Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Regional Learning Collaborative

Alameda, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, and San Francisco Counties

Session 11: Grassroots Approaches to Ending the HIV Epidemic

Tuesday, August 17, 2021
10-11:30 a.m. PST
Session Agenda

1) Presentations
   - Alianza Translatinx
     - Khloe Rios-Wyatt, CEO/President
   - Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease (AMAAD) Institute
     - Gerald Garth, Director of Operations and Programs
     - Jamar Moore, EHE Program Manager
   - The Wall Las Memorias (TWLM)
     - Richard Zaldivar, Founder/Executive Director

2) Panel Discussion/Q&A
   - Enter questions using Q&A
   - Share comments/resources using Chat
The mission of Alianza Translatinx is to protect, defend and advocate for the needs and rights of the transgender and gender non-conforming Latinx community as well as other marginalized communities.

Our vision is to uplift disproportionate communities through education, community empowerment, and social justice so that we can ensure and foster community inclusion and unity.
Alianza Translatinx’s founders: Rachel Pozos, Cynthia Espinosa, Leslie Jimenez and Khloe Rios

First and only Trans Latinx-led organization in Orange County, (OC) CA

That provides direct services

Provides a drop in center (physical office space)

Direct Services provision:

- patient navigation
- health education
- linkage to care referrals
- A gender marker and name clinic
- referrals to medical services and HIV/STD prevention services
EMPOWERMENT SERVICES OFFERED:

- Name and Gender marker clinic
- Individual Resume/Cover letter building
- Online Empowerment workshops
Miercoles de Comida

- A drop-in support group for TGNC at any stage of gender transition
- Includes nightly meal and group meeting.
- Meets every Wednesday at 1 pm.
TRANS-Crafting
Promotes
- Creativity
- Entrepreneurship
- Small Business ideas
Meets every Tuesday at 2PM
Ballet Folklorico

- Offers dance training to TGNC folks and an opportunity to enrich and inspire others through dance.
- Fosters leadership amongst the TGNC community
- Helps with isolation brought by COVID19
- Meets every Monday at 5PM
CHALLENGES

- Conservative County
- Very little basic service provision for TGNC community
- Zero data about TGNC communities
- Little economic resources to support Alianza Translatinx
ALIANZA TRANXLATINX ANNUAL COMMUNITY EVENTS
COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR
TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE & VISIBILITY

DÍA DE LA REMEMBRANZA TRANS
Noviembre 20, 2020
5:30 PM

Alianza Translatinx
486 W. 4th St. Santa Ana CA, 92701
Estacionamiento de 2 horas gratis en la esquina antes de 3 pm
SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT
¡GRACIAS!
Gerald Garth
Director of Programs & Operations

Jamar Moore
Project Senior Manager

Headquarter Location:
Watts Civic Center Office Building
10221 S. Compton Ave., Suite 105
Los Angeles, CA 90002
Presenters:

Gerald Garth
Director of Programs & Operations

Jamar Moore
EHE Senior Program Manager
Objectives

- Introduce AMAAD
- AMAAD Mission and Team
- AMAAD Programs
- AMAAD Strategies & Approaches
- Lessons Learned
- Questions & Answer
AMAAD facilitates personalized individual access to programs and services that foster safe and supportive healthy environments for people to live, learn, and develop to their fullest potential.
“What AMAAD does is near and dear to the organizers, because this is where we spend our daily lives. This is where we sleep, shop, social, and serve. We are not going ‘into’ South LA; we are already here.”

Dr. Carl Highshaw, MSW
Founder & Executive Director
Programs

AMAAD’s Ambassadors
AMAAD’s Fierce, Fabulous, and Free (F3)
AMAAD’s Prevention Navigation
AMAAD’s Recovery Community Support
AMAAD’s House of Resiliency
AMAAD’s ROAR (Restoration, Outreach, Advocacy, & Resiliency)

AMAAD’s Prison/Jail Reentry Services
AMAAD Policy Alliance
AMAAD’s For Our Own Protection
AMAAD’s Black LGBTQ Mental Health Taskforce
Ending HIV Epidemic (EHE)
Resilient Solutions

The Resilient Solutions Project is a program that is designed to help African Americans, Black, and LGBTQ+ individuals, particularly formerly incarcerated individuals, and those with mental health and substance use disorders.

