

# 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

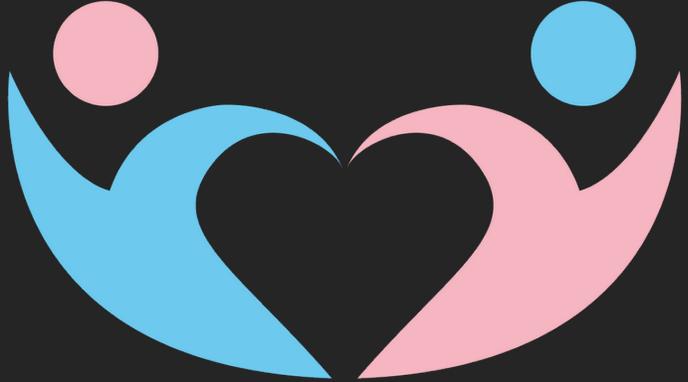
## 2) Panel Discussion/Q&A

- Enter questions using



- Share comments/resources using



Alianza 

**Translatinx**

**By: Khloe Rios, Rachel Pozos, Cinthya Espinosa  
She, Her, Hers**

*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 Folklórico

- ❑ 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



# PANTRY FOOD DISTRIBUTION



# 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

# TRANS-GIVING



ESTAS CORDIALMENTE INVITAD@

## TRANSGIVING 2020

Ven y obtén tu plato de comida con familia elegida mientras elevamos nuestra comunidad y mantenemos un espacio para la comunidad transgénero y género no conforme en el Condado de Orange por primera vez.

November 25 | 5 PM  
1105 E Walnut St. S  
Santa Ana CA, 92701



Alianza  
Translating

RSVP Y MAS INFORMACION LLAMA A RACHEL POZOS (714) 312-9135

# COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR



# TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE & VISIBILITY



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



Alianza  
**Translatinx**

406 W. 4th St. Santa Ana CA, 92701  
Estacionamiento de 2 horas gratis en la estructura entre las calles 3 y 4



**31**  
MARZO



**DÍA DE LA VISIBILIDAD TRANS**





# SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT

# TRANSGENDER COVID19 VACCINATION CLINIC



¡GRACIAS!





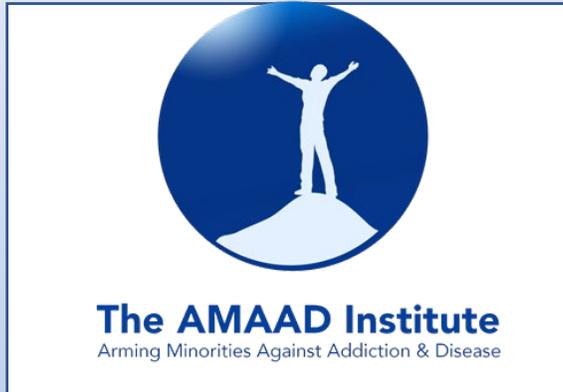
**The AMAAD Institute**  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

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

Gerald Garth  
Director of Programs & Operations

Jamar Moore  
Project Senior Manager

# Presenters:



10221 S. Compton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90002  
Near  
Watts Towers in South L.A.



**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**



# Mission

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.



**The AMAAD Institute**  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

*"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





**The AMAAD Institute**  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

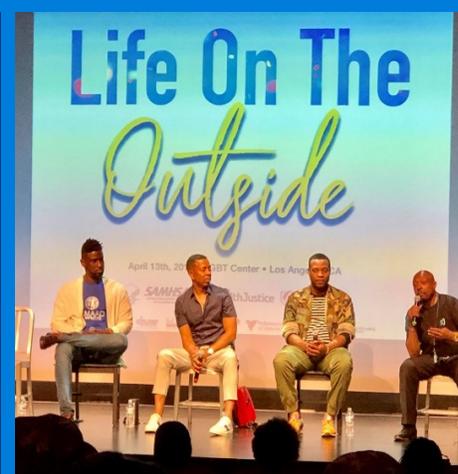
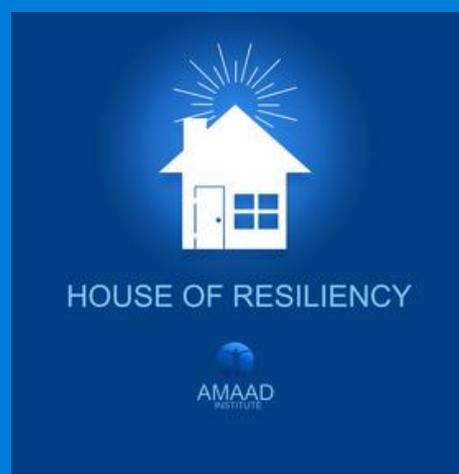
10221 S. Compton Ave. #105  
Los Angeles, CA 90002



