

Sisters Helping Sisters to THRIVE

A Toolkit Training on Creating Programs for Women to take Power over HIV/AIDS

As HIV/AIDS Plagues the Lives of Women – Is Your Organization Prepared to Provide Effective Support, Care, and Advocacy?

The **FREE 2-day training**, *Sisters Helping Sisters to THRIVE – A Toolkit Training on Creating Programs for Women to Take Power over HIV/AIDS* is a unique opportunity rarely offered. Often service providers do not recognize or are unaware of the specific difficulties women and girls face in the HIV/AIDS epidemic – whether living with or at-risk for HIV/AIDS.

Based on the model of its organization, The Women’s Collective (TWC) has created an in-depth training for agencies interested in creating a woman-centered approach. The training will include:

- Interactive exercises
- Brainstorming
- Collaboration
- Presentations
- An organizational model for agencies to implement

Following the training, individuals and agencies will understand the importance of gender-specific programming and creating and maintaining a space and environment that promotes the empowerment of women and girls.

This training will highlight the ways women and girls are coping with and surviving during this epidemic. Together we will explore the ways women and girls are socialized, discriminated against and taught about themselves and HIV. We will go over the ways in which TWC has fought injustice towards women and girls and created programs and services that speak specifically to their needs.

Through interactive group activities, we will come up with ideas, solutions and creative ways to help your organization support women and girls.

Topics to be covered:

The AIDS epidemic is killing women at alarming rates

- ◆ HIV/AIDS infections for women of color are soaring.
- ◆ The economy is forcing women and their families into poverty, homelessness and unsafe situations- 64% of women with HIV make less than \$10,000.
- ◆ 1 in 4 women are raped. Violence against women remains a devastating risk factor for women contracting HIV.
- ◆ Black women make up 66% of AIDS cases among women, while only representing 12% of the total population of women.
- ◆ AIDS cases for Black women are 22 times higher than the rates for White women. Latina women are 5 times more likely to contract AIDS than White women.
- ◆ It’s not just women – their families are suffering too! 76% of women receiving medical care for HIV/AIDS have children under 18.
- ◆ Women with HIV/AIDS are likely to postpone treatment and care because they lack transportation or are too sick.

- ◆ Racial and gender inequality and the ways they impact the lives of women and girls.
- ◆ How to be allies for women and their families.
- ◆ Tailoring prevention, care, advocacy and organizational development for women.
- ◆ Peer leadership and development.
- ◆ Creating a supportive and uplifting work space for women.
- ◆ How personal beliefs impact the work we are involved in.

YOU ARE INVITED to a FREE 2-day Training on Fostering Gender-specific HIV/AIDS Programming

Women need us now more than ever!
We must support women, advocate for them
and make our organizations reflective
of their unique needs.

This **FREE 2-day training** created by
The Women's Collective will supply your
organization with the tools to create and maintain a
woman-centered approach and atmosphere.

FREE of charge, we are **coming to your community**
to train interested staff members on:

- The ways racism, sexism, class inequalities and HIV/AIDS status intersect and impact women;
- Understanding the nuances of women's lives and HIV/AIDS;
- Recognizing the best services and referrals for women;
- Making sure the mission and values of the organization reflect the lives and needs of women;
- How to tailor all programming to uplift women;
- The model of support and empowerment utilized by TWC;
- Peer-to-peer services and leadership;
- Having an office space that is safe, comfortable and supportive of women
- Tailoring prevention and care services to mirror the lives of female clients
- Beneficial care services for women and their families;
- The importance of intergenerational approaches to HIV prevention;
- Involving community members and gatekeepers in prevention for women;
- Having an effective evaluation process; and
- Providing community education that reaches out to women and addresses their needs.

About: The Women's Collective

The Women's Collective is a non-profit HIV/AIDS service organization based in Washington, DC. TWC is a place where women and girls living with and at risk for HIV/AIDS come to feel empowered, loved and nurtured. They gain life-long support and skills to maintain their health across their lifespan regardless of their HIV status.

Founded by Patricia Nalls, a woman living with HIV, our work is grounded in providing quality HIV care, prevention and advocacy services to women and girls. By listening to women, acknowledging their concerns, and creating our programs and services through a woman's perspective, TWC recognizes the strength of a women- and girl-centered approach to HIV care and prevention and supports thousands of women and girls each year in addressing their HIV care and prevention needs through our unique approach.

When I was **diagnosed with HIV**, I **isolated myself** from help and support. I stayed in **self-imposed exile** for two years before I realized I wasn't dying and I wasn't actually living either. And **living with HIV** is what I had to do for my children's sake and mine.

Patricia Nalls, Founder/Executive Director
The Women's Collective

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"It was really **rich** and **powerful**—I am **motivated** to do better with my HIV+ patients and I feel **reinforced** by the **sisterhood**. It was great to **network** with other providers."
Participant from training in Miami, FL

Space is limited-Sign up NOW!

Application

Identify which training you will be interested in attending:

August 25 th & 26 th	St. Louis, MO	Hilton St. Louis Downtown	<input type="checkbox"/>
September 29 th & 30 th	Columbia, SC	TBA	<input type="checkbox"/>
October 20 th & 21 st	Austin, TX	TBA	<input type="checkbox"/>
November 3 rd & 4 th	Memphis, TN	TBA	<input type="checkbox"/>
November 16 th & 17 th	Philadelphia, PA	TBA	<input type="checkbox"/>
December 8 th & 9 th	New York, NY	TBA	<input type="checkbox"/>

Personal Details

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization/Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

1) Please state the mission of your organization: _____

2) What services do you offer? _____

3) How many employees/members are women? _____

4) How many employees/members are people of color? _____

5) What target demographic(s) do you work with? _____

6) Is your organization direct- service/client based? If so, what percentage of your clients are women? _____

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Application Continued...

- 7) What women or girl specific HIV programs or services does your agency conduct?
- 8) Tell us a bit about yourself – why do you want to attend this training?
- 9) How will your organization benefit from creating or enhancing HIV programs for women and girls?
- 10) What skills, knowledge and understandings do you hope to gain from this training?
- 11) How do you plan to share what you gain at this training with others at your organization or in your community?
- 12) Please indicate any special needs or other limitations/considerations you may have:
- 13) If comfortable, please share some of your identities (for statistical purposes only):

Gender:

- Female Male Transgender

Age:

- Under 20 20-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65+

Ethnicity: Check all that apply.

- African-American/Black Native American/Alaskan Native Asian Caucasian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Latina/o or Hispanic Other: _____

HIV Status:

- Positive Negative Unknown Undeclared

**Fax or email your registration form to Abby Charles, Policy & Advocacy Coordinator at:
202.483.7330 or policyandadvocacy@womenscollective.org**