



HHS Announces Phase 1 Winners of Two National HIV and Aging Challenges

The grants were awarded to 10 organizations serving urban communities and 10 serving rural communities.

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Twenty community organizations will receive \$15,000 each for community-driven innovative solutions to address the needs of people aging with HIV or long-term survivors in rural and urban areas.

These funds are part of the first phase of two challenges worth a total of \$1 million that focus on HIV and aging and long-term survivors. The two challenges were organized by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy (OIDP), and the Administration for Community Living (ACL).

The two challenges are:

- “Innovations for Needs of People Aging with HIV/Long-term Survivors in Urban Communities” Challenge
- “\$500,000 Rural HIV and Aging Challenge”

These efforts support innovations that help improve health outcomes for people aging with HIV and long-term survivors, particularly among racial and ethnic minority and LGBTQ+ populations.

Each challenge is split into two phases. The first phase, which is referenced above, awards winners \$15,000 each for their design of concept. In the second phase, these winners will begin the development of solutions and small-scale testing of their concepts.

“These community-driven solutions focus on the needs of older adults living with HIV to address their non-biomedical needs, such as nutrition, social isolation, and peer and caregiver support. These solutions can be highly effective in improving their overall health and well-being,” said Kaye Hayes, MPA, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Infectious Disease & Director, OIDP.

The challenges are funded by the Minority HIV/AIDS Fund (MHAF), which aims to improve HIV prevention, care, and treatment for racial and ethnic minorities through supporting innovative

solutions that address critical emerging needs. MHAF also works to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and impact of federal investments in HIV programs and services for racial and ethnic minorities. The challenges are also part of actions identified in the [National HIV/AIDS Strategy Federal Implementation Plan](#).

“We offered both a rural and urban challenge seeking effective community-based solutions because different communities often require a different approach,” said Edwin Walker, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging, ACL.

Phase 1 Challenge Winners (in Urban communities)

Organization	Location
Lantern PRIME'd: Peer Reminiscence Intervention for Minority Elders (PRIME) Innovation in Supportive Housing	New York, NY
Aging Unfiltered	Chicago, IL
HIV Supportive Services Program for PLWH in Urban Communities	Detroit, MI
Seasoned Survivors Design Concept	Fort Worth, TX
Experienced Escapades (EE) – Expansion	Phoenix, AZ
Loneliness Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (LONE-SBIRT): A Public Health Model for Addressing Loneliness in People Aging with HIV in Camden, New Jersey	Camden, NJ
Increasing Engagement and Expanding Access for People Aging with HIV in an Urban Community: The Age Positively Program Town Hall Initiative	Boston, MA
Flourish Initiative - Let's Get MOVING!	Chester County, PA
Surviving HIV	Newark, NJ
Openhouse + On Lok Community Day Services	San Francisco, CA

Phase 1 Challenge Winners (in Rural communities)

Organization	Location
Project Hozho: Virtual Talking Circles & Storytelling Interventions for Rural Native American Veterans	Navajo Nation in Arizona
Providing for Rural Aging HIV Patients Plan	Baton Rouge, LA
PATH2Digital Connection: CHN Tablet and Hotspot Lending Program	Rural Colorado
Georgia Department of Public Health and Department of Human Services Rural HIV and Aging Proposal	Richmond County, GA
HIV Aging Supports and Nutrition Pilot Project for Rural East Texas Residents	Rural East Texas
Golden Rainbows of Illinois South Food & Nutrition Program for those Aging with HIV	Southern Illinois
LiveStrong.AI – SMS AI ChatBot to Engage Those Living with HIV in Rural Areas	Across Rural U.S.
The Citrus Sugar Project	Rural Palm Beach and Highlands Counties, Florida
HUGS for Rural Caregivers of Loved Ones Aging with HIV & Dementia	Rural South Caroline and California
The T.R.U.T.H. Project Presents Social Networking Space	Houston, Texas area

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