This Year's U.S. Conference on HIV/AIDS Will Be Virtual—and Free!

Register now for USCHA, held October 19 to 21. Trainings will help the HIV community manage the impact of COVID-19.

June 22, 2020 By Paul Kawata

The 2020 United States Conference on HIV/AIDS will be virtual and free for the first 4,000 registrations. You can find the latest information at the USCHA website or register for one of our June 25th webinars:

- 10:00 am Eastern time
- 1:00 pm Eastern time
- 3:00 pm Eastern time

The 2020 meeting will have five plenaries, 60 workshops, 14 institutes, and a Virtual Exhibit Hall. Workshops and plenaries will be online after the meeting for everyone to view for free.

You can watch our 2020 USCHA launch video at the top of this article. Below is our press release for the event:

US CONFERENCE ON HIV/AIDS 2020 MOVES ONLINE

June 22, 2020 - NMAC announced today that the 2020 United States Conference on HIV/AIDS (USCHA) will move to an online format Oct. 19-21. The change is being made to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect attendees from possible exposure to the Coronavirus.

Registration for this conference will be free for the first 4,000 non-federal and non-corporate registrants. Registration is open at the conference website, uscha.life.

The Indian Health Service and the Albuquerque Indian Health Board, with resources from the Minority HIV/AIDS Fund, and in partnership with NMAC, will offer free registration for USCHA.The free registration applies to (1) U.S. federal- and state-recognized tribal members/citizens, employees, contractors, and volunteers; (2) U.S.-based Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders; and (3) others directly affiliated with those communities.

Among other topics, USCHA will prioritize trainings that help the HIV community manage the

impact that COVID-19 has had on HIV prevention, treatment, and care.

“While we are very disappointed that we won’t be able to hold USCHA in person in Puerto Rico this year, we hold the health and safety of our community as our priority,” said Paul Kawata, Executive Director of NMAC. “We felt that having 3,000 people travel and gather in one space for several days was too great of a risk during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

“Given the COVID-19 pandemic and the Black Lives Matter protests, we also felt it was important for our community to meet, even if online,” said Kawata. “We know that many people in our community have been dealing with isolation and depression and other triggering issues right now. USCHA 2020 will give everyone a meeting that is welcoming and embracing and inspiring even if we can’t be together in person.”

With the impact of COVID-19 and the Black Lives Matter protests, NMAC will return to the 2017 conference theme: Family Reunion 2.

“Now more than ever, we need our family,” said Kawata. “NMAC sees family as more than blood. Family is about the people you trust to have your back, especially now. Family are the people you want to hug when you should be socially distancing. The HIV movement is a large and diverse family. We don’t always get along. In fact like most families, we have long standing disagreements. During these uncertain times, USCHA celebrates the HIV Family!”

The Virtual 2020 USCHA will have five plenaries, 60 workshops, 12 institutes, and a virtual Exhibit Hall. New this year will be a Jobs Fair. Currently, 40 million Americans have lost their jobs. The new resources attached to the federal effort to End the HIV Epidemic means thousands of new jobs. USCHA will bring together the people who need jobs with the organizations who receive the new EHE funding.

NMAC leads with race to urgently fight for health equity and racial justice to end the HIV epidemic in America. Since 1987, NMAC has advanced our mission through a variety of programs and services, including: a public policy education program, national and regional training conferences, a treatment and research program, numerous electronic and print materials, and a website: www.nmac.org. NMAC also serves as an association of AIDS service organizations, providing valuable information to community-based organizations, hospitals, clinics, and other groups assisting individuals and families affected by the HIV epidemic.

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Yours in the struggle,

Paul Kawata

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