IRIS HOUSE 14th Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit

OUR THOUGHTS
OUR VOICES
OUR TIME

PEERS & ADVOCACY

MAY 6, 2019
Iris House continues to be grateful for the generous support of

Corey Johnson, Speaker

and

The Entire New York City Council

for their ongoing leadership and support of our Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit.
Welcome to the 14th Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit!

I hope this day provides each of you with something that is personally meaningful — whether inspirational, reassuring, informational, practical or all of the above. At the same time, I believe this Summit will allow all women’s voices to be heard.

Listen and you will hear the clear, distinct, and strong voices of women affected in some way by HIV/AIDS.

Our theme “Our Thoughts, Our Voices, Our Time: Peers & Advocacy” is more meaningful today than ever. Today is a gathering like no other in New York City or anywhere on the East Coast. United by our common interests to end the epidemic, we know this cannot be done without the voices of everyone at the table. This unique summit brings together people living with HIV/AIDS, caregivers, medical professionals, policy makers, researchers, and activists to ensure all voices are heard equally.

Sixteen breakout sessions will offer lessons on subjects as far-ranging as storytelling, sexuality, and health literacy. We are also excited to hear from several speakers during today’s plenaries, including Dr. Robert E. Fulfillove, EdD., Associate Dean for Community and Minority Affairs of the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. Dr. Fullilove’s keynote address will explore HIV/AIDS and 400 Years of Inequality.

This year’s Summit, as in years past, will provide the opportunity to celebrate champions among us who use their voices and activism to lift others. I am so glad that you will help us honor Lorena Borjas, Kimberly Canady, and Antionettea Etienne. Each reminds us that this is our time to use our voices to let all of our thoughts be known. Despite discouraging headlines and in spite of any uncertainties we may face individually or as a society, our honorees show us how we can use our voices to help ourselves and others.

There is a long list of individuals to thank for making today possible. There are our speakers, our workshop facilitators, Iris House staff and volunteers, as well as our very generous sponsors who are listed in this journal. However, at the core of this event is each of you. Whatever your connection to this cause, it is your voice and your personal story that needs to be heard.

While I know today’s sessions will certainly inform, I also know that the conversations and hugs in between the sessions, as well as the relationships that form are even more critical as we plot a path to end this epidemic. Today and as we move forward lets ensure our thoughts and our voices are heard because it’s our time.

Thank you for being here today and being a part of our 14th Summit.

Ingrid N. Floyd
Executive Director
**Table of Contents**

3  Letter of Greeting, Ingrid N. Floyd, Executive Director, Iris House  
4  Women as the Face of AIDS Summit Sponsors and Supporters  
5  Program: Morning Plenary Sessions and Breakout Session 1  
6  Program: Breakout Sessions 2 and Afternoon Plenaries  
7-8  Plenary Session Biographies  
11  Honoree Biographies

**PHOTOGRAPHY NOTICE**

*Please be advised that portions of the Summit will be recorded and may be posted on the Iris House website for viewing by others after today’s event. The morning plenary sessions will be broadcast live on Facebook. Photos will be taken during this event for use online and in printed materials. By entering and participating, you irrevocably grant permission, acknowledge and consent to the use of your image/likelihood, voice and comments for broadcast in any and all media by Iris House and the Licensed Parties. You also release, discharge and agree to hold harmless the Licensed Parties and each of them from and against all actions, damages, costs, liabilities and claims to which the Licensed Parties of any of them may be subject to as a result of or in any way related to use of the materials by any of the Licensed Parties.*

---

The Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit is made possible by the generous support of government, corporate and non-profit sponsors who join with Iris House every year in presenting this event! We deeply appreciate their dedication to our program and our work.

