



# Central Florida HIV Trailblazer

By Karen Wint

The Clear Health Alliance 2022 Trailblazer Recipients were:



**26 Health:** You will find 360° support and open doors at 26Health. We are proud to be an all-inclusive health clinic, offering comprehensive services for LGBTQ+ community members and allies in Orlando and beyond. The 26Health mission

is to improve mind-body-spirit health in Central Florida's LGBTQ+ and ally community. Central Florida is home to many hospitals, doctor's offices, and wellness centers of all kinds. So why would we need another? The answer is clear: until 2011, when 26Health was founded as a non-profit, 501c3 corporation, Orlando did not have a multidisciplinary healthcare system to meet the complete needs of the LGBTQ+ and ally community.

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# CENTRAL FLORIDA HIV PLANNING COUNCIL

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### The merged Membership and PR & Marketing Committee

- This meeting is the first Tuesday of the month at 2:00 PM

### The merged Service Systems & Quality and Needs Assessment & Planning Committee

- This meeting is on the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM.

### Executive Committee

- This meeting is the Thursday of the week before the Planning Council meeting at 2:00 PM

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## RYAN WHITE PART A SERVICE PROVIDERS

**AIDS Healthcare Foundation**  
407-204-7000  
www.aidshealth.org

**ASPIRE Health Partners**  
407-245-0014  
www.aspirehealthpartners.com

**Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention**  
407-648-9440 • www.cmwp.org

**Dept. of Health in Lake County**  
352-771-5500  
http://lake.floridahealth.gov/

**Dept. of Health in Orange County**  
407-858-1437  
http://orange.floridahealth.gov/

**Dept. of Health in Osceola County**  
407-343-2030  
http://osceola.floridahealth.gov/

**Dept. of Health in Seminole County**  
407-665-3200  
http://seminole.floridahealth.gov/

**Heart of Florida United Way**  
407-835-0900 • www.hfuw.org

**Hope and Help Center**  
407-645-2577  
www.hopeandhelp.org

**Miracle of Love**  
407-843-1760  
www.miracleofloveinc.org

**Orange County Medical Clinic Pharmacy**  
407-836-7160

**Midway Specialty Care Center**  
407-745-1171 • midwaycare.org

**Part A Recipient's Office**  
2002-A E. Michigan Street  
Orlando, FL 32805  
407-836-7631



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CentralFloridaHIVPlanningCouncil

Orangecountyfl.hiv  
http://centralfloridahivpc.com

Dr. David Baker-Hargrove answered this call by nurturing a vision that originated with a private psychotherapy practice. Dr. David and husband Robert Baker-Hargrove understood that addressing the wellness community's unmet needs would help LGBTQ+ individuals and families thrive, and ultimately transform lives. These insights paired with the resourceful development of multidisciplinary programs led to the 26Health of today: an integrated state-of-the-art center that fosters resilience, strength, connection, health equity, and wellness for everyone in Central Florida. Services include but are not limited to ADD/ADHD support services, Counseling and therapy, Medispa services, Family Medicine, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation support, Chronic Disease and Disease Prevention support.

**The Center:** Since 1978, The Center has been serving the Central Florida community. With the mission of promoting and empowering the LGBT community and its allies through education, information, advocacy, and support, The Center remains the largest testing site in Orlando. Providing services 7 days a week, The Center expanded in 2021 to open a new location in downtown Orlando and partnered with AHF to provide HIV services at Out of The Closet. Now with 3 locations, The Center provided more than 13,000 HIV, STI and Hep C tests in 2021, distributed nearly 200 doses of NARCAN, gave 650 COVID-19 vaccinations and provided more than 1,500 hours in free mental health counseling. Under the leadership of George Wallace and Keyna Harris,



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"Drop Us  
a Line..."

the outreach program has expanded to provide additional services in our most marginalized and underserved communities.

**The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention:** Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention, Inc. (CMWP) was founded on July 15, 1995, by a group of individuals who wanted to respond to the need for more focused health education and case management for minorities in Central Florida. The mission of the Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention, Inc. is to enhance the health, wellness and quality of life for diverse populations in Central Florida. We envision a Central Florida without health disparities and 100% access to social and healthcare services for all Floridians. Since 1995, CMWP has reached more than 200,000 uninsured people in Central Florida with culturally and linguistically tailored health information and education programs. We've assist more than 1,000 individuals per year with Ryan White Medical Case Management/Referrals and Psychosocial Support services. We've provided free screenings to more than 25,000 uninsured and underinsured individuals at the Annual Caribbean Health Summit since 2002. HOPWA program provides housing assistance (rent, mortgage and utility) to more than 500 clients each year. Strong Community partnerships have helped to address important health issues. We're able to serve clients in four different

languages (English, Spanish, Creole and French )through our offices in Orange, Lake and Osceola Counties. Our Annual Customer Satisfaction rating is approximately 97%.