For Who?
- Black and Black LGBTQ+ individuals over 18
- Individuals experiencing justice-involvement
- Mental health support
- Substance recovery and prevention support
- In need of housing support

For More Information please email: celeste@amaad.org or info@amaad.org

P: (323)-569-1610
WWW.AMAAD.ORG
The Resilient Solutions Project is a program that is designed to help African Americans, Black, and LGBTQ+ individuals, and those in need of help with substance use disorders.

**For Who?**
- Black and Brown individuals
- Individuals experiencing mental health issues
- Substance recovery
- In need of help

**AMAAAD’s affirming group of LGBTQ+ men and allies centered on building brotherhood, community, & leadership through programs and events.**

**Contact for More Info:**
- chris@amaaad.org
- celeste@amaaad.org
- info@amaaad.org
- P: (323)-569-1610

**WWW.AMAAAD.ORG**
HOUSE OF RESILIENCY
“BIG MAMA’S HOUSE”

The House of Resiliency, also known as ‘Big Mama’s House’, is the AMAAD Institute’s Transitional Living Community located in the King Estates Neighborhood of South Los Angeles. The House of Resiliency is intended to be especially welcoming to young gay-identified men who need temporary residence in a structured, drug-free environment. Occupants of the House of Resiliency will also have access to all AMAAD programs and services. If you would like to apply please visit our website at www.amaad.org. From the home page click on programs, then house of resiliency, then apply here.

- Life Skill Classes
- Stabilization Through Housing
- Develop Comprehensive Housing Plan
- Recover Resiliency

EMAIL: KENNETH@AMAAAD.ORG
APPLY AT WWW.AMAAD.ORG
OFFICE: 323-569-1610

AMAAD Institute
Aiming Mothers Against Addiction & Drug Use
The Resilient Solutions Program is a program designed to help African Americans, Black women, other racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ individuals, and substance users.

AMAAD’s affordable housing program is a multi-tier housing and support services program designed for formerly incarcerated individuals over 18.

Assisting in:
- Housing Support
- Behavioral Health Services
- Peer Navigation and Support

Contact for More Info:
ronald@amaad.org
info@amaad.org
P: (323)-569-1610
WWW.AMAAD.ORG
How to Address HIV and Intersectional Disparities?
Prioritized Community Stakeholder Groups

- Youth & Young Adults (12-29 years old)
- Black/African American
- Latinx
- Transgender persons
- Gay and Bisexual men
- Substance abusers/users
- People Living with HIV (PLHW)
Goals

A. Empower community members to advance HIV-related projects utilizing a community-led approach.

B. Increase knowledge and awareness among LAC communities of HIV and HIV-related issues, including populations disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS.

C. Develop partnerships with organizations and businesses to support EHE efforts.

D. Reduce HIV-stigma among LAC residents.
AMAAD
Grassroots Strategies & Approaches
Strategies:

• Efficiently providing peer-based resources and linked referral services. Examples include:
  • Staff represents communities served
  • Lived experience is as valuable or more valuable than formal education
  • Access to health education, training, and opportunities
Strategies:

• Specialized counseling and case management services. Examples include:
  • Peer-based, strength-based programs and services
  • Client-centered care teams and continua
  • Addressing intersectional care and needs
• Work in partnership with a full spectrum of service providers to maximize available community support. Examples include:
  • Wraparound service care planning
  • Client-centered care
  • Culturally affirming, evidence-based interventions and practices
  • Intentional community-based participatory research and involvement
Overall Community Approach

AMAAD hosts programs, services, events, and activities that center the uniqueness and richness of the Black, Black LGBTQ+, and South LA experiences.