**Title Partners**

- New York City Council, The Honorable Corey Johnson, Speaker  
- ViiV Healthcare

**Presenting Sponsor**

- Gilead Sciences

**Breakfast/Dessert Networking Sponsor**

- OraSure Technologies, Inc

**Community Leaders**

- Amida Care  
- Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS

**Community Friends**

- AIDS Healthcare Foundation  
- Mt. Sinai Institute for Advanced Medicine  
- NMAC  
- Ryan Health  
- TCC Group

**Community Supporters**

- The Alliance for Positive Change  
- APICHA  
- Exponents, Inc.  
- Health Education Alternatives for Teens (HEAT)  
- Housing Works  
- New York Knows / Play Sure  
- VillageCare  
- The Well Project

(as of April 20, 2019)
7:45 AM Continental Breakfast

8:30 AM Morning Plenary Session
   Opening Remarks
   Ingrid Floyd, Executive Director

   Update on Women, Girls and HIV
   Theresa Mack, MD, MPH, St. Luke’s Medical Group

9:45 AM Breakout Session I

   Collective Storytelling for Great Impact, Room 242
   Tiffany Smith, Thana-Ashley Charles, and Kate Locke, TCC Group; Sophia Kass, Transgender Law Center

   Developing a Comprehensive Health Program for Women of Transgender Experience living with HIV/AIDS Within Medicaid Managed Care: Best Practices and Lessons Learned, Room 243
   Al Rubenstein, Transgender Health Program Coordinator; Rachel Luscombe, BSN, RN, Transgender Program Clinical Liaison; Monique Mackey, Health Navigator; Octavia Lewis, MPA, Community Ambassador; Amida Care

   In It Together: Improving HIV Health Literacy for All, Room 250
   Moya Brown-Lopez, MS, MPH, MCHES, Trainer, JSI Research & Training Institute

   Sippin’ & Spillin’: An Innovative Approach to Engaging Women of Color in HIV Prevention Services, Praise Chapel
   Omotayo Balogun, PrEP Specialist, Ryan Health|West 97th Street and Janelle Eradiri, PrEP Specialist, Ryan Health| NENA

   StoryCorps and the Legacy Program: Building Community Engagement through Storytelling Projects, Room 252
   Maura Johnson, Community Training Program Specialist, StoryCorps

   Support and Hope: Helping Women Living with HIV who are Isolated by Geography and Circumstances, Room 238
   Pat Kelly, President & Director, A Family Affair, Marlena Richardson, Vice-Chair, A Family Affair, a South Carolina based CBO

   The Power of Collaboration in a MCO/CBO Partnership: Using Peer Navigators to Reengage Virally Unsuppressed Plan Members in HIV Care and Treatment, Room 239
   Jamila Allen, Director of Outreach & Linkage to Care, Alliance for Positive Change; Erin McKinney-Prupis, Assistant Director of Evaluation; Alliance for Positive Change; Zoraida Requena, Outreach and Linkage to Care Peer Navigator, Alliance for Positive Change

   Valuable Assets: Eliciting Peer Perspectives to Revise an HIV Self-management Curriculum, Room 254
   Amanda Raker, MPH, Implementation Specialist, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

For a full description of today’s sessions, please visit
http://www.irishouse.org/the-14th-annual-women-as-the-face-of-aids-summit.html
11:00 AM: Breakout Session II

A Girl Like Me: Building Community and Advocacy Through Blogging, Room 239
Masonia Traylor, Community Advisory Board; Gina Brown, MSW, Community Advisory Board; and Kristal Martel, Executive Director, The Well Project

A Recipe Book with a Story- Sabor Latino, Room 242
Rosa Alva, LCSW, Elmhurst Hospital, Joseph Dukeman, BBA, Creative Events Director; Nivarda Xique, Ana Bustamante, Mara Guzman, Luz Perez, Francisca Escamilla

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s Black/African American and Latina Women Workgroup Uses Community Engagement to Improve Ryan White Part A Services, Room 243

Facilitation Skills: Building Ourselves as Women Leaders in Shared Spaces, Praise Chapel
Vanessa Johnson, Ribbon Consulting Group, LLC; Emily Klukas, Debika Shome, and Tiffany Smith, TCC Group