**Miracle of Love:** Miracle of Love, Inc. (MOL) is an organization founded by Mr. Stafford in 1991 for the distinct purpose of providing accessible HIV/AIDS prevention programming and supportive assistance to service the multicultural needs of communities in Central Florida, namely Orange, Seminole, Lake, and Osceola counties. Their mission is to provide comprehensive, multicultural



HIV/AIDS care, education and prevention services that are effective and responsive to the Central Florida communities.

Today, Miracle of Love, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). This community-based minority HIV/AIDS organization is the oldest in Central Florida. MOL continues to be, with over 29 valuable and outstanding years of service, a repository for education, support, care, community advocacy, and referral services.

Mr. Stafford's initial selfless vision continues to soar through MOL. MOL continues to provide cutting-edge health and wellness education for participants and recipients, incorporating cultural, linguistic and age-sensitive programming and services.

MOL has fostered and nourished strong relationships with other health prevention and treatment facilities, such as: The Orange County Health Department, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Orange County Government, and the Florida Department of Health Bureau of HIV.

In honor of Mr. Stafford, MOL opened an LGBTQ+ drop-in space at 711 Seminole Ave in Orlando, and named it Stafford House. Mr. Stafford, and his works will live on through the work done at MOL and through services offered at the Stafford House.

This year, Clear Health Alliance also recognized “Central Florida HIV Servant Leadership.” Servant leaders focuses primarily on the growth and well-being of people and the communities to which they belong as opposed to traditional leadership where the leader’s main focus is the vitality of a company or organization.

## The Clear Health Alliance 2022 Servant Leadership Award were as follows:

### The Agape’ Perfecting Praise and Worship Center:

Located in the Ivey Lane Corridor, Agape began serving the citizens of the surrounding area through annual Thanksgiving outreaches to the Magnolia Point senior’s community, the Ivey Lane apartments, and the adjacent neighborhoods; Carver Shores, Malibu, New Malibu, Washington Park, and Ivey Lane Homes. Partnerships were formed with agencies like the Ivey Lane Neighborhood Center for Families, the Orlando Police Department, Harbor House, Carver Middle School, and Habitat for Humanity. Strengthening families, building the community, and preventing crime, coupled with the message of the gospel, remain primary objectives of the ministry’s mission.



As the ministry continued to develop, opportunities for gift expression and growth resulted in the formation of more than 20 auxiliaries and small groups, including men’s and women’s ministries, Children’s Church, Youth and Teen Ministry, Music Ministry, Intercessory Prayer Ministry, Media Ministry, and Prison Ministry to name a few.

The Agape Perfecting Praise & Worship Center continues to extend its reach beyond the walls of worship by consistently seeking opportunities to demonstrate the love of God through FIVE-STAR excellence and exemplary service.

### The Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.:

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is an organization of college educated women committed to the constructive development of its members and to public service with a primary focus on the Black community.



Locally, the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. consists of 270+ members. We promote academic excellence and provide assistance to persons in most need through distinct programs that emphasize economic and educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement. Collectively, the officers and members of the Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., tremendously value the extraordinary opportunity to respond to the growing needs of the Central Florida community through a passionate, unified commitment to public service. including the activities listed below. We aim to accomplish this goal by getting involved in and supporting important local events within the HIV community. In the past several years the Deltas have been sponsors and volunteers of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (in 2015 and 2022) and World AIDS Day. During World AIDS Day 2016, our organization presented a memorial wreath of hope to the Central Florida AIDS Planning Consortium (now called the Central Florida HIV Planning Council) and participated in the annual AIDS Memorial Quilt ceremony. To show support of World AIDS Day in 2020 we partnered with the Mu Iota Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. at UCF and physicians within our chapter to launch a social media campaign to raise awareness for the state of the community and HIV. We also used this opportunity to bring awareness to Talk Test Treat’s home testing kit program. During 2021 and 2022 we were able to sponsor and volunteer for the Central Florida HIV Planning Council’s annual World AIDS Day Event and we look forward to continuing our involvement in the future.



