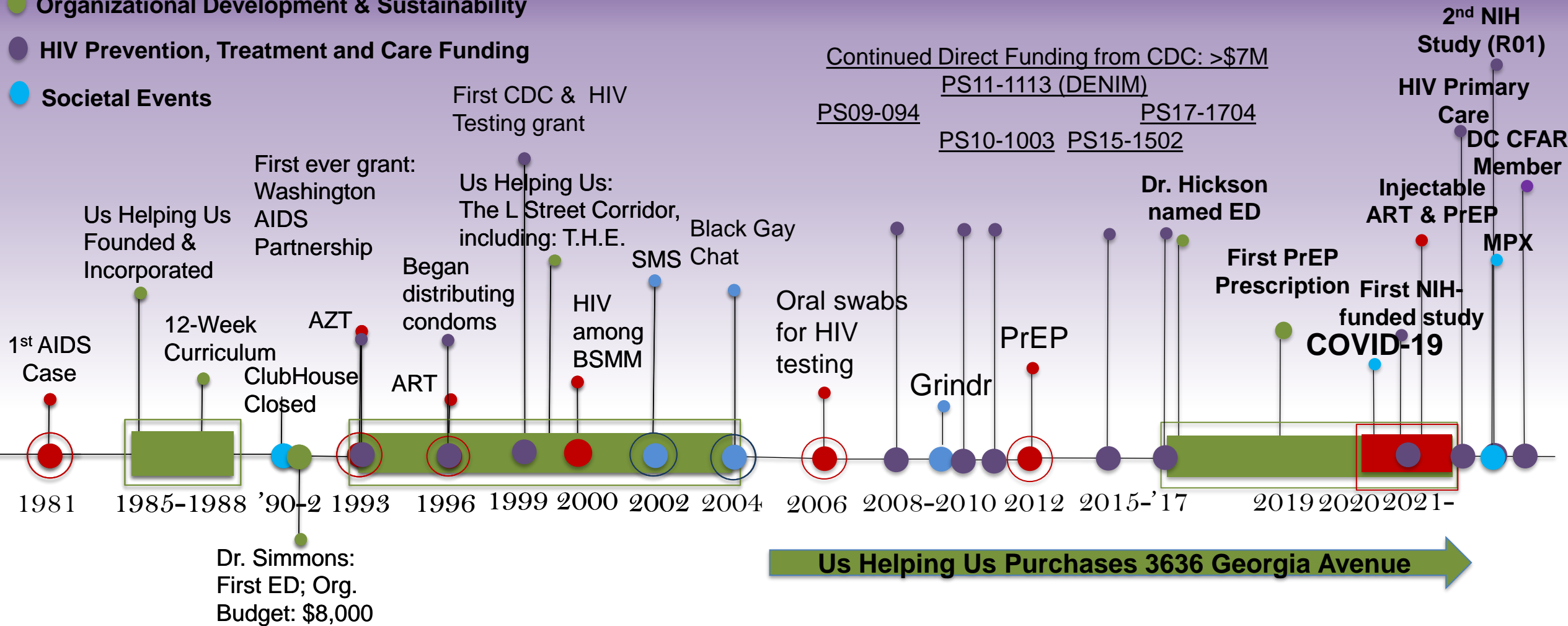
A Historical Perspective: The Coming of a Community-Based Leader in Sexual Health

● HIV progress/ Ending the HIV Epidemic

● Organizational Development & Sustainability

● HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care Funding

● Societal Events



- An experienced institution
- Addresses the unmet needs of underserved, marginalized, and overlooked populations
- Racial, [sexual and gender minorities], people [living & thriving with HIV], and persons with mood and substance use disorders & experiences of homelessness

Current Programs, Services and Activities

PrEP & PEP services, including education and navigation services

HIV treatment (Ryan White: Outpatient Ambulatory Medical Services)

Integrated HIV/STD Testing, incl. Syphilis, gonorrhea, Chlamydia, Hepatitis C

STD Treatments & Vaccinations (HPV, Hepatitis A & B)

TeleHealth services, incl. TeleScreening, TeleMental Health, TeleCase Management

Psychotherapy / Counseling

Behavioral HIV Interventions (e.g., Healthy Relationships)

Case Management (Medical, non-Medical, Housing)

Psychosocial Support Groups (Various)

Community-Based Outreach & Education (Mobile Health)

Syringe Services Program (Needle Exchange)

Drop-In Center: The DENIM Collection

Workforce Development (Project GROWTH, Peer Educators)

