

- **NAME AND TITLE OF PRESENTER AND ORGANIZATION**
  - Vickie Lynn, MSW, MPH, Doctoral Student – University of South Florida (30 year survivor)
  - Valerie Wojeciechowicz, Speaker, Facilitator, Peer Navigator, Trainer, Advocate
- **INDICATE TRACK UNDER WHICH YOU'D LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED**
  - Track 4 – Our Voices
- **TITLE: Title of Workshop or Poster**
  - Eliminating Stigma from the Language of HIV Communications
- **OBJECTIVE: Describe the purpose of the program, project, or study.**
  - The main objective of the workshop is to help participants understand the linkage between language, stigma, and empowerment.
  - To understand the differences in stigmatizing and empowering language.
  - To explore social, political, and cultural history of language in relation to HIV/AIDS.
  - To identify people first language and its importance.
  - To understand the causes and consequences of stigmatizing language.
  - To empower women to change their internal language and the language they use with others.
- **METHODS: Briefly describe the methods or strategies used in the program.**
  - The workshop consists of 4 parts:
    - Introduction (20 minutes) - History of HIV language with examples of how language has been used in the media, in the community, and in research.
    - Empowerment/Discussion activity (20 minutes) – (people first language) discussion about uplifting words/phrases to empower participants to use in communicating with others (Facebook, Twitter, the media, etc) and internally with themselves.
    - Q&A (10 minutes)
    - Workshop evaluations (10 minutes)
- **RESULTS**
  - Increase the number of women living with HIV who use stigma free HIV related language
- **CONCLUSIONS**
  - It is critical we, as women living with HIV, use appropriate language when talking about ourselves, when communicating with others. This workshop is an educational and empowering presentation. The goal of this workshop is to increase the participants' use of non-stigmatizing language in relation to people living with HIV/AIDS.

**EMAIL ADDRESS/ PHONE NUMBER FOR PRESENTERS**

[vlynn@health.usf.edu](mailto:vlynn@health.usf.edu) 813-417-1522 and [valwojo@hotmail.com](mailto:valwojo@hotmail.com) 908-803-2626

**\*\*Note: Both presenters are in need of transportation/financial assistance. Thank you.**