# Monkeypox and Safer Sex

**According to the CDC, vaccination is an important tool in preventing the spread of monkeypox. But given the current limited supply of vaccine, consider temporarily changing some behaviors that may increase your risk of being exposed.**

These temporary changes will help slow the spread of monkeypox until vaccine supply is adequate. Reducing or avoiding behaviors that increase risk of monkeypox exposure is also important when you are between your first and second shots of vaccine. Your protection will be highest when you are two weeks after your second dose of vaccine.

## **THE CDC RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING PREVENTIVE MEASURES TO REDUCE YOUR CHANCES OF BEING EXPOSED TO MONKEYPOX IF YOU ARE SEXUALLY ACTIVE:**

- Talk with your partner about any monkeypox symptoms and be aware of any new or unexplained rash or lesion on either of your bodies,

including the mouth, genitals (penis, testicles, vulva, or vagina), or anus (butthole).

- If you or your partner have or recently had monkeypox symptoms or have a new or unexplained rash anywhere on your body, do not have sex and see a healthcare provider. In some cases, symptoms may be mild, and some people may not even know they have monkeypox.
- Condoms (latex or polyurethane) may protect your anus (butthole), mouth, penis, or vagina from exposure to monkeypox. However, condoms alone may not prevent all exposures to monkeypox, since the rash can occur on other parts of the body.
- Limit your number of sex partners to reduce your likelihood of exposure. Make a habit of exchanging contact information with any new partner to allow for sexual health follow-up, if needed.
- Do not share things like towels, fetish gear, sex toys, and toothbrushes. Also, avoid kissing or exchanging spit, since monkeypox can spread this way.

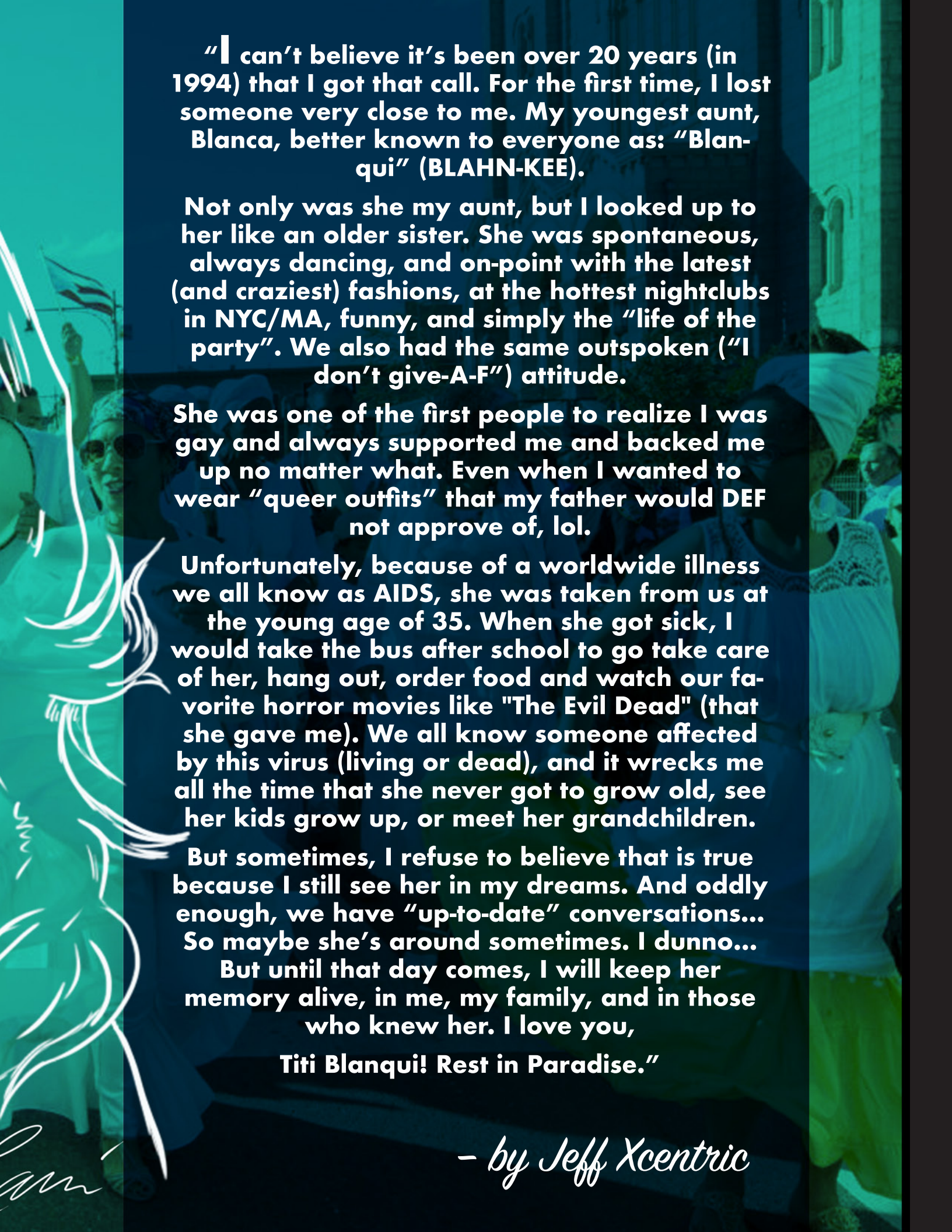
- Be aware that monkeypox can also spread through respiratory secretions with close, face-to-face contact.
- Remember to wash your hands, fetish gear, sex toys, and any fabrics (bedding, towels, clothes) after having sex.

