



# Your Voice Is Power.

HIV Community Advocacy Workshop

April 21, 2026 · Your story matters. Your presence changes policy.

**Advocacy is not a privilege — it is our right.** Communities most affected by HIV have always led the fight for care, treatment, and dignity. When we show up — in planning meetings, in clinics, in city halls — we make ourselves impossible to ignore. Every voice at the table shapes the policies that affect our lives.

*"Advocacy looks like me — my story, my community, my truth."*

<p><b>01</b> <b>KNOW YOUR WHY</b></p> <p>Your personal connection to HIV is your power. Lead with your story.</p>	<p><b>02</b> <b>GET INFORMED</b></p> <p>Learn your local Ryan White Planning Council and what policies are on the table.</p>	<p><b>03</b> <b>SHOW UP</b></p> <p>Attend public meetings and town halls. Your physical presence sends a message.</p>	<p><b>04</b> <b>BUILD COMMUNITY</b></p> <p>Coalition is everything. Connect with orgs and loved ones doing this work.</p>
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## RYAN WHITE PLANNING COUNCIL

- ▶ **Attend public meetings**  
Open to all — sign up for public comment.
- ▶ **Apply for consumer membership**  
People living with HIV can serve as voting members.
- ▶ **Submit written testimony**  
Can't come in person? Written comments are on the record.
- ▶ **Bring someone with you**  
Advocacy is more powerful together — bring a friend, a neighbor.

## YOUR ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

- ▶ **Tell your story**  
Speak at meetings, write an op-ed — lived experience shifts policy.
- ▶ **Contact elected officials**  
Call, email, or visit your rep. Offices keep tally.
- ▶ **Join HIV Advocacy Days**  
National & state days bring communities to legislatures.
- ▶ **Volunteer**  
Orgs need phone bankers, outreach workers, and translators.
- ▶ **Fight stigma**  
Every open conversation is advocacy — at home, at work, in your community.

## WHAT ADVOCACY LOOKS LIKE

- ▶ Picking up your medication — survival is resistance.
- ▶ Accompanying a friend to their first clinic visit.
- ▶ Saying "I'm living with HIV" out loud for the first time.
- ▶ Asking your doctor a hard question.
- ▶ Refusing to let shame silence you or someone you love.
- ▶ Showing up today — to this room, to this workshop.

*Every act of care and truth-telling is part of the movement. **You belong here.***

## SCAN TO CONNECT — GET INVOLVED



QUEER LATINX



AIDS WATCH



CENTRAL FL HIV PLANNING COUNCIL



AHF



NMAC

**Central Florida HIV Planning Council:** Contact your local HIV Care Consortium or Area Health Office for meeting dates and consumer member applications.

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Presented by Queer Latinx