NATIONAL HIV AWARENESS DAYS

Aging and Gay Men's Awareness

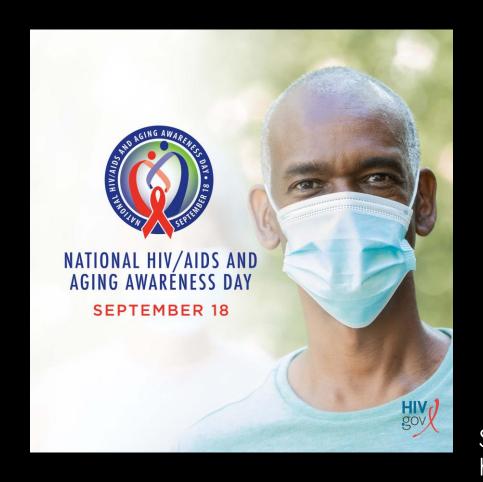
Presentation Created By: Tony D. Christon-Walker and Shey Thorn

Presented By: Shey Thorn

Tony D. Christon- Walker
Director of Prevention and
Community Partnerships
AIDS Alabama

Shey Thorn
Co-Executive Director
Director of Prevention
Clinical Director
AIDS Alabama South

AWARENESS DAYS





Source CDC.gov https://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days

40 Years of Progress - It's Time to End the HIV Epidemic

Reflect, Recommit, Reenergize, Reengage – Four for Forty

This June 5th, the world marked 40 years since the first five cases of what later became known as AIDS were officially reported. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) described the five cases. Take a moment and see how the government and community observed the day.

FOUR FOR FORTY

Reflect, Recommit, Reenergize, Reengage

REFLECT





https://www.npr.org/sections/healthshots/2019/02/09/689924838/how-to-demanda-medical-breakthrough-lessons-from-the-aidsfight



https://www.history.com/topics/ 1980s/history-of-aids



On June 5, 1981, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, and listed five individuals who had Pneumocystis pneumonia. None of the men had any connections and two of them died shortly thereafter. These would be considered the first AIDS Cases in America.

We were at the precipice of the AIDS Epidemic and our much lauded Commander-in-Chief remained silent until 1985.

ALABAMA'S AGING NUMBERS

Age (Years)	% of Newly Diagnosed	% of Prevalent Cases		
<13	1.4	0.2		
13-19	5.5	0.5		
20-24	21.3	3.4		
25-29	20.2	8.7		
30-39	22.7	21.1		
40-49	13.0	21.1		
≥50	15.8	45.0		
Total	100.0	100.0		

In 2020 15.8% of new HIV infections were among people 50 years old and above, and 45% of people living with HIV were older than 50.

ALABAMA'S SEXUAL ORIENTATION NUMBERS

Adult/Adolescent Exposure (≥13 years)	% of Newly Diagnosed	% of Prevalent Cases		
Men who have Sex with Men (MSM)	21.3	45.7		
Heterosexuals	24.7	29.8		
Injection Drug Users (IDU)	0.8	5.0		
MSM/IDU	1.4	3.2		
Hemophilia/Coagulation Disorder	0.0	0.1		
Mother with HIV Infection	0.0	0.6		
Transfusion/ Transplant Recipient	0.0	0.0		
Risk Not Reported/ Unknown	51.7	15.5		
Total (add pediatric cases to total)	100.0	100.0		

In 2020 21.3 % of new HIV infections were among Men who have sex with men (MSM), and 45.7% of people living with HIV were MSM's. These numbers are probably much higher because 51.7 percent of new cases reported unknown risks., 15.5% of those living with HIV also didn't report known risks.

2021 PRELIMINARY NUMBERS ON ORIENTATION

Adult/Adolescent Exposure (≥13 years)	Cases	% of Total	Cases	% of Total	Cases	% of Total
Men who have Sex with Men (MSM)	65	38.0	6814	44.9	10187	44.3
Heterosexuals	26	15.2	4456	29.4	6232	27.1
Injection Drug Users (IDU)	1	0.6	748	4.9	1909	8.3
MSM/IDU	1	0.6	470	3.1	1181	5.1
Hemophilia/Coagulation Disorder	0	0.0	14	0.1	77	0.3
Mother with HIV Infection	0	0.0	92	0.6	92	0.4
Transfusion/Transplant Recipient	0	0.0	4	0.0	32	0.1
Risk Not Reported/Unknown	78	45.6	2564	16.9	3275	14.2
Total (add pediatric cases to total)	171	100	15162	100	22985	100.0

Source ADPH:

https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/hiv/assets/2nd_qtr_2021.pdf



"My silences had not protected me. Your silence will not protect you. But for every real word spoken, for every attempt I had ever made to speak those truths for which I am still seeking, I had made contact with other women while we examined the words to fit a world in which we all believed, bridging our differences."