# AMAAD Programs



**The AMAAD Institute**  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease



# 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)**



**The AMAAD Institute**  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

# Resilient Solutions



The AMAAD Institute  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease



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 AMAAD Institute  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

# Resilient Solutions

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

### For Who?

- Black and Latino
- Individuals with mental health issues
- Substance use disorders
- In need of help

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:  
celeste@amaad.org  
or  
info@amaad.org

# Fierce Fabulous & Free

## F3

### For Who?

Black or Latino , Male  
Between 18-24 years old , Gay or Bi

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



### Contact for More Info:

chris@amaad.org  
or  
info@amaad.org

P: (323)-569-1610  
WWW.AMAAD.ORG



The AMAAD Institute  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease



The AMAAD Institute  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

Resilient  
Solutions

F3

The Resilient Solutions Program is a program designed to help African Americans, LGBTQ+ individuals, and those with substance use disorders.

- For Black
- Individual
- Men
- Substance
- In need

FOR MORE INFO  
celest  
info

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AMAAD's aff  
men and all  
building bro  
community, &  
leadership  
through  
programs  
and events.

Contact for More

chris@amaad  
or  
info@amaad



Kenneth Martin - Housing Manager



# HOUSE OF RESILIENCY "BIG MAMA'S HOUSE"

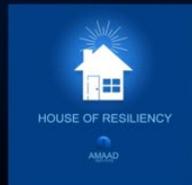
THE HOUSE OF RESILIENCY, ALSO KNOWN AS "BIG MAMA'S HOUSE" IS THE AMAAD INSTITUTE'S TRANSITIONAL LIVING COMMUNITY LOCATED IN THE KING ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD OF SOUTH LOS ANGELES. THE HOUSE OF RESILIENCY IS INTENDED TO BE ESPECIALLY WELCOMING TO YOUNG GAY-IDENTIFIED MEN WHO NEED TEMPORARY RESIDENCE IN A 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](http://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@AMAAD.ORG](mailto:kenneth@amaad.org)  
APPLY AT [WWW.AMAAD.ORG](http://WWW.AMAAD.ORG)

OFFICE: 323-569-1610



The AMAAD Institute  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

# Resilient Solutions

The Resilient Solutions Program is a program designed to help African Americans, LGBTQ+ individuals, and those with substance use disorders.

- For Black
- Individual
- Men
- Substance
- In need

FOR MORE INFO: celest info

# Field Fa

## F3

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AMAAD's aff men and all building bro community, & leadership through programs and events.

Contact for More

chris@amaad or info@amaad



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- LIFE SKILL CLASSES
- STABI THR HO



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# RECLAIMING

# Innocence

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 or info@amaad.org

P: (323)-569-1610 WWW.AMAAD.ORG



The AMAAD Institute

Resilient  
Solutions

Field  
Families



RECLAIMING

Innocence

The Resilient Solutions Project is a program designed to help African American, LGBTQ+ individuals substantiate



# Reclaiming Innocence Project

Sponsored by the AMAAD Institute

FOR MORE

(323) 569-1610

[www.amaad.org](http://www.amaad.org)

info

info@amaad.org

info@amaad.org

P: (323) 569-1610

WWW.AMAAD.ORG



The AMAAD Institute

# How to Address HIV and Intersectional Disparities?



**The AMAAD Institute**  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

## 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)



The AMAAD Institute  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease



The AMAAD Institute  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

# 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





## Strategies:

- 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

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

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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!



