

PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release
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IRIS HOUSE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INGRID FLOYD NAMED TO NY TASK FORCE TO END AIDS

Announces Viral Suppression Rates 250% of National Averages



NEW YORK, NY - October 14, 2014 - Today, New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced the appointment of Iris House Executive Director Ingrid N. Floyd to his newly created Task Force to End AIDS. As the head of the first agency in New York to address the issues facing women of color with HIV, Floyd brings a unique and critical perspective to the table.

Upon the announcement, Floyd applauded the Governor. "New York City was one of the epicenters of the HIV/AIDS crisis, and now we have the leadership in place for New York State to be the first in the nation to demonstrate that we can end AIDS. I am excited about the opportunity to be a part of this historic moment and to work with Governor Cuomo and this task force to achieve an end to AIDS by 2020."

Ingrid Floyd, M.B.A., is responsible for administrative and fiscal oversight of Iris House, its programs and its staff. Since joining the Iris House team a decade ago she has introduced new programs to the agency such as the HIV testing and counseling, harm reduction, substance abuse counseling and condom distribution initiatives along with programs to engage gay and heterosexual men. In the last year, she has led agency efforts to encompass Hepatitis C, diabetes, hypertension and other health disparities challenging the neighborhoods and populations that we serve with broader education programs and a care coordination initiative. In 2013, Iris House served nearly 5,800 people with direct services and built awareness surrounding these health issues through outreach and prevention education to thousands more. Ms. Floyd also oversaw the development and implementation of a social marketing campaign launched in Harlem and New Jersey in 2012 entitled "Love Your Life/Keep it 100," which was reprised again in 2014. Under Ms. Floyd's direction the agency improved its visibility in the community with the introduction of the nationally recognized Women as the Face of AIDS Summit, held for the past nine years to bring increased awareness to policymakers, funders and providers on the needs of women living with HIV/AIDS. She has overseen the agency's expansion into Central New Jersey, with programs serving high risk urban areas in Plainfield and Irvington. Ms. Floyd serves on the NJ HIV Planning Group, is a board member of the National Women and AIDS Collective (NWAC), is a member of Black Agency Executives and serves as a consultant for Health HIV providing fiscal sustainability training around the country to other non profit executives.

This announcement closely follows the release of "[Iris House Programs At Work: Viral Load Suppression Rates Are 250% The National Average](#)," a report summarizing Iris House's work with HIV+ populations in New York City. Ms. Floyd publicly presented these findings earlier this month at the United States Conference on AIDS in a session titled "Gender Responsive Framework for the HIV Continuum of Care (Treatment Cascade)."

The full text of Governor Cuomo's press release, including the full list of task force members, can be read at <http://www.governor.ny.gov/press/10142014-AIDStaskforce> .

Iris House saves lives through comprehensive support, prevention and education services for women, families, and underserved populations affected by HIV/AIDS and other health disparities in a safe, family-centered environment by passionate, professional and culturally competent staff.

To fulfill our mission, Iris House offers practical, family-centered services that promote prevention and

education while addressing the day-to-day realities of living with HIV/AIDS. All of our programs are developed to achieve the following goals:

- To promote and support independent functioning for our clients, to improve quality of life, and to maintain optimum health status for clients and their families;
- To educate policy makers, elected officials, and human health service providers about the issues and concerns affecting our clients and their families; and
- To advocate for changes in policy and programs that are more responsive to the needs of women and their families.

For more information on the programs of Iris House, visit www.irishouse.org.