AMAAD’s approach to HIV prevention, treatment and education centers lived experience and the care team model as a part of the care continuum.
AMAAD’s Evaluation Measures & Outcomes

- AMAAD’s programs, services, and events are designed to capture and measure one or more of the following measures:
  - Increase in education
  - Shift in attitudes and beliefs
  - Address barriers
  - Change in behaviors
  - Participant experience
Lessons Learned

- Community-based initiatives centering whole person care
- Community-focused engagement from pre-implementation to evaluation
- Value lived experience through hiring, recruitment, engagement, retention, and evaluation
- Be open to innovation
- Intersectional access to education and resources
- Translate Treatment as Prevention (TAsP) culturally and relatively
- Culture is key: messenger, marketing, materials, media, management, and more
Thank You!

Gerald Garth
gerald@amaad.org

Jamar Moore
jamar@amaad.org

O: 323-569-1610
FB: AMAAD Institute
IG: @amaad_institute

www.amaad.org
THE WALL LAS MEMORIAS is a community health and wellness organization dedicated to serving Latino, LGBTQ and other underserved populations through advocacy, education and building the next generation of leadership.
“BUILD THE MONUMENT, THEY WILL COME”

- Shared my vision which was to build a monument to those who passed from AIDS to bring dignity to the individual and help the loved ones heal from their loss, the monument would bring acceptance, pride and relevance
- Grassroots approach
- Reached out to my existing contacts in community, government, and politics
- I became the leading advocate for my dream
- Shared my dream with influencers and placed them on a committee and leveraged their support to gather additional support
- Reached out to respected cultural community-based organizations/leaders to recruit endorsements such as Catholic priests, clergy, elected officials, labor leaders, Latino celebrities, and sports leaders.
STARTED THE LATINO MEN’S GROUP

- At the height of the program, over 99 men were being served on a weekly basis
- Over 98% of all our clients took an HIV test every 6 months
- The LMG was a familia and spiritually based
- Members consisted of Latino men throughout LA County, Catholic priests, police officers, lawyers, doctors, and general population
- The intent of the group was to build leadership and to encourage HIV testing
- Identified and recruited Latino MSM, provided conversations about identity, cultural norms, homophobia, role of faith in their lives, build leadership development
- Supported a gay and bi Latino men’s softball team as a way to building pride and help spread awareness
- 75% of community outreach to the target population was conducted by the members
OUR PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- The Wall Las Memorias (TWLM) has become a leader in providing health prevention programs and wellness services to the greater Los Angeles community and beyond. All agency programs and services are tailored to enrich the spirit and the health of our clients through culturally responsive services that are unique to our client population.

- Men’s Health
- Trans Health
- Nonbinary Health
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Community Health
- Support Groups
TWLM’S HOLISTIC HEALTH PREVENTION APPROACH

- HIV, substance use disorder, mental health prevention, Hep-C testing, spiritual dialogue, LGBTQ-equity, social justice, grassroots organizing and advocacy (i.e. 4 a.m. bar bill, city wide zoning, support for the Albergue Las Memorias in Tijuana, Mexico)
BUILDING A COMMUNITY

- Assessing the audience
- Be inclusive of your outreach strategies
- Understanding where the community members are at
- Understanding culture and language
- Creating a base of supporters, volunteers, and likeminded people
CREATIVE IN OUTREACH

- Build coalition, bottom-up approach, build trust, respect community norms
- Making HIV relevant to the community at large
- Educate community about HIV, human sexuality, health risks, social justice
- Understand the level of self-esteem of the target population & build upon it
- Understand the role that homophobia and transphobia plays in the community, and work around it
- Promote community pride
- Create an event in which all community can participate (i.e. Noche de Las Memorias)
AIDS MONUMENT WAS DEDICATED ON WORLD AIDS DAY, DECEMBER 1st, 2004
THE REDEDICATION OF THE WALL LAS MEMORIAS AIDS MONUMENT IS SLATED FOR FALL 2021
THE WALL - LAS MEMORIAS AIDS MONUMENT

NAME SUBMISSION

PLACE THE NAME OF YOUR LOVED ONE WHO PASSED AWAY FROM AIDS.

THEWALLLASMEMORIAS.ORG/MONUMENT
THANK YOU

RICHARD ZALDIVAR
richard.zaldviar@twlmp.org
(323) 257-1056 x27
thewalllasmemorias.org