## **WHAT SHOULD A PERSON DO IF THEY HAVE A NEW OR UNEXPLAINED RASH OR OTHER SYMPTOMS?**

- Avoid sex or being intimate with anyone until you have been checked out by a healthcare provider.
- If you don't have a provider or health insurance, visit a public health clinic near you.
- When you see a healthcare provider, wear a mask, and remind them that this virus is circulating in the area.
- Avoid gatherings, especially if they involve close, personal, skin-to-skin contact.



QUEER LATINX



**"I can't believe it's been over 20 years (in 1994) that I got that call. For the first time, I lost someone very close to me. My youngest aunt, Blanca, better known to everyone as: "Blanqui" (BLAHN-KEE).**

**Not only was she my aunt, but I looked up to her like an older sister. She was spontaneous, always dancing, and on-point with the latest (and craziest) fashions, at the hottest nightclubs in NYC/MA, funny, and simply the "life of the party". We also had the same outspoken ("I don't give-A-F") attitude.**

**She was one of the first people to realize I was gay and always supported me and backed me up no matter what. Even when I wanted to wear "queer outfits" that my father would DEF not approve of, lol.**

**Unfortunately, because of a worldwide illness we all know as AIDS, she was taken from us at the young age of 35. When she got sick, I would take the bus after school to go take care of her, hang out, order food and watch our favorite horror movies like "The Evil Dead" (that she gave me). We all know someone affected by this virus (living or dead), and it wrecks me all the time that she never got to grow old, see her kids grow up, or meet her grandchildren.**

**But sometimes, I refuse to believe that is true because I still see her in my dreams. And oddly enough, we have "up-to-date" conversations... So maybe she's around sometimes. I dunno...**

**But until that day comes, I will keep her memory alive, in me, my family, and in those who knew her. I love you,**

**Titi Blanqui! Rest in Paradise."**

*- by Jeff Xcentric*

A close-up portrait of Anthony McNeil, a Black man with long dreadlocks, wearing round glasses and a dark, sequined jacket. The background is dark with warm, out-of-focus bokeh lights.

# Anthony McNeil

## I Am More Than My HIV

### 1. How long have you been doing music?

Unofficially I have been singing all my life, at least 20 years. Grew up singing in the church choir. I guess low key you can say I had an unofficial band called the McNeils LOL. My little brother Chris, is just a master at playing the keys who of which I dedicate a lot of my sound too. My other little brother Kenny is a talented drummer, my sister Antoinette and can't forget my mother Aileen also sings as well. Safe to say it's in the blood. I recorded my first record when I was 22 years old, and now I'm producing my first

full project talk about full circle.

### 2. What is your creative process when creating your music?

I wear a tigers eye crystal around my neck to keep me centered and to help harness my inner strength. I will light some sage and possibly meditate to keep me open to creativity. After that I simply just like to vibe out to music, a lot of the time my songs the I created just came to me. I also enjoy going to the beach it also helps me draw inspiration while clearing my mind as well. Being from West Palm

Beach it is definitely one my absolute favorite things to do.