Research: Epi of HepC; SNS and PrEP; SRD and PrEP



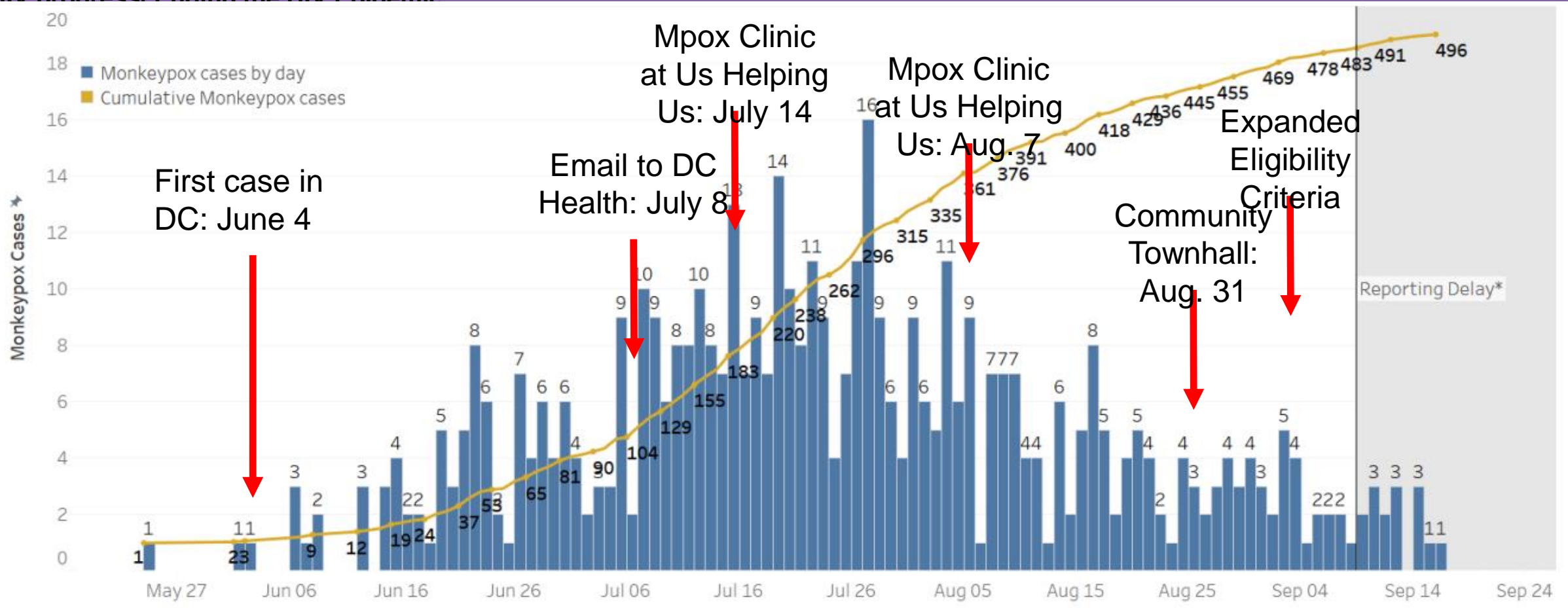
Us Helping Us: Not by Happenstance

- Half of the Board are Scientists; Chair of Academic Departments, Political & Community Activists.
 - 100% Giving Board; % Giving Team*
- Org. Led by a PhD-trained Biostatistician/Scientist
 - Very few, if not the only. Protocols are rigorous.
- Team is culturally congruent.



Us Helping Us: A Community-Based Leader on the Frontlines of Mpox

HIV progress/ Ending the HIV Epidemic



Data Source: DC Health (as of 9/27/2022)

Cases are included by date of symptom onset if known, or date of estimated symptom onset (6 days prior to specimen collection date)

* Infections that began during this time period may not yet be reported

Data are subject to change

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Reporting Delay*

Demographics (N = 178)

- Gender
- Sexually Active
- Sexual Orientation
- Preexisting Conditions

J Urban Health (2023) 100:204–211
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-022-00712-9>

BRIEF REPORT



Demographics and Health Beliefs of Black Gay, Bisexual, and Other Sexual Minority Men Receiving a Mpox Vaccination in the United States

Adedotun Ogunbajo · Alexa Euceda ·
Jamil Smith · Raven Ekundayo · Justise Wattree ·
Mitchell Brooks · DeMarc Hickson