**The AMAAD Institute**  
Arming Minorities Against Addiction & Disease

Gerald Garth  
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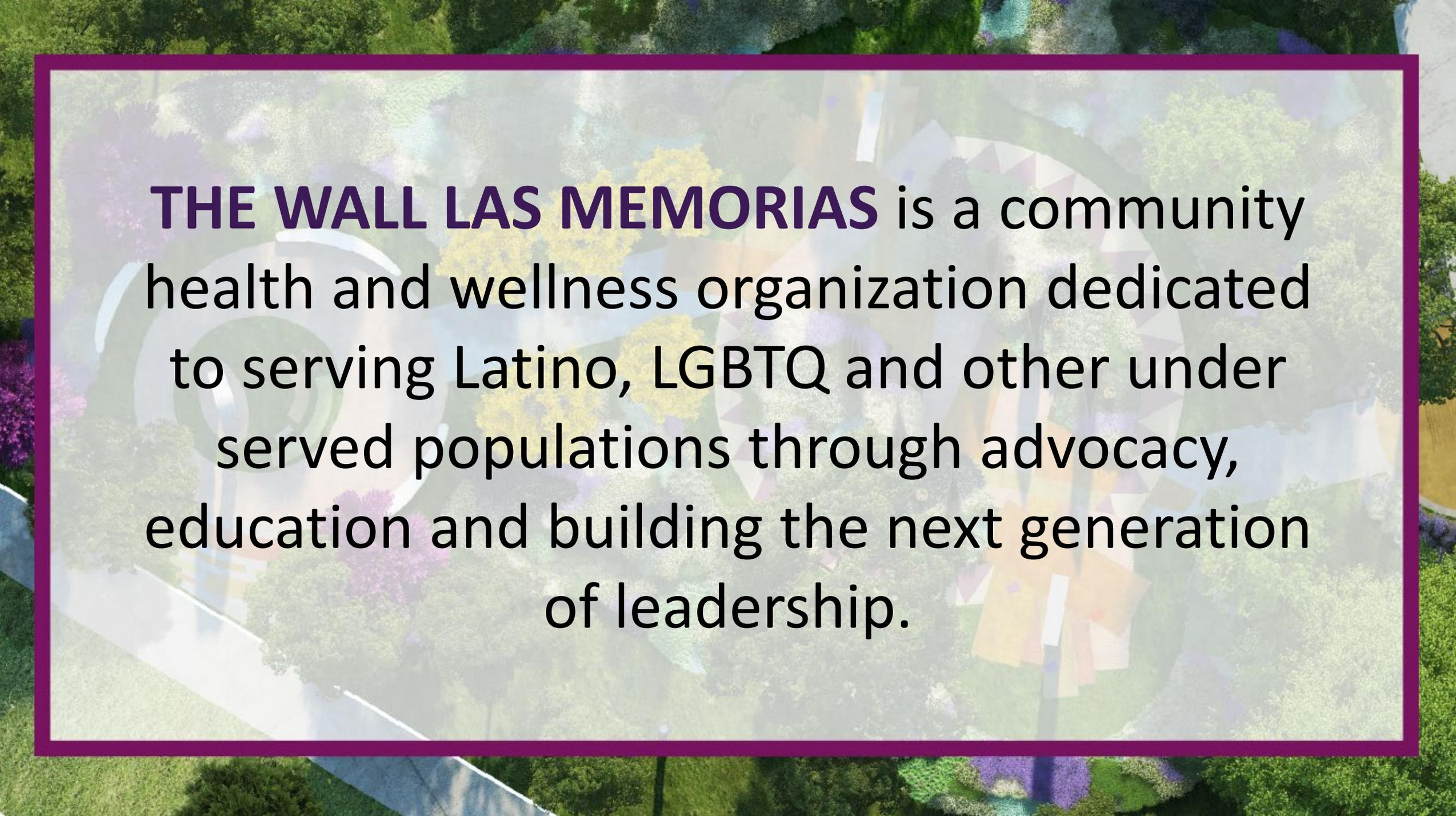


[www.amaad.org](http://www.amaad.org)



**RICHARD ZALDIVAR**

Founder & Executive Director

An aerial photograph of a vibrant garden. In the center, there is a large, circular mosaic made of many small, colorful tiles in shades of purple, blue, green, yellow, and orange. The garden is filled with various plants, including tall green trees, smaller green shrubs, and patches of purple and blue flowers. A paved path or walkway is visible in the lower-left corner. The entire scene is captured from a high angle, looking down on the garden.

**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.

An aerial photograph of a park or garden with a large, circular, multi-colored structure in the center. The structure is composed of various geometric shapes and colors, including purple, yellow, and orange. A winding path or road curves around the structure. The surrounding area is lush with green trees and plants. The entire image is framed by a thick purple border.