### 3. Where are some of the venues you have performed, and do you have any upcoming shows planned?

Wow, hold on let me pull up my resume Lol. I sung the national anthem at an Orlando Magic game and the Orlando City Soccer Stadium. I performed back to back years at Harriets Park Ave Fashion Week. I headlined 2 concerts in Atlanta Ga promoted by Afton Shows @ Club



Vinyl. I opened for Paster Shirley Caesar and Tasha Cobbs @ Gospel Explosion in West Palm Beach. Lastly I was apart of a DMV Tour (D.C, Maryland and Virginia) with 5 other amazing artists from various cities. With the release of my upcoming project TilltheAM "CoVered" coming out 02/04/2022, I will have some shows lined up, stay tuned for the dates.

## 4. Who has inspired you throughout your music journey?

When I first used to get that question I would always say Musiq Soulchild, Donnell Jones, and Anthony Hamilton. They will forever be an inspiration to me. But, these days someone else that really touches me is Maxwell. I'm just in love with his tone and his falsetto. It's something about the way that he takes care in the music that he creates and the notes that he decides to sing. Beautiful and Effortless.

## 5. What sets your music apart from other artists?

I am a dope artist and when I sing or arrange my music I stack it with melodies and harmonies that just make u feel special as if I made the song just for you. Filled with love mixed with a genuine spirit. I catch myself listening to a lot of my own tunes. I feel like I stay true to musics original design. I love the fact that I am apart of three different generations of music. I have an incredible story to tell and I can't wait for the world to hear it.

## 6. How do you measure success as an artist?

Success is measured with happiness in my opinion. Its truly something when fans come up and tell me how in some way shape form or fashion my music help them find a sense of peace or even strength. Streams and awards would be amazing, but I am grateful to know that I can share a connection with whomever I present my art to. That is truly a priceless gift and my definition of success.

## 7. What are you doing to connect to your current fan base?

Performing at the local Suva Kava Lounge, Kava Cove, or Geek Easy open mic just to name a few. I enjoy being present in the community that I live in. There is a chant that I do at the start and end of every show,

just something I came up with, to have the fans be apart and feel included during my shows. "Till The AM, Till the Till the AM " It always gets the crowd hype basically like transfer of energy. The greatest gift I have is my heart, and I present that to everyone I perform for. There is no greater connection.

## 8. As an artist how do you want your fans to view you?

I want to be a transparent as possible. I want my fans to see me Anthony not just TilltheAM but a man that is confident, special, loving and most of all genuine. Music helped save my life and I just want to share all what I learned so I can return the favor for some else.

## 9. What do you want your fans to get from your music?

My honesty, my heart , I have lived an eventful life and I have a story to tell. Music is therapy it brings forth a healing energy. I believe I am here for a reason. Bringing love, hope, strength and everything beautiful we sometimes forget we need to keep going. The world is filled with trauma and we all just want to be loved and be something greater than ourselves.



## 10. What's the best piece of advice you've been given, that has helped you overcome obstacles in this industry?

I remember a time I met Le'Andria Johnson (Winner of Sunday Best) she is an amazing talent with an incredible voice. I asked her "What do I have to do to get to that point?" Her response was so simple but still left an impact. She said, "Just keep going, don't stop and you too will make it." I have always been a fighter and overcame the many obstacles I have encountered. I have no plans on stopping. It has been one of the most genuine pieces of advice I could say that I received thus far.

## 11. Who would you say your target audience is?

My target audience is any and everybody that loves and appreciates music real music. From the arrangements and melodies, to the smooth tones and beautiful falsetto. I feel like my audience consists of different age genres, young and mature a like. I enjoy remaking popular covers from the 90s and also the 2000s so everyone can feel connected, I found out it really makes a difference.

## 12. Is there a team that you work with, and if so how and when did you start working I with them?

I have an amazing group of individuals that help me along my journey. My best friend and partner Nicole she keeps me level emotionally and spiritually. Helps me and makes sure I have all the answers I need to conquer any obstacle. Brava she is like a second mother to me she pushes me to discover different layers of myself. Teaches me everyday that, "Life is a result of your choices." Chris my little brother my Ace has all my music together sounding crispy. Just to hear him play it always inspires me and pushes me to want to be better. Last but definitely not least Genaireq keeps me in line with all my projects whether its the sound, the mix, recording videos, he's the man. I am truly blessed to have friends that believe in me, I just want to take the time to say Thank You, I Love You all, and I truly appreciate everything you have done for me this far. I could not have done this alone. It's only the beginning.