Master's degree, Professional degree, or Doctorate degree

93%

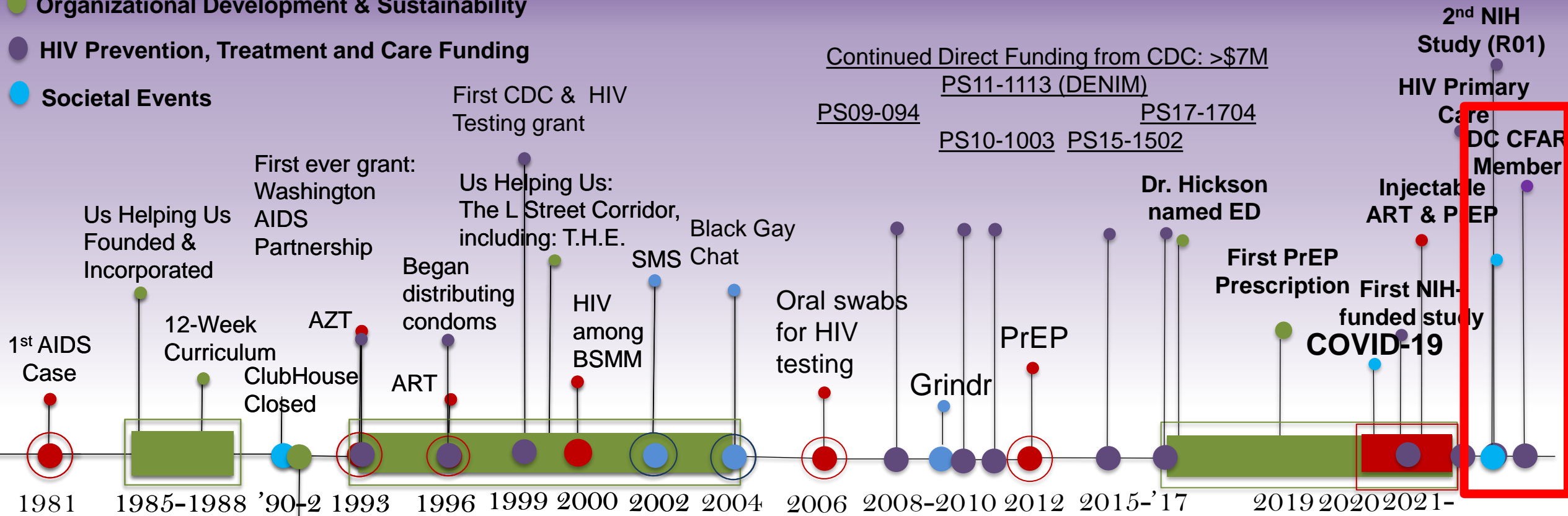


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- HIV progress/ Ending the HIV Epidemic
- Organizational Development & Sustainability
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Us Helping Us Purchases 3636 Georgia Avenue