— Audre Lorde, <u>The Cancer Journals</u>

RECOMMIT

In 2019, the federal government introduced the Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. (EHE), which provides a targeted infusion of new resources and support to local communities in working together and with the federal government to end the HIV epidemic in America. To achieve maximum impact, the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative focuses its Phase I efforts in 48 counties, Washington, DC, and San Juan, Puerto Rico, where more than 50 percent of new HIV diagnoses occurred in 2016 and 2017, and an additional seven states with a substantial number of HIV diagnoses in rural areas, bringing the total number of Phase I jurisdictions to 57. In order to end this epidemic at the national level, we must start with ending it at the local level.





REENERGIZE

HIV is no longer a death sentence, and hasn't been for a while. Unfortunately, HIV is still a huge problem in the southern parts of the United States, and is disproportionately bad for Black MSM in the South. Black women and the Latinx communities are not far behind.

We already know what we need to do. We have to make HIV a priority again. There are many people in the US who believe that HIV is no longer a problem. We have to do a better job of educating our youth and the general public about healthy safer sex practices.



REENGAGE

We must work collectively to reengage people with lived experience as well as stake holders.

We must encourage reengagement into HIV medical care and treatment

Ultimately reengage all sectors of society, every community and every person-regardless of HIV status- to work together to end the HIV epidemic.



Gay and Bisexual men are the population most disproportionately affected by HIV.

- Over half of people with HIV are gay and bisexual men
- Most New HIV diagnoses occur among gay and bisexual men

CDC FACT SHEET: HIV Among Gay and Bisexual Men

WHAT IS THE NEED FOR NGMHAAD?



HIV and Gay and Bisexual Men | HIV by Group | HIV/AIDS | CDC

WHAT IS THE NEED FOR NGMHAAD?

- HIV continues to disproportionately affect gay and bisexual men who are younger and African American or Latino. And nearly 330,000 gay and bisexual men with stage 3 HIV (AIDS) have died since the 1980s.
- There is an urgent need to expand access to HIV prevention and treatment for all gay and bisexual men, underscoring the importance of the federal initiative 'Ending the Epidemic: A Plan for America

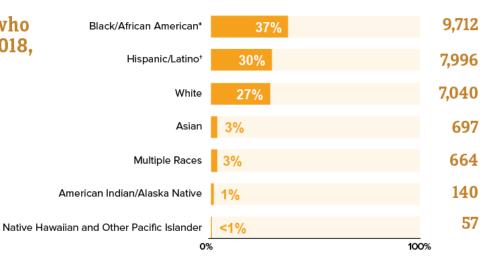
• CDC FACT SHEET: HIV Among Gay and Bisexual Men

RACIAL DISPARITIES

New HIV Diagnoses Among Gay and Bisexual Men in the US and Dependent Areas by Race/Ethnicity, 2018

Among gay and bisexual men who received an HIV diagnosis in 2018, racial and ethnic disparities continue to exist.





* Black refers to people having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

African American is a term often used for Americans of African descent with ancestry in North America.

† Hispanics/Latinos can be of any race.

Source: CDC. Diagnoses of HIV infection in the United States and dependent areas, 2018 (updated). HIV Surveillance Report 2020;31.

CHALLENGES TO PREVENTION

- Recognizing the disproportionate effect of HIV among the population of gay and bisexual men.
- Stigma, Homophobia, and Discrimination.
- 1 in 6 gay and bisexual men with HIV are unaware of their HIV status.
- Anal sex puts gay and bisexual men at increased risk. Receptive anal sex is 13 times as risky for getting HIV as insertive anal sex
- PrEP use, among gay and bisexual Black/AfricanAmerican and Hispanic/Latino, remains low- only 19% and 21% (respectively) topok PrEP. This is compared to 31% of white gay and bisexual men.
- Socioeconomic factors- limited access to quality health care, lower income and education levels, higher rates of unemployment, substance abuse, and incarceration.

WHAT CAN WE DO, NOW?

- Educate- yourself, family, consumers, and community
- Act On It- be proactive in joining HIV focused community groups, such as EHA, to become a part of Ending the HIV Epidemic in Alabama
- Cultural Competence- embrace cultural competence, to better understand the gay and bisexual communitie's risks, needs, and determinants of health.
- Address stigma head on- stigma stems from ignorance and lack of education.
- Lean on community partners and organizations already doing the work to help them achieve their goals and mission

LIFETIME HIV RISK AMONG GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN

- 1 in 6- gay and bisexual men
- 1 in 2- African American gay and bisexual men
- 1 in 4- Latino gay and bisexual men

CONTACT ME TO CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION

SHEY THORN He/They

Co-Executive Director

Director of Prevention and Outreach

AIDS ALABAMA SOUTH

4321 DOWNTOWNER LOOP NORTH | MOBILE, AL 36609

O 205.324.9822 | D 205.918.8224 | F 251.471.5294

E shey.thorn@aidsalabama.org | W www.aidsalabamasouth.org