

# It's a Woman's World

MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018



# ACQC

- ▶ Since 1986, the **AIDS Center of Queens County (ACQC)** has grown to become the largest provider of HIV/AIDS services in the borough of Queens, serving over 10,000 HIV+ clients, and 30,000 community residents in 6 sites throughout the borough.
- ▶ Our **Programs and Services** include comprehensive medical care, case management, harm reduction and syringe exchange, health education and prevention services, transitional and permanent housing services, legal services, a licensed mental health clinic, and a food pantry program.
- ▶ AIDS Center of Queens County's (ACQC) **Mission** is to enhance the quality of life for individuals and their families living with, and at risk for, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, and other chronic conditions.
- ▶ All services are provided **at no cost** to our clients.



# AHF

- ▶ The Los Angeles-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) is a global nonprofit organization providing cutting-edge medicine and advocacy to more than 888,947 people in 39 countries. We are currently the largest provider of HIV/AIDS medical care in the U.S.
- ▶ AHF funds its mission to rid the world of AIDS through a network of pharmacies, thrift stores, healthcare contracts and other strategic partnerships. Generating new, innovative ways of treatment, prevention and advocacy has been the hallmark of our success. We are currently leading a mass testing initiative to identify and treat the 25 million people who are unaware they are infected.
- ▶ By advocating big goals—such as having 1 billion people tested each year—AHF hopes to eliminate older, more time-consuming methods. Since 1987, AHF has cared for thousands of people living with HIV and AIDS worldwide. As we create and implement new programs in communities across the U.S. and abroad, we expand delivery of healthcare and influence over policy with the aim of saving more lives.

# Global Context: Stats

- ▶ Estimated 17.8 million women living with HIV (15 and older), constituting 51% of all adults living with HIV.
  - ▶ For comparison, NY has a population of 19.9 million, and Pennsylvania has a population of 12.8 million.
- ▶ An estimated 900,000 new HIV infections among adults (15 and older) were among women (47%).
- ▶ 58% of new HIV infections among persons aged 15-24 in 2015 were adolescent girls and young women.



# US Cases: Women Living with HIV/AIDS (WLWHA)

## ▶ US:

- ▶ In 2015, >232,000 WLWHA
  - ▶ African American: 137,998 (59%)
  - ▶ Hispanic/Latina: 43,086 (19%)
  - ▶ White: 38,992 (17%)

## ▶ NYS:

- ▶ In 2016, 32,373\* WLWHA
  - ▶ African American: 16,889 (52%)\*
  - ▶ Hispanic/Latina: 10,207 (32%)\*
  - ▶ White: 2,925 (9%)\*

## ▶ NYC:

- ▶ In 2016, 34,475 WLWHA
  - ▶ African American: 20,030 (58%)
  - ▶ Hispanic/Latina: 11,259 (38%)
  - ▶ White: 2,522 (7%)

\* These rates do not include cases from prisons

# US Cases: New Cases 2016

## ▶ US: 2016

- ▶ 7,529 women were diagnosed
  - ▶ African American: 4,650 (62%)
  - ▶ Hispanic/Latina: 1,168 (15%)
  - ▶ White: 1,450 (20%)

## ▶ NYS:

- ▶ 628 women were diagnosed
  - ▶ African American: 350 (55%)
  - ▶ Hispanic/Latina: 167 (27%)
  - ▶ White: 59 (9%)

## ▶ NYC: 2016

- ▶ 508 women were diagnosed
  - ▶ African American: 302 cases (59%)\*
  - ▶ Latina: 157 cases (31%)\*
  - ▶ White: 29 cases (6%)\*

\* These statistics include transgender women

# Global Context: AHF Global Testing

	Total	Positive	%
0 to 18 months	16,771	279	1.7%
18 months to 5 years	47,327	588	1.2%
6 to 14 years	113,591	1,273	1.1%
15 to 24 years	846,124	20,837	2.5%
25 to 49 years	1,261,854	50,787	4.0%
Over 49 years	213,807	5,979	2.8%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,499,474</b>	<b>79,743</b>	<b>3.2%</b>

<b>Africa</b>	1,731,251	69,470	4.0%
<b>Asia</b>	352,986	4,335	1.2%
<b>Europe</b>	113,837	3,761	3.3%
<b>LATAM</b>	212,930	1,204	0.6%





# Social Determinants: Factors that fuel HIV in Women and Girls

- ▶ Violence against women and girls increases their risk of acquiring HIV
- ▶ In some settings up to 45% of adolescent girls report that their first sexual experience was forced.
- ▶ Globally, more than 700 million women are married before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- ▶ Globally, only 3 in every 10 adolescent girls and young women aged 15-24 have comprehensive and accurate knowledge about HIV.
- ▶ Women living with HIV are more likely to experience violations of their sexual and reproductive rights.
- ▶ Women's access to property and inheritance rights can be critical in preventing HIV.
- ▶ Legal norms directly affect women's risk of acquiring HIV.
- ▶ Discriminatory criminalization laws linked to HIV can disproportionately affect women, as they are more likely to be tested and know their status through antenatal care.