**AIDS MONUMENT VIDEO**  
**(CLICK)**

# “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

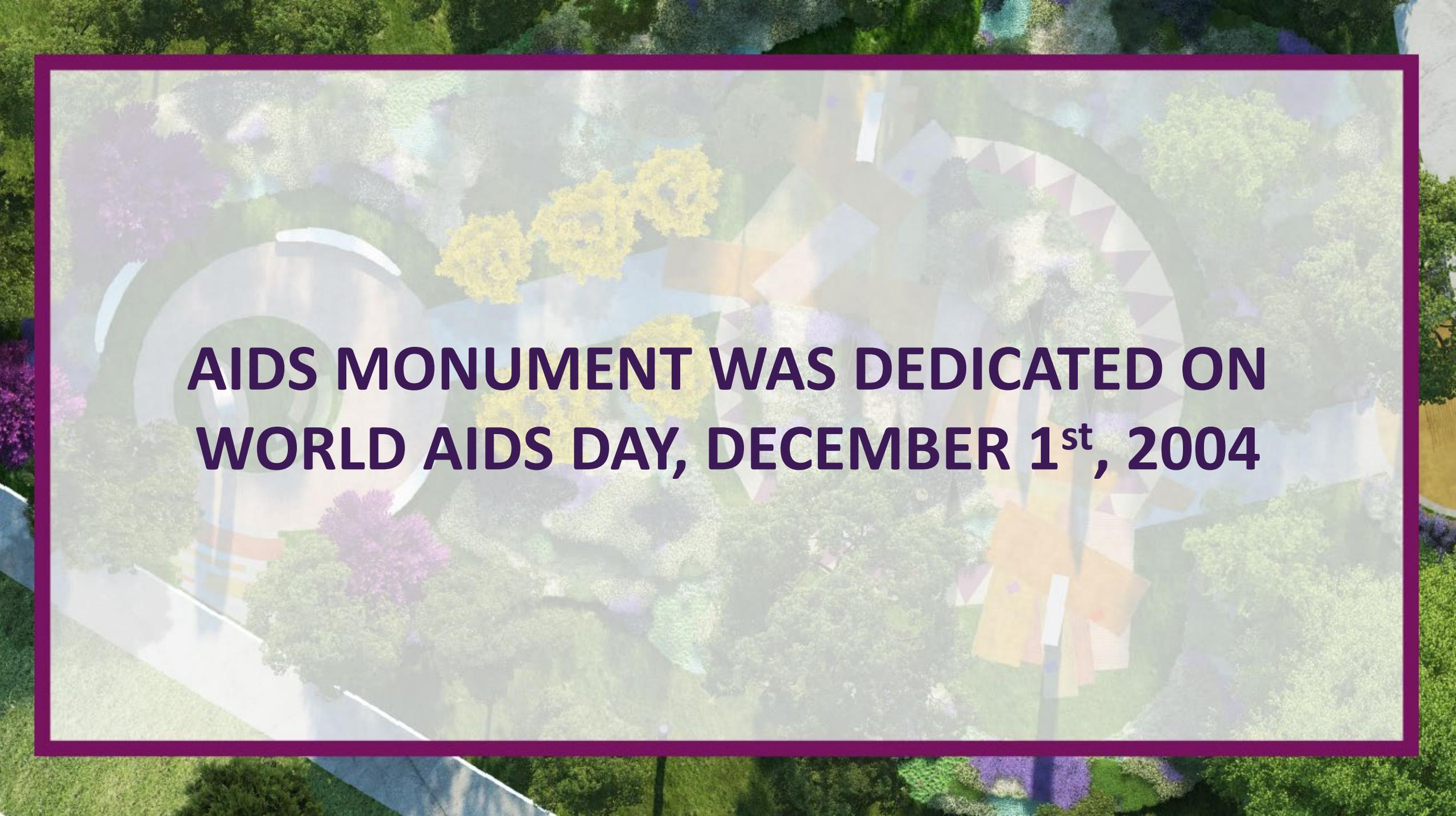
- ❖ HIV, substance use disorder, mental health prevention, Hep-C testing, spiritual dialogue, LGBTQ-equity, social justice, grassroots organizing and advocacy (i.e. 4 a.m. bar bill, city wide zoning, support for the Albergue Las Memorias in Tijuana, Mexico)

# 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)

An aerial photograph of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, a large-scale public art project. The quilt is composed of thousands of colorful, hand-made panels, each representing a person who died of AIDS. The panels are arranged in a circular pattern, with some panels featuring names and dates. The quilt is set in a park-like area with green grass and trees. A semi-transparent purple border frames the entire image. Overlaid on the quilt is the text: 

**AIDS MONUMENT WAS DEDICATED ON  
WORLD AIDS DAY, DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004**

An aerial photograph of a large, colorful, geometric monument. The monument features a central circular path and is surrounded by various trees and plants in shades of green, yellow, orange, and purple. The entire scene is framed by a thick purple border.

**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](http://THEWALLLASMEMORIAS.ORG/MONUMENT)



FUNDED BY:



**THANK YOU**

**RICHARD ZALDIVAR**

[richard.zaldviar@twlmp.org](mailto:richard.zaldviar@twlmp.org)

(323) 257-1056 x27

[thewallasmemorias.org](http://thewallasmemorias.org)

