

C2PLA[®]Coalition

January 2017

Dear **Perspective Member:**

On behalf of the Connect to Protect Los Angeles Coalition (C2PLA), we would like to invite you to join in our collaborative efforts to reduce HIV incidence and prevalence among youth and young adults in Los Angeles County.

Research demonstrates that effective HIV prevention interventions are most effective on the community level, addressing structural change objectives. C2PLA is a community mobilization effort aimed at changing the environment in which young people are placed by identifying underlying social determinants of health. Working from a consensus model, the coalition follows a strategic planning process to develop objectives to create structural change based on identified barriers. We look at data to build mutually agreed upon goals and objectives.

For examples of our recent accomplishments, please refer to the enclosed attachments. Enclosed you will find information regarding C2PLA's mission; activities and milestones.

For further information and to get involved:

- Join the C2PLA Google Group at c2plosangeles@googlegroups.com to receive email updates, community announcements, and general information shared by members of the coalition
- Attend the next subcommittee meeting of your interest (See Who We Are section)
- Review bylaws and objectives. If interested and committed, return attached membership letter.
- Contact Milton Smith, C2PLA Project Director at (323) 361-4751 or milsmith@chla.usc.edu

We look forward to having you and/or a member of your organization join us. Our next meeting is scheduled for **Friday, February 24th from 12pm-3pm** at LA84 Foundation, 2141 W. Adams, Los Angeles CA 90018, lunch and free parking will be available.

Sincerely,

Joaquin Gutierrez and Percival Pandy

C2PLA Coalition Co-Chairs

WHAT WE DO

OUR VISION

The vision of the Connect to Protect Los Angeles (C2PLA) Coalition is that young people of color in Los Angeles County will be supported as champions of change in their communities and empowered to self-determine their health.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

The conditions and circumstances into which people are born, grow, live, work, socialize, and form relationships, as well as the systems that are in place to deal with injury and illness.

-HIV Prevention at the Structural Level:

STRUCTURAL CHANGE

A new or modifies practice, program, or policy that is logically linkable to HIV acquisition or transmission, and can be sustained over time, even when the key players are no longer involved. It may directly or indirectly impact individuals.

MISSION

The mission of Connect to Protect Los Angeles (C2PLA) is to create opportunities for community mobilization that identify and address structural barriers that drive sexual health disparities for young people of color with multiple identities and experiences in Los Angeles County.

We fulfill our mission by:

- Intentionally partnering with youth;
- Supporting youth leadership and development
- Focusing on subpopulations of youth most impacted by health disparities;
- Identifying and addressing social determinants of health; and
- Finding opportunities to strategically partner with other organizations, coalitions and advocacy groups aligned with our vision.

C2PLA's TARGET POPULATION

Our target population includes young gay and bisexual men of color, ages 12-24 living in Los Angeles which based on local and national data is the most impacted population, however our work impacts **all** youth and young adults.