Source: UN Women <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/hiv-and-aids/facts-and-figures>



AHF  
AFFILIATE



# Strategies: ACQC

- ▶ Grassroots efforts – began 33 years ago
- ▶ First CBO to service HIV positive patients in Queens
- ▶ First to have a Syringe Exchange Program in Queens
- ▶ First to serve the LGBTQ community in Queens
- ▶ First CBO to opening a mental health clinic in Queens
- ▶ Legal Services
- ▶ Case Management
- ▶ Housing Services
- ▶ Healthcare and pharmacy partnership- AHF



# Strategies: AHF-Girls Act



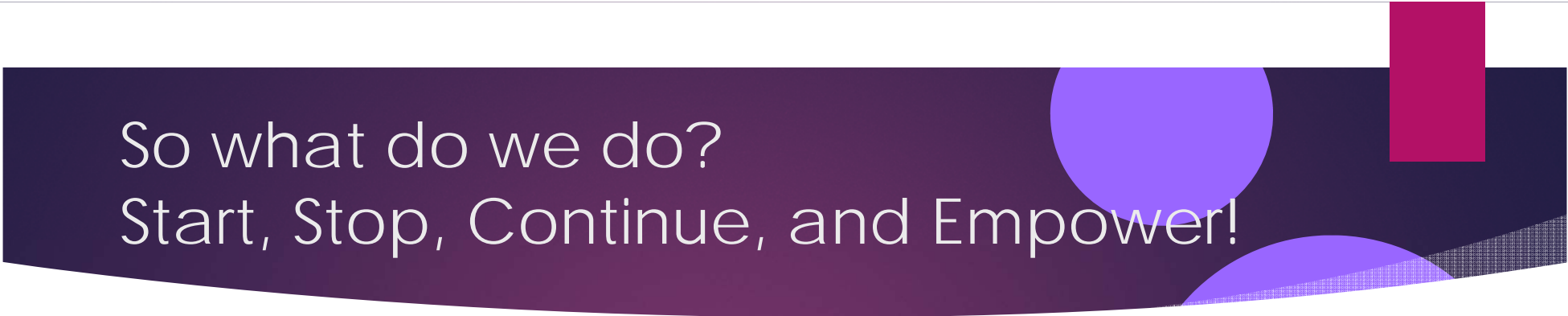


# Strategies: AHF-Advocacy



# Strategies: AHF Fund





# So what do we do? Start, Stop, Continue, and Empower!

- ▶ Start:
  - ▶ If money was not a factor, what would you start doing?
  - ▶ Imagine having another organization on your team, what project would you assign to them that we haven't yet begun?
- ▶ Stop:
  - ▶ Is there something that consumes your time for very little reward?
  - ▶ Is there a particular activity or initiative that feels it has run its course, and now feels a bit outdated? \*However, just remember that your decision may affect others.
- ▶ Continue:
  - ▶ Is there an activity that defines our advocacy work that we should continue doing?
  - ▶ Where are we doing to add the most value to our community?





# Breakout Groups

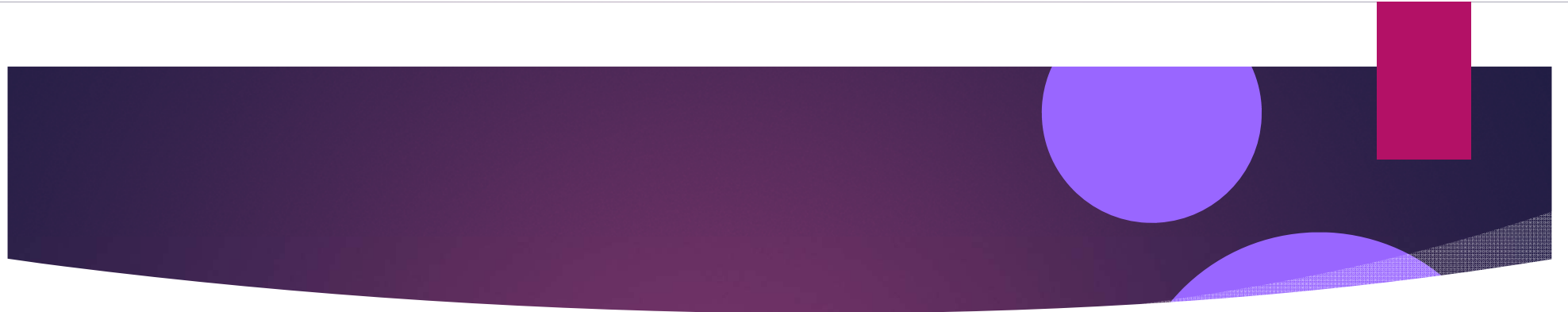
- ▶ Cultural Influences:
  - ▶ How do cultural norms influence HIV advocacy for women?
  - ▶ How do these cultural norms facilitate HIV advocacy for women?
- ▶ Political Influences:
  - ▶ How do politics influence HIV advocacy for women?
  - ▶ How do politics facilitate HIV advocacy for women?
- ▶ Economic Influences:
  - ▶ How do economics influence HIV advocacy for women?
  - ▶ How does economics facilitate HIV advocacy for women?



# Summary

- ▶ Cultural Determinants
- ▶ Political Determinants
- ▶ Economic Determinants





Thank you!!