Employing Consumer (Peer) Workers to Reach ETE Goals: Developing and Implementing Successful Peer Programs, Room 252
Julian Cabezas, LMSW, Manager of Outreach Programs, Amida Care, Lyndel Urbano, Director of Public Policy and Governmental Relations, Amida Care, and Joann Smith, Community Health Outreach Worker, Amida Care

Engaging Community Members in New York City and State Towards Policy Advocacy Related to the Health and Rights of People Affected by HIV, Room 250
New York City HIV Planning Group, Policy and External Relations Work Group Members: Alexander Borsa, Mary Brewster, Adrian Guzman, Bianca Lopez, Rachel O’Sullivan, Margaret Paschen-Wolff, Leah Richberg, Sabastian Roy-Noriega, Diane Tider

GLOW For Me: Anatomy to Sexuality, Room 238
Linda H. Scruggs, Yolanda Diaz, Dottie Rains, NMAC

Women’s Health: Empowering Patient-centered Intervention Programs to Innovate HIV Care Among Women of Color, Room 254
Erin McKinney-Prupis, Assistant Director of Data and Evaluation, Yvonne Gooden, Associate Manager of Prevention, and Deborah Yuelles, Director of Peer Training; Alliance for Positive Change

12:00 PM Awards Luncheon and Plenary, Fellowship Hall (Ground Floor)
"Power of Peers and Mentorship" with Linda Scruggs, MHS, NMAC and Gina Brown, MSW, Southern AIDS Coalition
Honoring Lorena Borjas, Kimberly Canady and Antionettea Etienne

1:45 PM Afternoon Plenary
“HIV/AIDS and 400 Years of Inequality: The Lessons of History” Featuring Dr. Robert E. Fullilove, EdD., Associate Dean for Community and Minority Affairs of the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

3:15 PM Networking Session and Dessert, Fellowship Hall (Ground Floor)
Organizational Tabling, Coffee and Dessert and a chance to finish up conversations begun earlier in the day!
Gina Brown, MSW is the Community Engagement Manager with Southern AIDS Coalition. She has worked in the field of HIV for 15 years and has been living with HIV for 24 years. Gina graduated Magna Cum Laude from Southern University at New Orleans, with a Bachelor of Social Work and a minor in History in 2011. She received her Master’s degree in Social Work in 2012. Gina is a former member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA). Gina has served on numerous boards and committees. She currently serves on Black AIDS Institute’s Board of Directors. Gina is a Public Speaker and Community Advocate. She has appeared in many magazines and publications, most recently she was featured in Ebony and Jet magazine. Gina is an Ambassador for the Greater than AIDS Initiative, appearing in the Women, HIV, and Intimate Partner Violence video. Gina truly believes in service work and has made it her life’s mission to help the broader community gain a higher level of health literacy.

Robert E. Fullilove, EdD, is the Associate Dean for Community and Minority Affairs, Professor of Clinical Sociomedical Sciences and the co-director of the Cities Research Group of the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. Dr. Fullilove authored numerous articles in the area of minority health. From 1995 to 2001, he served on the Board of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention at the Institute of Medicine (IOM) at the National Academy of Sciences. Since 1996, he served on five IOM study committees that produced reports on a variety of topics including substance abuse and addiction, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and damp indoor spaces and health. In 2003 he was designated a National Associate of the National Academies of Science. In 1998 he was appointed to the Advisory Committee on HIV and STD Prevention (ACHSP) at the Centers for Disease Control, and in July, 2000, he became the committee’s co-chair. Between 2004 and 2007, he served on the National Advisory Council for the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Since 2010, he has been teaching public health courses in six New York State prisons that are part of the Bard College Prison Initiative (BPI) and serves as the Senior Advisor to BPI’s public health program. Dr. Fullilove serves on the editorial boards of Sexually Transmitted Diseases and the Journal of Public Health Policy. He was awarded the Distinguished Teaching Award at the Mailman School of Public Health three times (in 1995, 2001, and 2013), and in May, 2002, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from Bank Street College of Education.
PLENARY SPEAKERS