Active Research Study Protocols

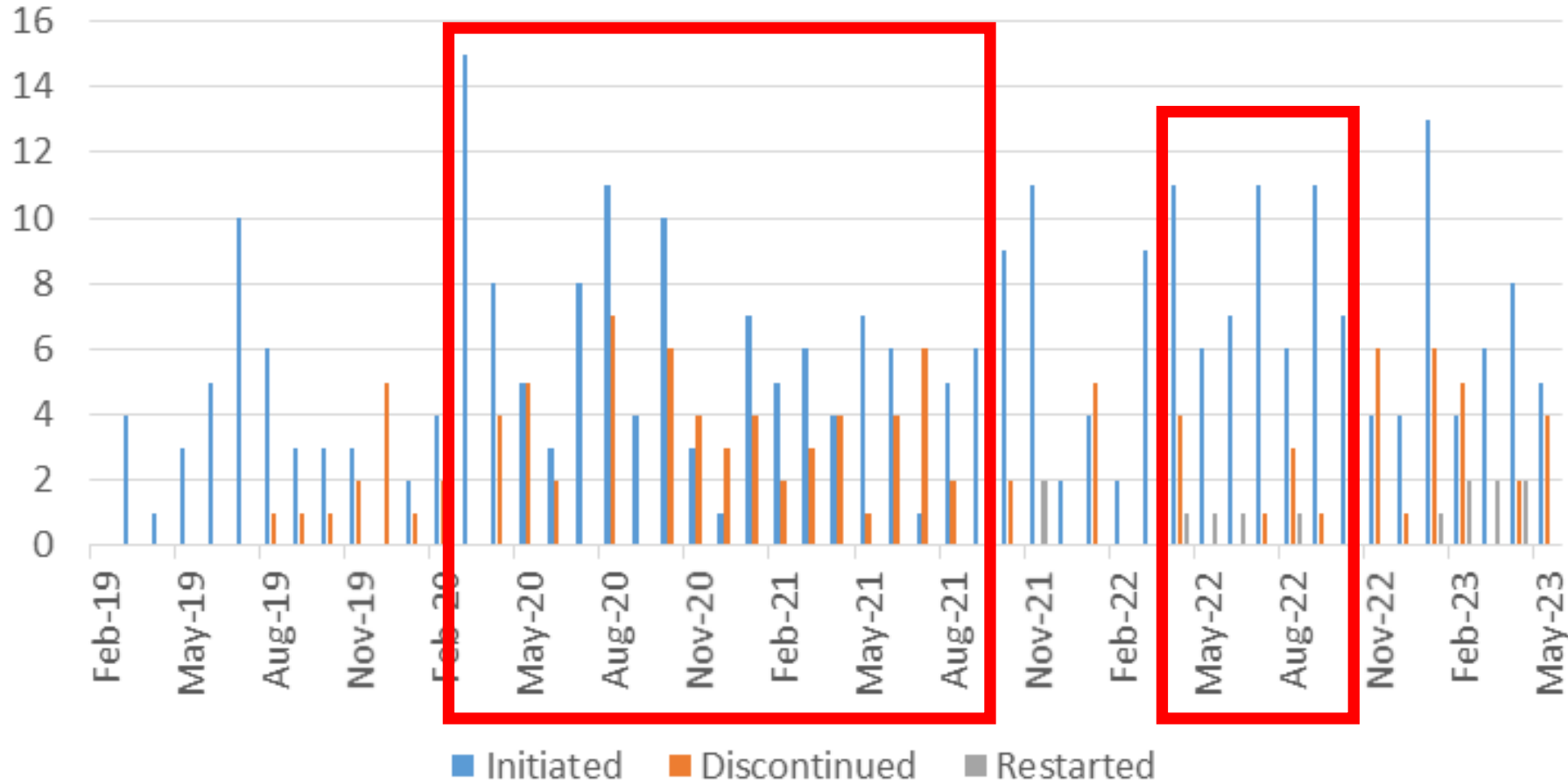
1. Epidemiology of HepC in Black & Latino Sexual Minority Men in Washington, DC & Dallas, TX
2. PrEP Initiation and Adherence Among Black Sexual Minority Men: A Social Network-Level Intervention
3. Structural Racism and Discrimination and its Impact on HIV Testing and PrEP Outcomes among Black SMM in Washington, DC & Dallas, TX
4. A mixed methods study of the association between engagement in LAI PrEP, sexual health screenings, psychosocial health, and substance use among key populations in Washington DC
5. Developing and pilot testing a multidimensional intervention to improve HIV care outcomes among recently incarcerated people living with HIV in the Washington DC metropolitan area
5. Adapting and piloting a group intervention to address intersectional stigmas, and support shared resiliency and HIV wellness, among Black sexual minority men in Washington DC
6. Designing and piloting a pharmacy-based PrEP delivery model for Black Adults in Washington, DC
7. Identifying socioecological profiles that impact changes in care outcomes among Black Sexual minority men living with HIV
8. A randomized clinical trial of client-centered care coordination to improve pre-exposure prophylaxis use for Black men who have sex with men

Us Helping Us: Are you PrEPared???

- PrEP Education & Navigation: 2012-present
- First prescription: February 21, 2019
- Rapid PrEP Initiation Model*
- Offering **TelePrEP** in the DMV (pilot: US)

