



## Housing and HIV Research Summit IX:

### *Structural Interventions and Ending the Epidemic*

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August 1 – August 3, 2018, Capitol Hilton, Washington, DC

#### **Housing and HIV Research Summit IX: *Structural Interventions and Ending the Epidemic***

Concept Note • September 2017

Summit Dates and Location: August 1 – August 3, 2018, Capitol Hilton, Washington, DC

#### **Background**

Ending the HIV epidemic will require not only making advances in medical treatment, but also addressing the broad span of health disparities. These disparities—racial or ethnic differences in the quality of health care that are not due to access-related factors or clinical needs, preferences, and appropriateness of intervention—are often associated with worse outcomes, and are unacceptable.<sup>i</sup>

The North American HIV epidemic has evolved and is now concentrated in socially marginalized and disenfranchised communities. The health disparities in this epidemic are striking, with most HIV infections occurring among those who are sexual minorities and communities of color.<sup>ii</sup> Promoting health equity will lay a foundation for people to access and remain engaged in treatment, allowing treatment to be effective. Evidence shows that HIV-positive people who are on treatment, engaged in care, and have an ongoing undetectable viral load do not transmit HIV infection to others.<sup>iii</sup> Viral suppression is the key to ending the HIV epidemic.

Growing evidence demonstrates the potential of structural interventions in achieving viral suppression. Effective interventions include social protections (including housing, food and transportation supports), economic empowerment (including education and job training), decriminalization, anti-discrimination laws, and campaigns to change social norms. Implementation research and dissemination of existing research results are needed as well as expansion and refinement of structural interventions. Rigorous research on social drivers and structural interventions must also include analyses of cost-effectiveness that are critical to lay the groundwork for investing in these types of approaches.

#### **Overview**

The Housing and HIV/AIDS Research Summit Series provides a unique, interdisciplinary forum where researchers, PLWH, policy analysts and service providers can discuss new findings on the role of housing and other social determinants on the health of people with or at risk for HIV transmission. The Summit Series is the premier venue for informing HIV/AIDS housing policy and discussing the social drivers of HIV disease. The North American Housing and HIV Summit IX will provide an opportunity for in-depth conversation about the importance of addressing a full range of social drivers of HIV and disparities in plans to end the HIV epidemic.

The North American Housing and HIV Summit IX will focus on the role of housing and other structural interventions in ending the HIV epidemic. The scope of dissemination of research will encompass the social drivers of the HIV epidemic including extreme poverty, food insecurity,

interpersonal violence, harmful substance use, mass incarceration, and laws that criminalize HIV. Summit IX attendees will deliberate how to use this research to impact policy and service delivery systems that lead to ending the HIV epidemic

### **Impact of the Housing and HIV/AIDS Summit Series**

Launched in 2005, the Housing and HIV/AIDS Research Summit Series supports knowledge transfer and evidence-based skill building among people with HIV/AIDS, health and housing researchers, service providers and policy makers locally, provincially, nationally and globally. Participants share and discuss new research findings and then work together to translate the evolving evidence into concrete action strategies to inform policy, practice and ongoing research.

The North American Summit Series has enabled partners and participants to:

- Promote HIV/AIDS structural intervention research and policy agendas internationally.
- Encourage relevant research.
- Form new partnerships and gain broad support for structural HIV prevention and care interventions.
- Inform local and regional plans to end AIDS.
- Inform the National HIV/AIDS Strategy.
- Inform advocacy strategies to strengthen national goals in addressing the HIV epidemic.
- Include housing as one of the Institute of Medicine core indicators.
- Translate research into practical applications improving patient care.
- Foster co-learning between providers and researchers.
- Inform research by learning from provider and advocacy community informing by understanding factors that impact health wealth being.
- Engage graduate students early in their careers in networking with policy experts, community groups, and researchers.

Additional information on Summit outcomes, meeting presentations, a searchable database of more than 400 relevant publications and other resources are available at [www.hivhousingsummit.org](http://www.hivhousingsummit.org).

### **Summit IX Planning**

Feedback from previous Summit participants, researchers who are leaders in their fields, and a Program Committee of organizations that convened those individuals will inform planning for Summit IX. Summit IX will be a current summary of what the research reveals and how it is being translated into practice in the field.

Topics that will define the cutting edge of the field and shape Summit IX include:

- The development of a framework of evidence, strategies, and practical tools to help jurisdictions include social and structural interventions in their plans to end the epidemic.
- The “Housing First” model for delivery of housing and related support services.
- Effective age-related interventions, specifically for youth and those 50 and above.
- Care, well-being, and quality of life of people living with HIV and AIDS.
- Wholistic health and viral suppression.
- Connection between social determinants and viral suppression.
- Viral suppression and health care utilization.
- Economics and the business case for structural interventions and plans ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

- HIV Undetectable=Untransmittable (U=U): What is the next bit of evidence we need to see regarding what's possible?

## Summit IX Partners

Summit IX continues the multi-year collaboration between the U.S. National AIDS Housing Coalition, research institutions, and community-based organizations from all regions across the United States and Canada.

Summit IX Partners include:

The National AIDS Housing Coalition  
The Ontario HIV Treatment Network  
Dr. David Holtgrave, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
Dr. Angela Aidala, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health  
Dr. Jenné Massie, George Washington University Department of Psychology  
Housing Works, Charles King, Ginny Shubert  
Treatment Action Group, Kenyon Farrow  
AIDS United, Valerie Rochester  
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, John Rojas

The Summit Series invites broad attendance and participation from all parts of North America, including Canada, the Caribbean, Mexico, and the United States. Researchers, policy makers, PLWH, service providers, and advocates will come together to review findings from research and policy initiatives, discuss evidence-based practice and policy, and develop community-driven research and advocacy strategies. Full-day topic-specific Learning Institutes will follow the two-day Summit meeting

## Required Resources

The Summit IX convening partners anticipate 300 registrants for the 3-day meeting. Convening partners provide in-kind resources such as staff time and logistical support. The estimate for expenses not covered by in-kind contributions and registration fees is \$300,000.

**For more information and to learn about partnership opportunities, please contact: Christine Campbell ([ccampbell@nationalaidshousing.org](mailto:ccampbell@nationalaidshousing.org)).**

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25032386>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3700367/>

<sup>iii</sup> <http://www.catie.ca/en/fact-sheets/transmission/hiv-viral-load-hiv-treatment-and-sexual-hiv-transmission>