HISTORY

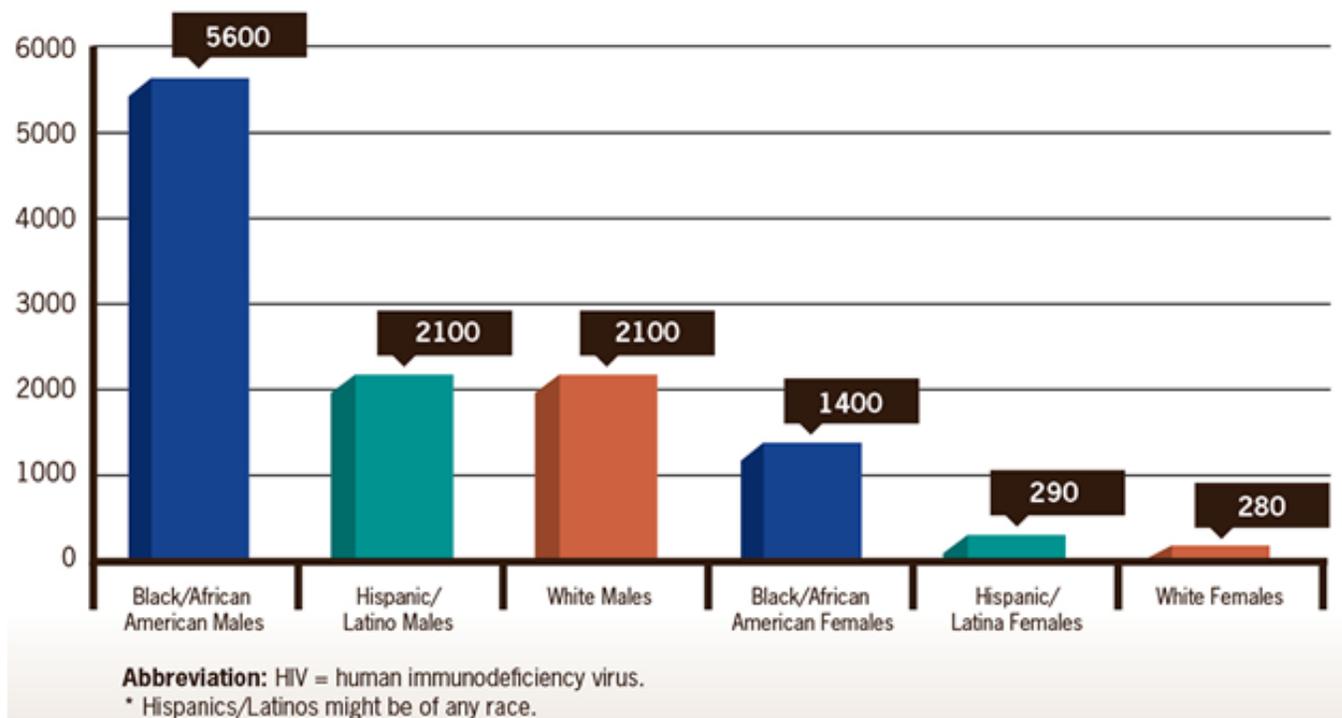
The Coalition was developed through *Connect to Protect*® (C2P): *Partnerships for Youth Prevention Intervention*, a multi-site research initiative and to generate long-term solutions to prevent the spread of HIV among youth. Launched in 2001, with the purpose of linking local researchers and community members around the growing crisis of HIV/AIDS among youth. The mobilization efforts bring together diverse sectors of the community to form a coalition and local strategic plan to address **social determinates of health** focused on reducing HIV through **structural changes**. C2PLA is supported and facilitated by staff from Children's Hospital Los Angeles, but is an independent body comprised of organizations and community members.

DID YOU KNOW?

- An estimated 9,961 youth were diagnosed with HIV in 2013 in the 40 states with long-term HIV reporting, representing about 21% of the persons diagnosed during that year.
 - Seventy-five percent (6,237) of these diagnoses occurred in young people aged 20-24 years. Those aged 20-24 had the highest number and rate of HIV diagnoses of any age group. (CDC, 2013)
- Combined, children, youth, and young adults up to 29 years of age comprise one-third (33.5%) of newly diagnosed persons, compared to their 8.4% prevalence among total PLWH.
- Nearly half of the 19 million new STDs each year are among young people aged 15–24 years

Who's At Risk?

Number of new HIV Infections among youth by sex and race/ethnicity—United States, 2010



CDC. Vital Signs: HIV Infection, Testing, and Risk Behaviors Among Youths - United States. MMWR 2012:61