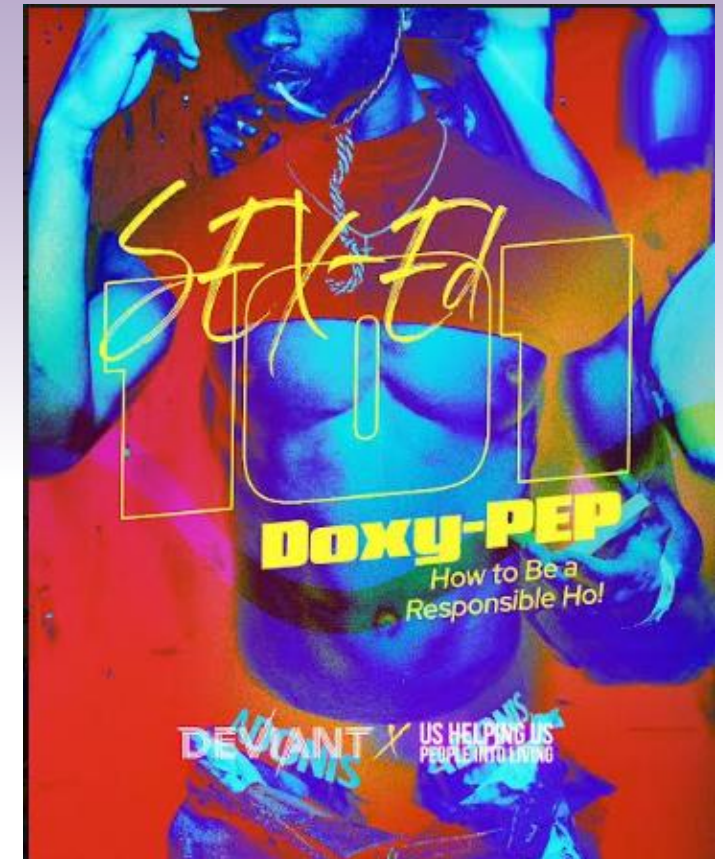


PrEP Use at Us Helping Us: Good, Bad, and Ugly

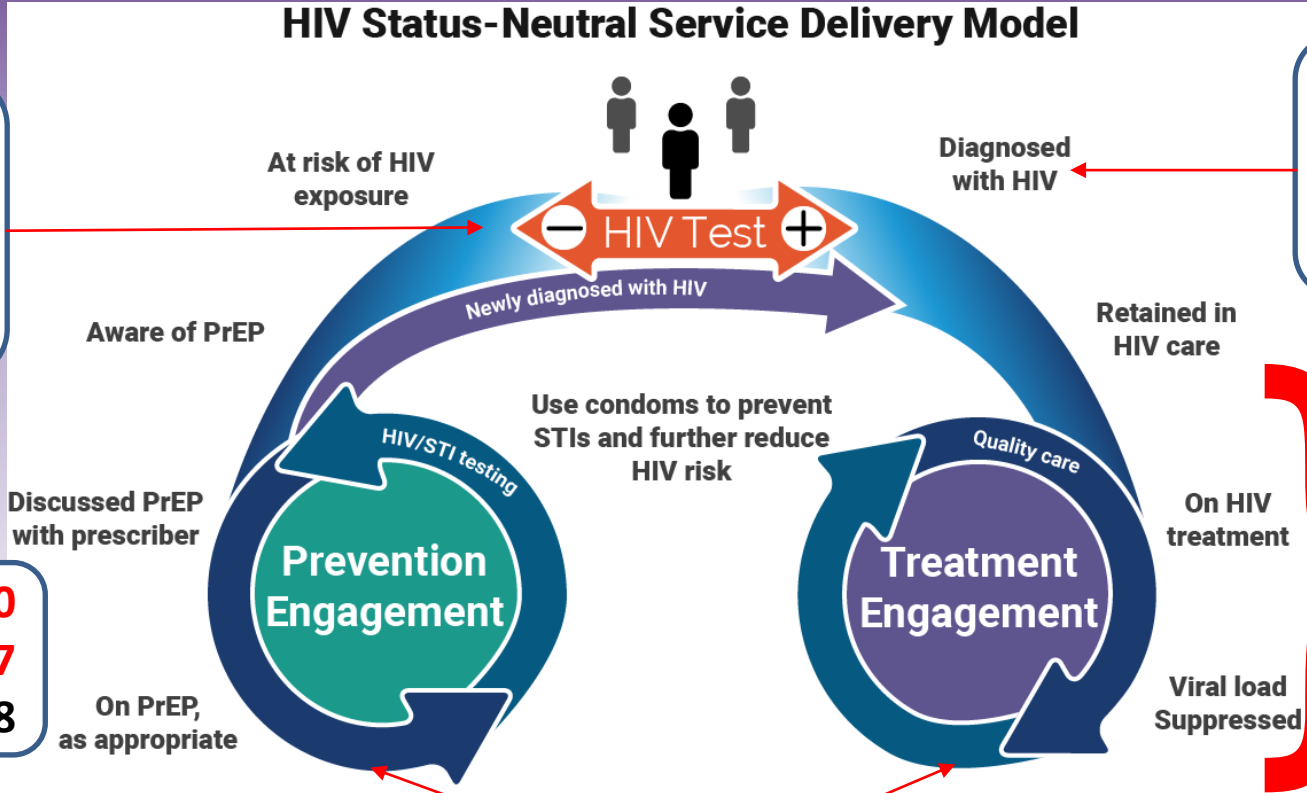


- Initiated: 299
- Discontinued: 110
- Restarted: 13

- Integrated HIV/STI Tests (2022): 2,342
 - Reactive: 417 (17.8%)
 - Repeaters: 212 (9.1%)
- doxyPEP: Launch during DC Black Pride
 - In collaboration with DC Health & Deviant Events
 - 67 samples distributed between Friday & Sunday
- How can you help?
 - Standing orders
 - Provide public health pricing to organizations



