



Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



ACT AGAINST AIDS LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE (AAALI)

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Project Director

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Introduction



- ❖ In 2010, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. was awarded a five (5) year cooperative agreement (grant) to focus on HIV/AIDS education and prevention through the Act Against AIDS Leadership Initiative (AAALI). We are 1 of 19 partner organizations to receive this funding
- ❖ To date, we have received continuation funding for the last 4 years. We are now in Year 5 of this cooperative agreement. This year represents the final year of this grant funding, however the sorority leadership has developed a draft plan for sustainability and will ratify it during its Interim board meeting in July 2015.



Program Goals & Aims



3 Program Aims

- 🏰 Education Aim
- 🏰 Commitment Aim
- 🏰 Sustainability Aim



Education Aim

Goal- Every member/constituent of the organization is educated about HIV/AIDS and its impact upon African Americans, Hispanic/Latinos, and MSM.

- **Educational Training Curriculum** – An educational training curriculum is used to ensure consistency related to HIV/AIDS education and messaging. Regional and local trainers, upon the recommendation of the Regional Syntakti, are certified to deliver the curriculum. To date we have trained 110 local trainers, 6 community trainers and 11 Regional trainers for a total of 127 trainers in 31 states.
- **Training Impact** – Sorors, Philos and Rhoer Affiliates are trained. In addition, to date, over 30,000 people were educated about the prevalence and prevention of HIV/AIDS through this program.
- **Training Sessions** – HIV / AIDS Training Sessions are conducted at official sorority meetings (NE Mid Winter, SE, CR, SW, WR, NE Regional Conferences and Boule 2012/2014).
- **HIV Testing** – HIV Testing is conducted at Regional Conferences and the Boule’.
- **Education Awareness Outreach** – Monthly educational e-blasts containing awareness messaging, disease impacts, national observances along with repeated calls to “get tested to know your status” are disseminated via the chapter e-mail distribution listings and from National Headquarters.



Commitment Aim

Goal(s) – Every member/constituent of the organization is aware of and understands the organization’s commitment to HIV/AIDS prevention and education. The organization mobilizes resources and engages its members and constituents in an effort to address HIV/AIDS in target populations.

National Observances Awareness – Awareness strategies executed related to the following national HIV/AIDS observances:

- *Boule’ - Highlighted HIV/AIDS as a national issue*
- **World AIDS Day** – 12/1 Various Events around the country
- **National Black HIV / AIDS Day** – 2/7
- **National Women and Girls HIV / AIDS Day** – 3/10
- **National HIV Testing Day** – 6/27
- *Monthly E-blasts sent by ICHQ to all members*



Sustainability Aim

Goal- Organization has a plan for ensuring that HIV/AIDS programming is included and sustained within the organization's annual strategic plan.

- 🏆 Sigma Gamma Rho has branded the HIV/AIDS initiative, A3 4 Life: Ask, Accept, Act. Also, and we are utilizing CDC Co-branded material.
- 🏆 Printed Collateral (wallet size information cards were designed, which include options for where to find testing sites and the Sigma Gamma Rho AAALI staff email address). This easily accessible tool is distributed at training sessions.
- 🏆 A3 4 Life Webpage is included in the sorority's national website to promote education and awareness for members and the general public.
- 🏆 A34Life Trainers Pin is awarded once a trainer meets criteria



Program Year 3- Progress

- ✓ 75% of organizations active members/constituents received HIV/AIDS education and training
- ✓ HIV/AIDS education and training was provided at 5 Regional Conferences and Area meetings
- ✓ HIV/AIDS campaign and educational materials were distributed at all events
- ✓ 5,269 community members have received HIV/AIDS education
- ✓ HIV/AIDS Story featuring Soror Hydeia Broadbent was included in the November 2012 edition of The Aurora

Goals

- Continue recruitment of Local HIV / AIDS Education Trainers who will be responsible for spearheading HIV/AIDS Education and Awareness in local chapters, and establishing community links and partnerships.
- Promotion of local chapter collaboration and outreach to provide HIV / AIDS Education and Awareness in the wider community.
- Establishment of a partnership with a national organization for presenting HIV education.
- Strategic partnerships with local health departments and other groups across the country to enhance the promotion of HIV/AIDS awareness and testing.
- Increased HIV Testing at all educational venues including Area Meetings, Regional Conferences and Boules.
- Incorporate formal use of Social Media (i.e. Facebook, Twitter etc.) as tools for wider educational reach expanding into the community.





Lessons Learned



- HIV/AIDS prevention is still needed, incidence rates reflect the need to recruit Undergraduate trainers
- HIV/AIDS education and training session is best presented during a plenary session for a minimum of 1 hour
- Securing HIV testing at local events is a challenge and grant funds may not be spent on testing supplies and/or equipment
- Buy in at all levels of the sorority is a must to achieve grant deliverables and improve chances for sustainability
- Regional Trainers supported by Local Trainers is the most effective strategy to make sure implementation happens at the local level





Recommendations



- ✦ Include HIV/AIDS education and training in the meeting agenda during a plenary session for at least 1 hour
- ✦ Require that all new members receive HIV/AIDS education and training as part of T.O.R.C.H.
- ✦ Begin to plan for “beyond the grant” by adding a budgeted line item or resources to sustain the HIV/AIDS program

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-  **Aminata Mbaye-Niang**
-  **Soror Vanessa Tyson**
-  **Soror (Dr.) Alexandria Crumble**
-  **ICHQ Staff**



Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



Awesome Project Team!

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