# Quality Management

**What can we achieve when we feel loved? How do we react when there is a lack of love? When we feel dreams. But if we feel alone, we naturally become desperate to resolve our feelings of separation.** We might adapt by searching for love – sometimes in the wrong ways, sometimes in the wrong places – or by isolating to avoid more pain.

Often, a person's experience being diagnosed with HIV reveals both the presence and absence of love where they might least expect it. A warm touch during the blood draw, the tester's tone of voice as they deliver the results, the reactions from friends and family as they each hear the news – there are myriad opportunities for a person with HIV (PWH) to either receive or want for compassion. As providers for this community, we have a profound responsibility to be aware of and respond to these opportunities with quality services. Avedis Donabedian, a pioneer in the field of quality in health systems, argued, "Ultimately, the secret of quality [in healthcare] is love... If you have love, you can then work backward to monitor and improve the system."

We can see an encouraging commitment to quality improvement at almost every level in HIV care, from our local agency-specific consumer advisory boards (CABs) to area-wide clinical quality management workgroups to federal quality improvement think tanks. However, discussions around quality management often take place in the language of bureaucracy – performance measures, utilization reports, assessments, audits, monitoring tools – and this has two effects: the conversation can become

dominated by technocrats, and real individual efforts and experiences are passively relegated to rows on a spreadsheet.

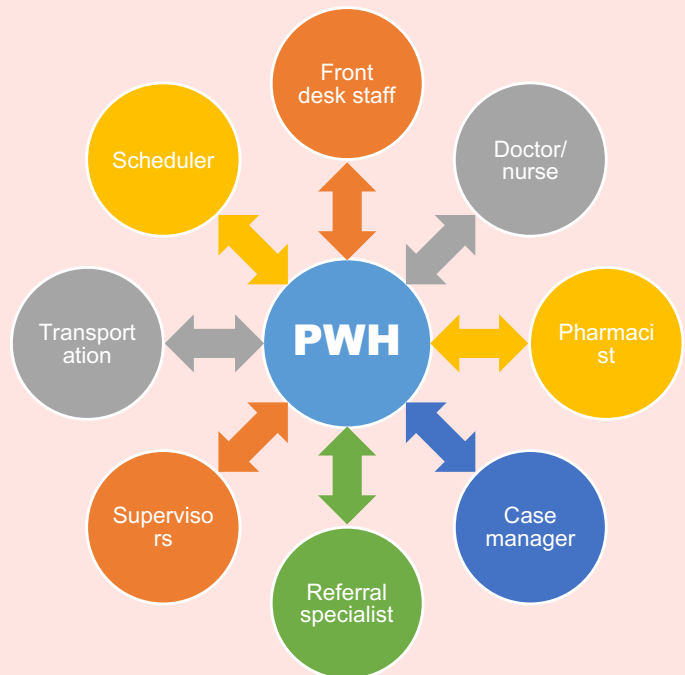
In an effort to open up the conversation around quality in HIV care, we are excited to introduce this new section to the Red Ribbon Times. This section will provide a space for our central Florida community to reflect on clinical improvement strategies, recognize providers for their dedication to quality, and highlight successful quality management projects. We enthusiastically invite our readers to reach out to us if you are interested in contributing to this section, or share this opportunity with your network. This introductory article will provide a brief overview of quality management.

## Quality in HIV Care

Quality HIV care results from the balance between the types of services offered and the types of relationships shared between PWH and their providers. Serving the PWH community is a sensitive and sacred endeavor: many times, we might be the only ones who know about a person's mental health needs, their financial situation, their medication habits, or even their diagnosis. Every level



of provider, from front desk staff to case managers to doctors, requires PWH to engage in an amount of openness and vulnerability in order to receive services that is almost unique to the PWH experience. In return, we providers have the responsibility to ensure that these services are of the utmost quality, characterized by compassion, efficiency, and urgency.