WHAT WE'VE DONE

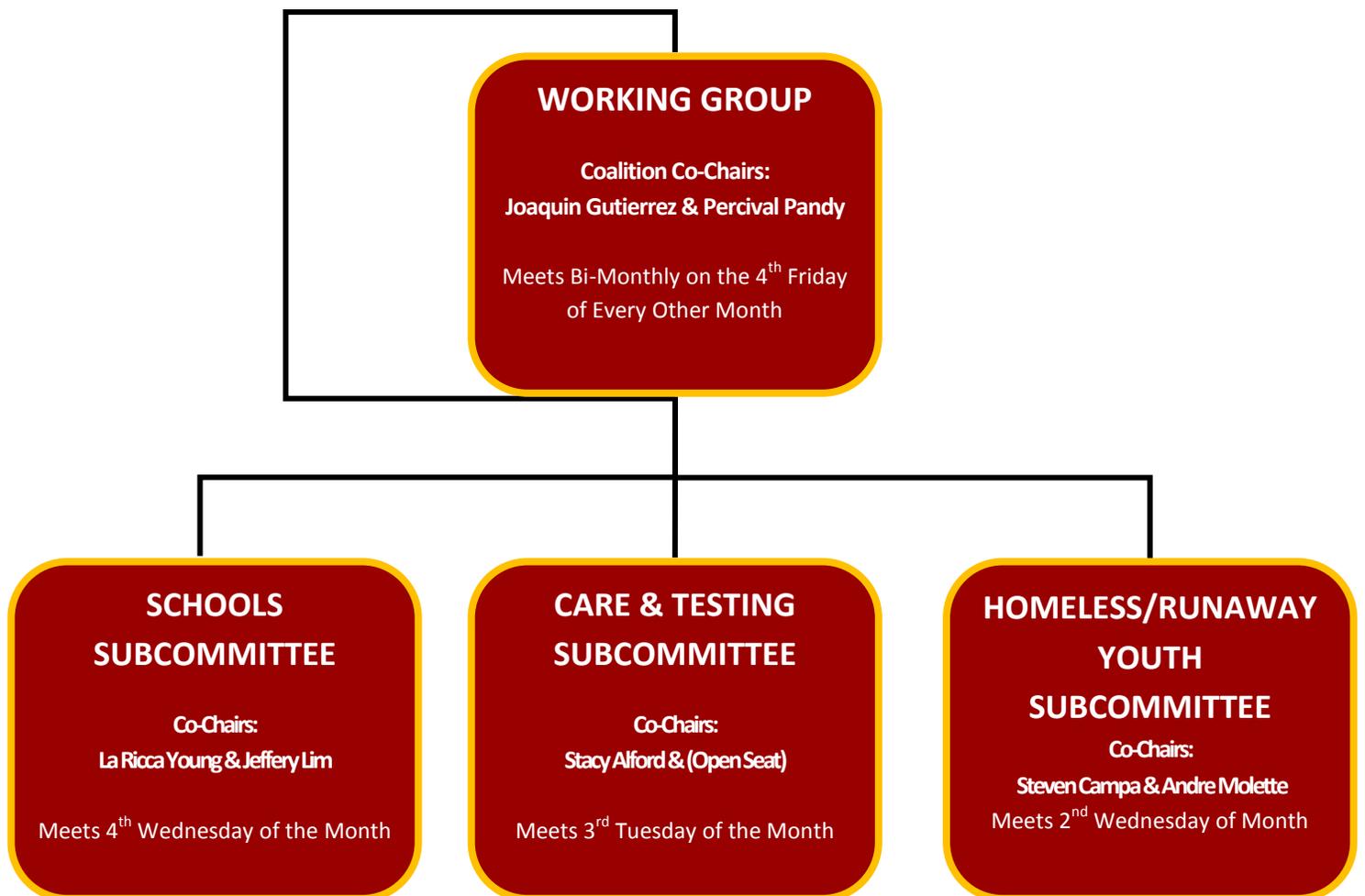
RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Of completed C2PLA SCOs:
 - 52% promote health/HIV education; 33% promote easier access to medical services; 14% promote youth development
 - About 50% of SCOs target youth at high risk (e.g., seeking HIV/STI care, homeless, incarcerated, etc)
- Had over 100 people join the coalition since March 2006, completed over 60 Structural Change Objectives (SCOs), and 413 Action Steps.
- Homeless Subcommittee hosted a very successful “Dress For Success” Pop-up shop geared for youth ages 16-24 seeking clothing for jobs.
- Worked with Jordan High School in Watts to produce the school’s first National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Event.
- Successfully advocated for the passage of AB329 The California Healthy Youth Act

CURRENT OBJECTIVES

- Working with school districts throughout Los Angeles County to help with their implementation of the California Healthy Youth Act.
- Providing technical assistance to homeless youth service providers to increase their capacity to work with LGBTQ youth
- Increasing HIV and STI testing rates among youth as well as their access to biomedical interventions like PEP and PrEP
- Providing technical assistance to wellness centers in South Los Angeles to develop and adopt internal workforce development plans for administrative and clinical staff that address minor consent and LGBTQI cultural competency
- Developing youth leaders who can effectively advocate for the health and wellness of them and their peers

WHO WE ARE



GENERAL COALITION STRUCTURE

The coalition meets bi-monthly or as needed, and subcommittee meetings are held monthly. An ad hoc subcommittee focused on sustainability also meets monthly or as needed. Currently, C2PLA has over 40 agencies involved. The coalition has an executive group that is comprised of two community co-chairs, and subcommittee co-chairs. C2PLA is supported and facilitated by a Project Director, Milton Smith who is located at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, but the coalition acts as an independent body comprised of organizations and community members.

WHY JOIN?

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

As a member, your organization will receive:

- The opportunity to engage in national discourse and local efforts to change the dialogue on HIV prevention
- Access to information and materials to use for grant proposals and for distribution in the community
- Capacity building trainings and services
- Support for your agency or organization's commitment to youth
- Opportunities for networking
- Support for your efforts, i.e. letters of support, email list serves, research data, etc.