The Blueprint to Eliminating Inequities & Ending the HIV Epidemic



SAMHSA: \$125,000
DC Health: \$187,500
Prince George's: \$31,000
Montgomery: \$42,000
TOTAL: \$510,500

DC Health (EIS MAI): \$63,636
RWhite Part A*: \$122,728
Prince George's: \$31,000
TOTAL: \$217,364

DC Health: \$112,500
RWhite Part A*: \$122,727
TOTAL: \$235,228

RWhite Part A: \$727,244
RWhite Part B: \$306,823
Prince George's: \$81,000
Gilead Sciences: \$233,333
TOTAL: \$1,348,400

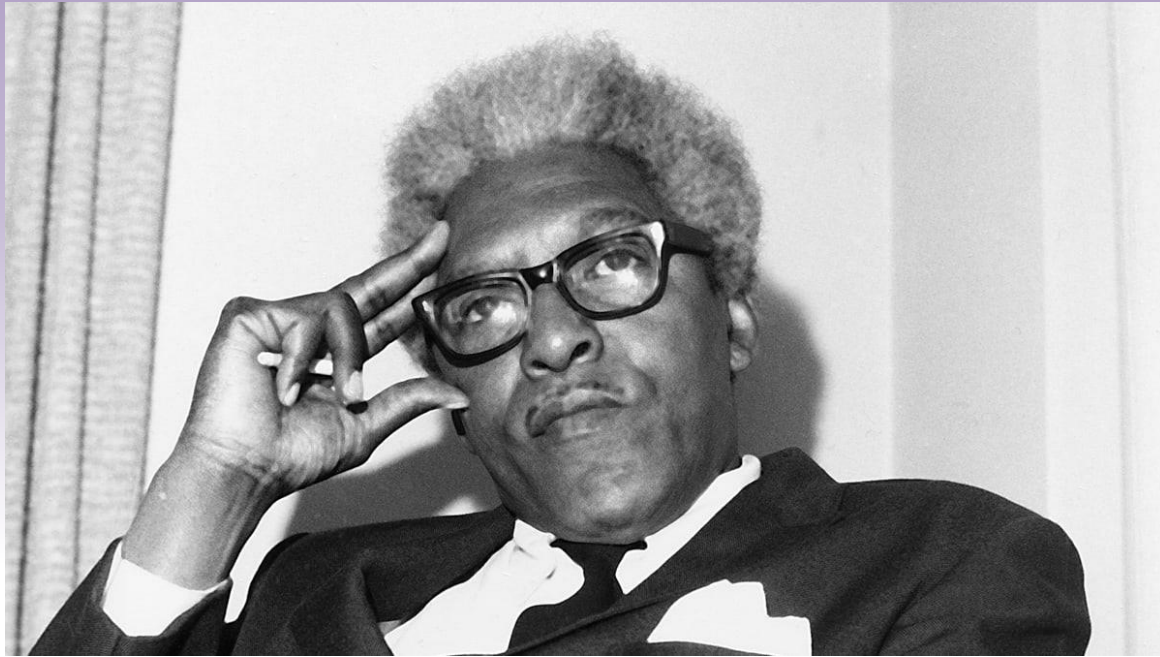
NIH: \$1,135,689
CFAR EHE Suppl: \$527,610
ViiV Healthcare: \$348,400
TOTAL: \$2,011,699

EFA (Broadway): \$35,000
ViiV Health: \$200,000
Gilead Sciences: \$600,000
GenOps: \$600,000**
TOTAL: \$1,435,000

DC Dept. Bev. Hlth: \$35,000
Dept Hum Serv: \$300,000
Prince George's: \$200,000
TOTAL: \$1,235,000



- True Community-Government Partnerships
- Community-Based D.I.S.
- Sole source demonstration projects
- Continued and Furthered Support for Community-Based Institutions (not Organization; Continuously Broke Organization).



Us Helping Us History Video:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5PG384vEOE