## Identifying Quality Issues

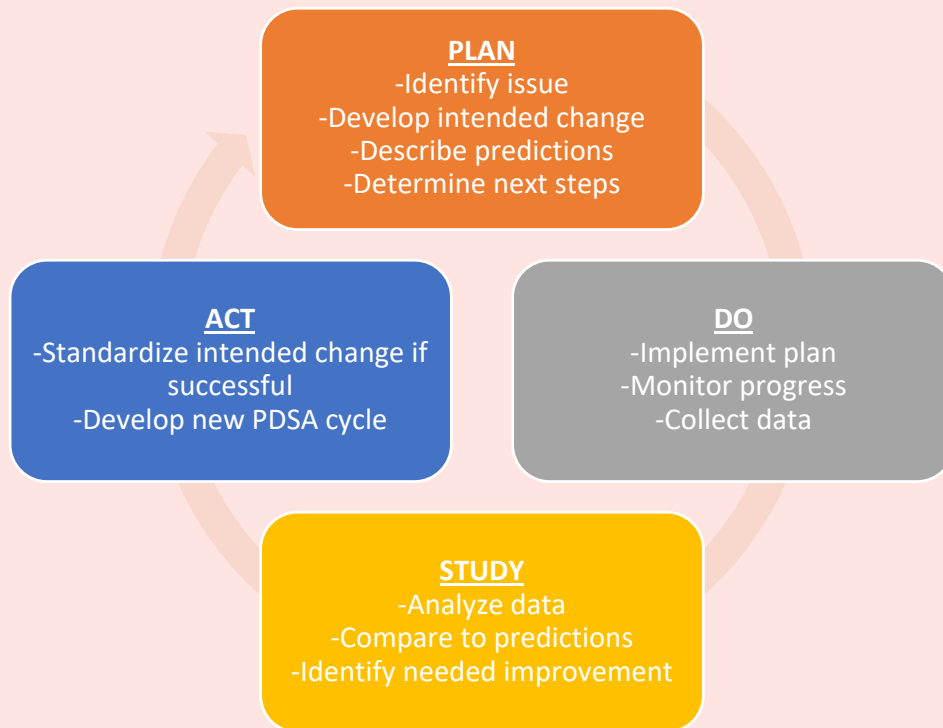
Agencies working for PWH track quality in two ways: internally, through performance measures, utilization reports, and audits, and externally, by soliciting feedback from clients and tracking grievances.

Performance measures track the desired outcomes of certain services. For example, one of the most commonly tracked performance measures is viral load suppression. Agencies and clinics will look at data relating to viral load suppression, and then separate that by certain disparities such as gender, age, race, substance use, housing status, insurance status, poverty level, or any combination thereof. If we see lower rates of viral suppression in a certain category, we can identify possible barriers and ideally develop more precise intervention strategies.

Utilization reports are used to determine how many clients are accessing (utilizing) a service and at what frequency. If we see increasing rates of utilization in, for example, mental health, we could conclude that clients could benefit from more access to psychosocial services and respond with increasing funding.

Audits can take many forms and can be conducted internally or externally. Audits can look at a provider's financial reports, client files, or individual job performance.

Providers also track quality externally through the solicitation of client feedback. When I worked in case management, I had the very special experience of being able to speak to the spectrum of PWH, from young to old, homeless to stable, undetectable to out of care. Based on our conversations around their healthcare experiences, the words of the late, great Paul Farmer ring true: "We have to design a health delivery system by actually talking to people and asking, 'What would make this service better for you?' As soon as you start asking, you get a flood of answers."



As mentioned, many agencies make use of CABs, as well as satisfaction surveys and grievance forms, to assess service quality. The Central Florida HIV Planning Council also holds monthly Community Meetings (second Tuesdays at 6:00 PM) and periodic feedback sessions in the form of town halls.

The Work of Quality Improvement (image – PDSA cycle)

Once a provider identifies a quality issue, leadership should begin the process of resolving it. The most common approach to quality improvement is called the PDSA Cycle, which stands for Plan-Do-Study-Act. This approach, like most quality improvement models, relies on cyclical implementation. Making sure that services are up an organization's standards means reviewing services on a regular basis and responding to issues efficiently with appropriate corrections.

### A Collective Responsibility

Ultimately, the realization of quality HIV services is dependent on the collective, both those inside and

outside systems of care. As individuals, we have a responsibility to support our loved ones and act with compassion in relation to HIV testing and treatment. We should correct misinformation when we hear it, encourage our neighbors & loved ones to get tested, and create safe spaces for PWH in our communities. As providers for PWH, we have an even greater responsibility to strike a balance between nuanced empathy and administrative efficiency. We have to serve the most amount of PWH with the most appropriate services of the highest quality, a juggling act between access, funding, and continuous monitoring that is always working to achieve our shared goal: ending the HIV epidemic.