Theresa Mack, MD, MPH, is a product of the Harlem community. She was featured by the Daily News as “Dr. Angel” in 2011. She is an advocate for the underserved, providing quality care to patients who may not have had access to medical care. Dr. Mack treats high blood pressure, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, hepatitis, and HIV/AIDS. She has worked tirelessly to ensure Harlem residents receive quality medical attention. Dr. Mack has given lectures nationally to consumer and physician audiences. When asked by one of her patients to describe her, it was said that she is sensitive, caring, well informed, and professional. She was the Associate Medical Director of the St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center for Comprehensive Care for seven years and currently is the Medical Director at Mt. Sinai’s Doctors Faculty Practice at 147th Street and 8th Avenue in Harlem. Dr. Mack is board certified in Internal Medicine, Nephrology, and HIV Medicine. Dr. Mack is on the Board of Directors of Iris House.

Linda H. Scruggs, MHS, is a national leader with 27 years of experience working with women, men, families, and youth impacted by health disparities including HIV and AIDS. Mrs. Scruggs brings lived and national experience in working with the HIV, mental health and other chronic disease communities. In August 2012, Mrs. Scruggs founded and incorporated with her colleague Vanessa Johnson, JD, the Ribbon Consulting Group. She serves as the Acting Director of the Leadership Pipeline at NMAC. In this role, she manages the Leadership Pipeline, which builds leaders of color from frontline communities committed to ending the epidemic. This innovative program is designed to train leaders in understanding how race negatively impacts health outcomes and look for solutions to overcome these disparities. She integrates her life experience with HIV and without HIV, public health and policy to facilitate change in communities to impact and improve health outcomes for persons living with HIV. As a thought leader, Mrs. Scruggs is a highly requested motivational speaker, mentor, and meeting convener/facilitator for government entities, as well as public and private industries.
OraSure is proud to celebrate the 26th Anniversary of Iris House

Congratulations to all Women as the Face of AIDS Summit 2019 honorees, including:

Lorena Borjas

Kimberly Canady

Antionettea Etienne

Congratulations to Iris House and all honorees!
Amida Care celebrates honorees Lorena Borjas, Kimberly Canady, Antionettea Etienne, and all the women of Iris House! Your commitment and hard work change and save lives. You inspire us all!

1-855 GO-AMIDA (1-855-462-6432) (TTY 711)  www.AmidaCareNY.org
OUR HONOREES

Lorena Borjas is a transgender woman and influential activist recognized in the state of New York. Lorena emigrated from Mexico in 1981 and has dedicated most of her life to protecting transgender women and victims of trafficking, as well as dealing with the raw violence in the streets of Queens, NY. Since 1994, Lorena’s personal mission has been to protect undocumented sex workers living with HIV/AIDS in New York City. From the beginning, Lorena gave them everything she had, even though it was very little. In her earliest years as an activist, she shared her tiny apartment with up to 20 transgender women, all of whom were sex workers trying to survive the neighborhoods where they were being marginalized. These were women without families who fled from their home countries because they were being persecuted for expressing their identity and for being themselves. Here in New York they did not have the life or the freedom they dreamed of and they also suffered violence and abuse. For them, it was a real crime to be a transgendered immigrant and an immigrant of color. As part of her struggle, Lorena began to help transgender women from Mexico who immigrated to the United States. Over time, this work spread to help all her sisters from Latin America, as well as those who were part of this ignored community since the 1980’s. Lorena founded The Lorena Borjas Community Fund in 2012 and Colectivo Transgrediendo in 2015. Both are dedicated to reaching and assisting trans-Latinas connect to HIV treatment, immigration services, name change, legal services, and much more.

