

# Mississippi Urban Research Center

## African American Prevention Intervention Network (APIN)

### Prevention With Positives: The Emerging Issue for CBOs!

#### What is Prevention With Positives?

PWP involves any HIV prevention intervention that is targeted specifically towards HIV-positive people. The focus is on helping HIV-positive people prevent the transmission of HIV to others.

#### What is the Purpose of Prevention With Positives?

In January 2001, the CDC released its 5-year HIV Prevention Strategic Plan. In order to accomplish the overarching national goals put forth in the plan, it became necessary to develop new strategies to reduce new HIV infections.

The focus of the Prevention With Positives initiative is easily found in Goal 1, Objective 1 of the CDC's 5-year plan: "Among people living with HIV, increase the proportion who consistently engage in behaviors that reduce risk for HIV transmission or acquisition."

#### Factors That Influence Prevention Behavior

Prevention With Positives interventions need to address the following factors that influence HIV prevention:

1. Anticipated Outcomes (cost/benefit)
2. Norms (social pressure)
3. Self-Standards (self-image)
4. Emotion (feelings)
5. Self-Efficacy (view of self as capable of doing something)

#### Key Concepts to be Included in Prevention With Positives Interventions

- Norms and Assumptions
- Condoms/Barrier Methods Issues/Skills
- Relationship Issues
- Disclosure Issues/Skills
- Negotiation Issues/Skills
- Coping Issues/Skills
- Psychosocial Issues and Risk
- Substance Users and Sex
- Injection Risk Behavior
- Reproductive Health Issues
- Medical Care: Access, Assessment and Monitoring
- Adherence to Treatment and Care

#### Prevention Issues for HIV Positive People of Color

Clients want services that offer an overall wellness model with a focus on staying healthy and looking good, not just HIV/AIDS-related issues.

Clients desire programs that aren't clinic-based and that are separate (programmatically and geographically) from treatment and care programs. Prevention services should be integrated with other HIV and other drug abuse services. Staff at other service providers should be made aware of prevention issues and programs.

Programs should offer social events to help reduce isolation, build a sense of community and meet other HIV+ persons for friendship and dating.

Services need to be culturally appropriate (ethnicity, gender, language and sexual orientation), building on the uniqueness of each community.

Programs need more access to mental health services.

#### Existing Prevention With Positive Curricula

- Short-term group intervention (Center for AIDS Intervention Research, Medical College of Wisconsin)
- Supporting client disclosure of HIV status (California STD/HIV Prevention Training Center)
- Integration of psychotherapy, social events, and community-building (Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center, San Francisco)
- Three-part intervention for HIV+ African-American MSM (AIDS Project of the East Bay, Alameda)
- Skills-building workshops for HIV+ monolingual Latino MSM (Blenestar Human Services, Los Angeles)
- Prevention integration with HIV care and treatment (California Office of AIDS, Early Intervention Program)
- Social marketing (HIV Steps With Me, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston)
- Internet chatroom-based interventions (AIDS Project of the Ozarks)
- Group intervention for HIV+ women in non-urban communities (Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University)
- HIV+ Injection Drug Users (Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, San Francisco)
- HIV+ Jail Inmates Pre- and post-release (The Homebase Project, San Francisco)
- Linking HIV+ Teens to Care (UCLA Center for HIV Identification, Prevention, and Treatment Services)
- LIFE: Learning Immune Function Enhancement (Shanti San Francisco)
- PHEPP: Prevention for HIV Infected Persons Project (State of California, Los Angeles, State of Maryland, San Francisco, State of Wisconsin)

#### Key Elements of a Successful PWP Program

Thorough Formative Research (Conduct focus groups, individual interviews and community forums with HIV-positive persons and service providers)

Culturally Competent Materials (Derived from formative research information; Consult with Capacity-Building Assistance Providers to ensure cultural competence)

#### Goal of the African American Prevention Intervention Network's Positive Prevention Intervention Center

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Increase utilization of evidence-based or "promising" prevention interventions for HIV-positive persons in minority populations by:

Establishing and/or strengthening linkages between CBA providers and expert behavioral science and prevention services researchers and expert providers or "promising" or effective prevention interventions for HIV-positive persons

Increasing and ensuring related expert technical assistance to CBOs and other prevention and care providers serving HIV-positive persons

Identifying effective interventions for HIV-positive persons for dissemination and utilization by CBOs

Adopting "promising" or evaluated prevention interventions and services for racial/ethnic minority HIV-positive persons

Increasing related competencies of CBA providers and their consultants, and

Increasing the number of CBOs that deliver effective, "promising" or evaluated prevention interventions for HIV-positive persons

#### Prevention With Positives Capacity-Building Assistance Providers

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Jackson State University  
African-American populations  
**(866) JSU-MURC**  
(378-6827)

PROCEED, Inc.  
Hispanic/Latino populations  
**(908) 351-7727**

API American Health Forum  
Asian/Pacific Islander populations  
**(415) 954-9970**

NNAAPC  
Native American populations  
**(510) 444-2051**

#### Additional Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC)  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

HIV/AIDS Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration, (HRSA/HHS) [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov)

National Association of People With AIDS, (NAPWA) [www.napwa.org](http://www.napwa.org)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, (SAMHSA) [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

