BLACK GAY MALE HIV PREVENTION INITIATIVES

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Division of Disease Prevention (DDP)
ManDate in Virginia
Project Healthy Living

- Project Healthy Living is a working group consisting of African-American gay and bisexual men, with very close ties and direction from the DC Department of Health HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Administration (HAHSTA).
COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS

MINORITY HEALTH CONSORTIUM
Richmond, VA

ACCESS AIDS CARE
Norfolk, VA
Statewide MSM Advisory Board
The Community Advancement Project (CAP)

- The CAP is a community mobilization initiative for gay and bisexual men of color with membership of gay and bisexual men, transgender persons, and supporters of initiatives aimed towards bettering the health of gay and bisexual men.
Regional Meetings

- The CAP performs two tours per year across the five health regions of Virginia assessing the regional needs of minority MSM.
- The CAP will meet next in Fairfax, VA on August 11th.
Virginia MSM Grant Program
Current Contracts in 2015

- **Purpose:** To provide high impact HIV prevention services in Virginia for men who have sex with men (MSM). Services may also target male-to-female (MTF) transgender persons.

- **Budget:** $475,000

- Contractors provide high impact interventions and strategies recommended for MSM
  - **May provide:**
    - Either in-house HIV testing (including linkage to care for HIV-positive patients) **but**
    - must provide referral to HIV testing (if not testing in-house) & facilitate linkage to care as appropriate
Current Contracts by Location

Commonwealth of Virginia - Department of Health
Services/Interventions provided by Contractors

- Personalized Cognitive Counseling (PCC)
- CLEAR
- VOICES/VOCES
- Mpowerment (the Crew)
- M4M Delivery Model
- T-SISTA Intervention
- Six Brown Bag Lunch Education Sessions
- Rewriting Inner Scripts (RISE)
- Out. Proud. Aware (homegrown)
- Men Plugged In (homegrown)
- Street/Community Outreach
- Online/Mobile Outreach
- Condom Distribution
- HIV Testing
Addressing the National HIV/AIDS Strategy

MSM Grant program address these three primary goals:

1) Reducing the number of people who become infected with HIV
   - Condom distribution programs
   - Educational information on PrEP
   - Incorporation of sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention, testing, and treatment information
   - High impact, effective HIV prevention services for gay, bisexual, and other MSM. May also target male to female transgender persons.

2) Increasing access to care and optimizing health outcomes for people living with HIV
   - May provide in-home HIV testing (including linkage to care for HIV-positive persons) OR referral to HIV testing
   - Information regarding enrollment into the Marketplace for the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

3) Reducing HIV-related health disparities
   - Information regarding enrollment into the Marketplace for the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
Additional MSM Programs through Local HD
Men’s Health Clinic

- Alexandria Health Department

- Rainbow Tuesday Clinic
  Serving Gay, Bisexual and Trans, Queer and Same Gender Loving Men.

- FREE, walk-in Sexually Transmitted Infection testing and treatment, HIV rapid testing, Hepatitis B immunizations and referrals.
Men’s Health Clinic

- Petersburg Health Department
  - The Men’s Sexual Health Clinic offers a convenient and confidential place where men can be tested for sexually transmitted infections and HIV after normal business hours.

- Services are available at no cost to men, ages eighteen and older, by appointment or walk-in. Services include education and counseling on HIV, and treatment for sexually transmitted infections.
Supplemental MSM Funding
Mini-Grants Awarded by Location

Commonwealth of Virginia - Department of Health

[Map of Virginia showing different regions with stars indicating award locations]
In-Home Testing Program with MSM
DDP will launch an social marketing campaign to a targeted high-risk MSM population for free In-home HIV test kits.

Advertising for free In-home HIV test kits will be placed on web-based and smartphone app-based social networking interfaces that are popular with MSM. These include Grindr, Jackd, Scruff, BGCLive and Adam4Adam.

Users will be able to complete an online consent form, risk assessment survey, and an order form for a free In-home HIV test kit.
Other Initiatives
Testing Makes Us Stronger Campaign (TMUS)

- The TMUS campaign is one of the multiple campaigns from the Act Against AIDS communications suite from the Centers for Disease Control.

- The majority of all placements were digital and included gay ad networks, specialized gay websites, mobile applications specific to MSM, social networking websites, and Pandora.
Other Initiatives Targeting MSM

- PrEP Initiative
- Bridging the Gap between Faith-Based and MSM Community
- Social Networking Strategies
- Racial Disparities Workgroup
Gay Men’s Health Summit

- In collaboration with a CBO to host a gay/bisexual and other MSM health conference on September 25-27.
- Focus is on the holistic health needs of gay/bisexual men.
- Attendance will be free. The event will be held at the Holiday Inn Virginia Beach-Norfolk Hotel and Conference Center.
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