Kimberly Canady is a 32-year-old HIV/AIDS activist, advocate, mother, and wife born with HIV. She dedicated the past 17 years working in the area of human sexuality, focusing on HIV/AIDS/STI advocacy and the elimination of health disparities that impact women and youth. Her motivation stems from the loss of both parents at the age of nine due to complications from AIDS. Kim’s journey in health education started at age 15 when she was a peer health educator in the Teens Helping Each Other (THEO) program located at SUNY Downstate. Since then she has worked at several organizations not only as a health educator, but with the lived experience of being a youth-led change maker. Kim is an international leader in her field and collaborated with U.N.I.C.E.F as a youth ambassador. She is an ongoing consultant for Love Heals, The H.E.A.T program and also serves on the Board for the Young Women of Color HIV/AIDS Coalition and the Community Advisory Board for The Well Project. Kim is responsible for educating over 2,000 students annually through workshops across NYS and has traveled to Africa in partnership with U.N.I.C.E.F to address the AIDS epidemic first hand. Kim recently graduated with honors from The New York City School of Technology where she earned her BS in Human Service and will start her Masters’ degree in Social Work in 2020.

Elder Antionettea “Dreadie” Etienne has been an advocate in the field of HIV/AIDS for over 20 years. Dreadie, as she is affectionately known, is currently the Health Educator/Test Counselor for the Just for Us Program that deals with Lesbians and Bi-women at Iris House. She also serves as Client Liaison, teaching women how to advocate for themselves. She is currently the Minister of Health & Wellness at Love Alive International Sanctuary of Praise. Dreadie has fought for Women’s Rights within the state and federal correctional systems, as well as locally, nationally and internationally for multiple issues concerning women. Dreadie represents various communities, including LGBTQ, incarcerated and formally incarcerated, faith-based and all Women of Color. She has been a Chair, Co-Chair, Board member and advocate for many organizations, including Rikers Island Advisory Board, Rikers Island Consortium, New York City & State Prevention Planning Groups, GMHC Lesbians AIDS Project and the Women’s Institute at GMHC. She has also been the Chair, Co-Chair and/or Board Member of the Queens, Manhattan and Brooklyn HIV Care Networks, the Faith-based Initiative for Queens and Manhattan, the New York Planning Council (under Mayor Bloomberg), the Formerly Incarcerated Inmates Living with AIDS (under the auspices of the Latino Commission on AIDS). Over the years, Dreadie received many awards for her dedication to the field of HIV/AIDS, Substance Abuse, Gang Intervention and the Formerly Incarcerated. Among the honors were: Voces Latinas SHero Award, Iris House, Sister-Love from Atlanta Leading Woman Award, The Puerto Rican Cultural and Development Programs for all Hispanics within the New York Area, The International Lions Club from Panama and the United States, and the UN Women’s Health Rights Institute Program for Women of the World. Dreadie was also honored by her peers at Bedford Hills Maximum Security Prison for the development of the CARE Program for the female inmates who conduct testing and education.
Since 1861, five generations of Foas have led the firm to be responsive to the changing needs of our clients and to assess exposures and manage risks.

Foa & Son’s Commercial Insurance Division, Private Insurance Advisory Service, Corporate Benefits Practice, Multinational Services Division, and Blue Water Hull Division, provide insurance solutions to some of the USA’s, and the world’s most prestigious firms.

“Keeping Our Promises Since 1861”
GLOW (Growing Leadership Opportunities for Women) builds women living with HIV into leaders to end the epidemic.

For more information, e-mail. glow.info@nmac.org
Ryan Health

is proud to support the work of

Iris House

in highlighting the importance of

women’s health

in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

www.ryanhealth.org
HEAT Program (Health & Education Alternatives for Teens) is the only comprehensive care program of its kind in Brooklyn that provides age and developmentally appropriate, culturally competent care for youth ages 13-24 who are living with or at very high-risk for HIV/AIDS.

HEAT provides comprehensive reproductive and sexual health care and prevention services targeting young women of color and LGBT youth.

HEAT PHONE NUMBER: 718-613-8453
Website: www.heatprogram.org
Facebook: HeatProgram / Twitter: @HeatProgram / Instagram: HeatProgramBK
Project 1329 offers services to African Americans and Latino young men who have sex with men and heterosexual youth, ages 13-29 who are HIV positive and high-risk negatives to prevent HIV, STI, HCV and substance use.

