XIX International AIDS Conference Local and National Outreach Partners Selected

Black AIDS Institute, U.S. Positive Women's Network, and DC Community Coalition to promote conference focus and values in United States and Washington D.C.

15 September 2011 (Washington, DC) — The Black AIDS Institute, the U.S. Positive Women's Network (PWN) and the DC Community Coalition (DCC) have been selected as Outreach Partners for the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012). Named as the AIDS 2012 U.S. Community Partners in July 2010, the Black AIDS Institute and PWN will also take on the role of US Outreach Partners. As U.S. Community Partners, the organizations both hold seats on the AIDS 2012 Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC): the highest governing body for the International AIDS Conference and the committee ultimately responsible for the theme, vision, policies, budget guidelines and overall programme of the conference.

In their additional role as US Outreach Partners, the Black AIDS Institute and PWN will ensure that key stakeholders throughout the U.S. are continuously informed about the goals and objectives, key messages, important dates, programme updates and the primary benefits of participating in AIDS 2012.

The U.S. Outreach Partners will also assist conference organizers by ensuring that the full range of communities and sectors affected by HIV/AIDS across the U.S. are represented and engaged in the conference planning and delivery process, which reflects the conference’s values of inclusion, respect, and global partnership building.

The Black AIDS Institute is the only U.S.-based national HIV/AIDS think tank focused exclusively on Black people. The institute's mission is to stop the AIDS pandemic in black communities by engaging and mobilizing black institutions and individuals in efforts to confront HIV. It interprets public and private sector HIV policies, conducts trainings, offers technical assistance, disseminates information and provides advocacy and mobilization from a uniquely and unapologetically Black point of view.

A project of the Women Organized to Respond to Life-Threatening Disease (WORLD), the U.S. Positive Women’s Network (PWN) works to prepare and involve HIV-positive women, including transgender women, in all levels of policy and decision-making to improve the quality of women’s lives. PWN develops and supports leaders, analyzes policy, and builds capacity for collective action among women.

“The Black AIDS Institute has established itself as a leading public voice on AIDS. Its diverse programs and partnerships, stakeholder relations, and awareness campaigns will ensure that AIDS 2012 key messages reach a broad national audience,” said Elly Katabira, AIDS 2012 International Chair. “With infection rates among women on the rise, it is essential that women are actively engaged at all levels of the U.S. national response to HIV. The U.S. Positive Women’s Network is a vital outreach partner that will encourage widespread community collaboration for AIDS 2012.”

The DC Community Coalition has been chosen as the Washington, D.C.-based organization to execute Washington D.C.-specific outreach, ensuring that the full range of communities and groups affected by HIV in D.C. are represented in conference planning. The DCC is a coalition of individuals and
organizations made up of people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS throughout the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area. The DCC was initiated in June of 2010 in anticipation of the U.S. being chosen as the host country for the AIDS 2012 conference. Local community members reached out to the broader community and held stakeholder meetings to introduce the concept of the International AIDS Conference and used this opportunity to form a coalition to ensure that Washington, D.C.’s community organization’s primary issues are addressed at AIDS 2012.

“Since their formation, the DC Community Coalition has been working diligently to educate the D.C. community about the XIX International AIDS Conference and ensuring DC residents and key stakeholders are a part of the process and in attendance at AIDS 2012,” said Diane Havlir, US Co-Chair. “The DCC are already mobilizing DC residents to work together and with AIDS 2012 to develop a united response to combating the HIV epidemic in Washington D.C.”

The selection process for the Washington D.C. based outreach partner is outlined here.

The outreach partners will also promote the AIDS 2012 Global Village - open to the general public as well as to conference delegates - and the AIDS 2012 Youth Programme.

About AIDS 2012

The International AIDS Conference is the largest gathering of professionals working in the field of HIV, including people living with HIV and other leaders in the HIV response. It plays a fundamental role in shaping the global response to HIV and in keeping HIV and AIDS on the international political agenda.

Conference registration, individual hotel reservations, and abstract submissions will open in December 2011. As more details about these and other matters become available, they will be posted at www.aids2012.org.

Conference organization:

AIDS 2012 is convened by the International AIDS Society and the conference’s permanent partners are the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+); the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO); the International Community of Women with HIV/AIDS (ICW) and the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

The U.S.-based Black AIDS Institute; the District of Columbia Department of Health (DOH); the HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA) of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA); the National Institutes of Health (NIH); the Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP) at the White House; and the U.S. Positive Women’s Network (USPWN) are serving as local partners.

AIDS 2012: Join the Conversation

Get the latest conference updates and share your thoughts and ideas through the Conference Facebook and Twitter.

We are tweeting – @aids2012 – and hope many of you will tweet along with us, using #AIDS2012 to keep the conversation going.
PUBLIC STATEMENT

Become a fan of AIDS 2012 on Facebook and stay in touch with the latest conference updates and developments. Please visit www.facebook.com/aids2012 to become a fan. If your group or organization is participating in AIDS 2012, we welcome posts of photos and videos of your work on this page. Tell us why you are coming to Washington and what you hope to gain from AIDS 2012.

About the IAS
The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals, with over 16,000 members from more than 196 countries working at all levels of the global response to AIDS. Our members include researchers from all disciplines, clinicians, public health and community practitioners on the frontlines of the epidemic, as well as policy and programme planners. The IAS is the custodian of the biennial International AIDS Conference and lead organizer of the IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, which will be held in Rome, Italy in July 2011.

www.iasociety.org | www.ias2011.org

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