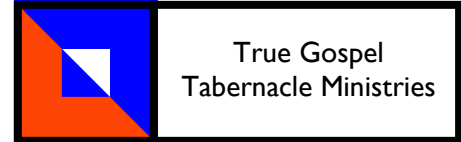


Mission Statement

Our purpose is to inform the Black Community and other minorities of the horrific HIV/AIDS crisis, which has become the leading cause of death in their communities.

Philadelphia Freedom from AIDS Campaign's mission is to alter the socio-political system that has placed African American people in bondage to a deadly health issue that is preventable, treatable, and controllable.

This campaign was designed to bring forth justice and relief to those suffering from death, destruction and the devastation of HIV/AIDS in the Philadelphia Community.



Philadelphia Freedom From AIDS Campaign



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HIV/AIDS in the African American Community

The African American story is one of a people who have struggled and fought for Freedom and Justice against great odds and opposition. It began with the inhumane captivity and enslavement of their African ancestors and it continues in this twenty first century with the struggle for freedom and justice from the **Systemic Biological Contamination and Annihilation known as HIV/AIDS.**

There is something desperately wrong and unjust with a system that allows the death and destruction of the African American people to consistently increase as a result of the contamination and annihilation of AIDS. This is occurring in the face of records and documentation that proves the exact opposite in White American communities. The statistics are alarming and drastically disproportionate.

We will expose the disproportionate spread of this deadly disease, we will expel the false myths and stigmas that have helped to propagate it and we will bring forth life, health and justice to the suffering African American, Hispanic and minority Communities of Philadelphia and throughout the United States, through education, motivation and inspiration.

The Cumulative Effect of HIV/AIDS

- According to the 2000 Census, African Americans make up 12.3% of the population yet they account for more than 39% — more than 347,000 — of the more than 886,000 estimated AIDS cases diagnosed since the beginning of the epidemic.¹
- For people diagnosed with AIDS since 1994, African Americans had the poorest survival rate of all racial and ethnic groups, with 55% surviving after 9 years compared to 61% of Hispanics, 64% of whites, and 69% of Asian/Pacific Islanders.¹
- In 2000, HIV/AIDS was among the top three causes of death for African American men ages 25-54 and African American women ages 35-44.²



AIDS in 2002

- African Americans accounted for about 21,000, or 50 percent, of the more than 42,000 estimated AIDS cases diagnosed among adults in the United States.¹
- The AIDS diagnosis rate among African Americans was almost 11 times the rate among whites. African-American women had a 23 times greater diagnosis rate than white women. African-American men had almost a 9 times greater rate diagnosis rate than white men.¹
- Over 162,000 African Americans were living with AIDS in the United States. They accounted for 42% of all people in the United States living with AIDS¹.

HIV in 2002

- African Americans accounted for over half of the new HIV diagnoses reported in the United States.¹
- The leading cause of HIV infection among African-American men is sexual contact with other men, followed by injection drug use and heterosexual contact.¹
- The leading cause of HIV infection among African-American women is heterosexual contact, followed by injection drug use.¹
- Sixty-two percent of children born to HIV-infected mothers were African American.¹

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). HIV/AIDS surveillance report 2002:14.
2. National Center for Health Statistics. National vital statistics report. 2002:50(16).

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