**Services**

HIV, STI and Hepatitis C Testing  
Substance Use Prevention and Services  
Choosing Life: Empowerment! Action! Results! (CLEAR) Intervention  
Social Network Strategy  
Peer Leadership and Youth Advisory Board  
Educational Workshops  
Condom Distribution  
Linkage to Medical Care/Referrals to PrEP/PEP

For more information  
Contact Ofelia Barrios,  
Senior Director of Community Health Initiatives  
(646)548-0100 or obarrios@irishouse.org

We know our programs work: At any point, more than 98% of our clients are connected to appropriate medical care and 75% of our HIV+ Clients have reached viral suppression.

**Behavioral Health**  
Individual & Group Counseling  
Offered in English and Spanish

**Women Support Services**  
Emotional Wellness Groups  
Life Skills Workshops

**Harm Reduction**  
Individual & Group Counseling  
Detox Program Referrals  
Mental Health Assessment  
Substance Use Screening

**Nutritional Services**  
Nutrition Individual and Group Education  
Hot/Cold Lunch  
Monthly Pantry Bags

**Scatter-Site Supportive Housing**  
Case Management  
Housing  
Referrals as Needed

**Outreach, Engagement and Programs Other Services**  
Emergency Pantry Bags  
Treatment Adherence

**Prevention/Outreach**  
Free Condoms  
Prevention Education  
Mental Health Screening  
Listen Up I-Matter  
Group Education and Specific Interventions

**Pharmacy Services**

**Home and Community Based Services**

**TESTING PROGRAMS**  
HIV  
Hepatitis C  
STIs

---

**IRIS HOUSE**

Main Office  
2348 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Boulevard  
(Btw 137th & 138th Streets)  
New York, NY 10030  
646-548-0100

Central New Jersey Office  
630 East Front Street  
Suite 100  
Plainfield, NJ 07060  
(908) 561-5057

We know our programs work: At any point, more than 98% of our clients are connected to appropriate medical care and 75% of our HIV+ Clients have reached viral suppression.
JUST FOR US Program offers services to African American and Hispanic Lesbian/WSW and adolescents ages 13+ who are HIV-positive or at high-risk in order to prevent new HIV, sexuality transmitted infections (STI) and Hepatitis C infection.

Services

- HIV testing
- STI and Hepatitis C testing
- SISTA Intervention-HIV educational sessions for women
- Referrals to PrEP/nPEP, linkage to care and supportive services
- Referrals to substance use and mental health services

FOR MORE INFORMATION
contact Ofelia Barrios, Senior Director of Community Health Initiatives at Iris House at (646) 548-0100 or via email at obarrios@irishouse.org

Program sponsored by the NYS AIDS Institute
The Board, Staff and Families of Iris House give a Standing Ovation to Broadway Cares / Equity Fights AIDS for their amazing, ongoing support of our programs, including Food and Nutrition and for the seventh year in a row, the Women as the Face of AIDS Summit!

Supporting programs like the Broadway Easter Bonnet Competition, Broadway Bares, the BC/EFA Flea Market and the individual calls for help that each Broadway Show makes directly impacts people living with HIV / AIDS.

When you give at the theatre, know that it’s supporting Iris House!

www.broadwaycares.org
Advancing Therapeutics, Improving Lives.

For more than 30 years, Gilead has worked to develop medicines that address areas of unmet medical need for people around the world.

Our portfolio of medicines and pipeline of investigational drugs include treatments for HIV/AIDS, liver diseases, cancer, inflammatory and respiratory diseases, and cardiovascular conditions.

Every day we strive to transform and simplify care for people with life-threatening illnesses.

GILEAD IS A PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE 14TH ANNUAL WOMEN AS THE FACE OF AIDS SUMMIT.

For more information, please visit www.gilead.com.
© 2019 Gilead Sciences, Inc.