CURRENT MEMBERS INCLUDE:

As a member of the coalition, partners will have opportunities to receive capacity-building trainings and access to an abundance of *Connect to Protect* information and materials for use in grant proposals and for distribution to the community. Current C2PLA participants include:

ACLU of Southern California • AIDS Project Los Angeles • AltaMed Health Services • Bienestar, Inc. • Black AIDS Institute • Black Latino AIDS Project at UCLA • Black Women For Wellness • California Family Health Councils • Center for Health Justice • Children's Hospital Los Angeles Division of Adolescent Medicine • City of Los Angeles • Colors Youth Program • Foothill AIDS Project • Friends Research Center • GSA Network • Homeless Health Care Los Angeles • Jordan High School • Jovenes Inc. • JWCH • LAUSD Health Education Programs • LifeWorks • Los Angeles City AIDS Coordinator's Office • Los Angeles City Attorney's Office Victim's Assistance Program • Los Angeles County Department of Public Health • Los Angeles County Division of HIV & STD Programs • Los Angeles County Office of Education • LA LGBT Center • Los Angeles Public Library • Los Angeles Youth Network • Magic Johnson Foundation • Peer Health Exchange • Planned Parenthood Los Angeles • Queer People of Color Conference • REACH LA • St. John's Well Child and Family Center • Teen Line • The SYPP Center • UCLA Art and Global Health Center • UCLA Center for Clinical AIDS Research & Education • UCLA LGBT Resource Center • USC LGBT Resource Center • USC Keck School of Medicine Maternal Child & Adolescent Center • Watts Healthcare • Young Invincibles

"It is time for all of us to take action to protect ourselves and our young people against HIV/AIDS... [W]e must educate our children about HIV prevention. They need to know that it is OK to talk about AIDS, because illness, like injustice and inequality, cannot be eliminated by remaining silent."— Coretta Scott King

2017 LETTER OF MEMBERSHIP FORM

We, _____ (Agency/Entity Name), agree to participate in the C2PLA Coalition. The C2PLA Coalition consists of organizations and community stakeholders working in collaboration to mobilize the community and create structural changes to reduce HIV/AIDS among young gay and bisexual men of color. By participating in the C2PLA Coalition we agree to the following:

1. We will select 1–2 individuals to represent our agency/entity at the general meetings held the 4th Friday of every other month and/or designate 1-2 individuals to join a subcommittee held monthly. The representative(s) will attend at least 75% of either of the two types of meetings per year.
2. We will adhere to coalition bylaws.
3. We will provide agency updates, as applicable, to our profile to be included on the coalition's website.
4. We agree to participate in at least one of the ad hoc or standing subcommittees.

AGENCY/ENTITY NAME: _____

NAME/AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE (SUPERVISOR): _____

Please return membership form to:
C2PLA Coalition
Attn: Milton Smith
5000 Sunset Blvd. 4th Floor – Los Angeles, CA 90027
or milsmith@chla.usc.edu

C2PLA Coalition Member Roles And Descriptions

VISIONARY

- Generates innovative ideas and solutions
- Maintains the big picture and keeps coalition focused on the ultimate goal

STRATEGIST

- Translates ideas into workable objectives
- Determines order of action steps and who needs to be involved or informed
- Anticipates setbacks and conditions needed for success

ACTOR

- Completes action steps
- Takes advantage of unexpected opportunities to further progress

FACILITATOR

- Promotes open and effective dialogue among members during or between meetings
- Encourages and respects diverse viewpoints
- Transforms conflict into creativity

CONTENT EXPERT

- Provides expertise related to coalition activities
- Initiates the gathering of additional knowledge and expertise as needed

SUSTAINER

- Acquires funding and/or other resources that will help to continue the coalition's work
- Connects with others who can help continue coalition's work

BROKER

- Negotiates and arranges the exchange of information or resources (1) among coalition members and/or (2) between coalition members and the broader community

MOBILIZER

- Gets new people involved in coalition activities and inspires others to do the same
- Rallies people around the coalition's goals and activities
- Helps to keep coalition morale and motivation high

ORGANIZER/MANAGER

- Orchestrates logistics (e.g. finding meeting space, gathering meeting materials)
- Documents efforts and manages deadlines
- Delegates responsibilities and holds members accountable

SPOKESPERSON

- Represents and speaks on behalf of the coalition
- Engages in external communications and/or marketing activities