In our next article, we will be exploring how PWH define and identify quality in their own care. If you or someone you know would like to be interviewed for this article, please reach out to **Mika Mendoza** at [mikaela.mendoza@hfuw.org](mailto:mikaela.mendoza@hfuw.org).

# Three Questions for Three New Central Florida HIV Planning Council Members

-Kim Murphy, PR & Marketing Chair

## Andres Acosta

Describe what you would like to accomplish, or to see the Council accomplish, during your three years as a member.



**AA:** My main goal is to play an active role in the creation of the integrated plan which will guide the way we address the HIV epidemic in the Orlando Service Area for years to come. On a personal level, I hope to be the co-chair for the council prior to the end of my term.

What book did you read (growing up or recently) that has had a profound effect on your work and philosophy, and why?

**AA:** A Tale for The Time Being by Ruth Ozeki. It was a profound reminder that the things that we do have a ripple effect across space and time. It fills me with a sense of nostalgia every time I pick it up.

Do you have a hidden talent or interesting hobby? If not, is there something along those lines you would like to pursue?

**AA:** My hidden talent is painting. I used to do it often and was getting better at it. Unfortunately, I dropped it around 2019 and haven't picked it back up. My hope would be to return to it once I'm in that headspace again.

## Alelia Munroe

Describe what you would like to accomplish, or to see the Council accomplish, during your three years as a member.

**AM:** I hope to get all members to fully understand and exercise their roles and responsibilities as members, and not just rubber stamp what's brought before them.

What book did you read (growing up or recently) that has had a profound effect on your work and philosophy, and why?

**AM:** The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Steven Covey. It provided me with an incremental, sequential, integrated approach to the development of personal effectiveness, moving me progressively from dependence (on others) to independence (taking care of myself) to interdependence (looking after others and

combining strengths to multiply my effectiveness).

Do you have a hidden talent or interesting hobby? If not, is there something along those lines you would like to pursue?

**AM:** I love experimenting with integrative medical modalities such as reflexology, massage therapy, and acupuncture, to name a few.

## Jermaine Malone

Describe what you would like to accomplish, or to see the Council accomplish, during your three years as a member.

**JM:** I'm hoping to shine a light on issues and concerns that members are too afraid to bring up or talk about, due to the aggression of some of the case managers. I want to make them aware that they are in the business of helping the public, not being bullies.

What book did you read (growing up or recently) that has had a profound effect on your work and philosophy, and why?

**JM:** The challenges facing Black men - and the case for action (paper) by Richard V. Reeves, Sarah Nzau, and Ember Smith. This subject is ongoing with myself and my community: trying to find a safe way out of a world I didn't make, but I'm caught up in. It's all negativity and hate.

Do you have a hidden talent or interesting hobby? If not, is there something along those lines you would like to pursue?

**JM:** I am an Alumnus of Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts, the Notter School of Pastry Arts, and S.U.N.Y Purchase (BA, Dance). I have created cake and chocolate showpieces for competition. I am a former competitive figure skater, dancer, actor, and singer. I sew, love crafts of all types, play violin and piano, crochet, and have eleven guinea pigs.



LET'S STOP HIV TOGETHER

“  
**Living well with HIV  
means HIV does not  
define your life.**  
”

*“I can go to university and feel well. I can play sports and feel well. I can do everything I did before and live well. The most important thing was taking care of myself and starting treatment.”* — ANDRÉS FROM ORLANDO, FLORIDA

**STAY IN HIV CARE. LIVE WELL**

[cdc.gov/HIVTreatmentWorks](https://cdc.gov/HIVTreatmentWorks)



Ending  
the  
HIV  
Epidemic

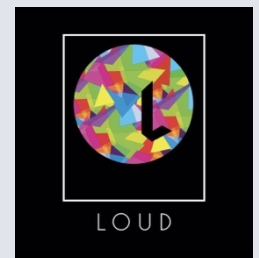
# World AIDS Day

On Thursday, December 1, 2022 the Central Florida HIV Planning Council hosted their annual World AIDS Day event at the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre. It was an evening of reflection, celebration, and recognition of individuals that diligently work to help end the HIV epidemic. The Planning Council not only put together an event that was special, but a celebration that will be remembered for years to come. A special thanks to our sponsors for the 2022 World AIDS Day event: Gilead, Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Center for Multicultural Wellness & Prevention, and Somos Loud by AHF.





This event was made possible by Gilead Sciences, The Orlando Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention, and Loud AHF. Thank you so much for your generous contributions.





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