

## National HIV/AIDS & Aging Awareness Day (NHAAAD)



The AIDS Institute launched a new national awareness initiative entitled “National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (NHAAAD)” on September 18, 2008. We are proud to announce that this campaign is further supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of HIV/AIDS Policy, and [www.aids.gov](http://www.aids.gov)

The National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness day highlights the complex issues related to HIV prevention, care and treatment for aging populations in the United States. The goal of the campaign is to emphasize the need for prevention, research, and data targeting the aging population, medical understanding of the aging process and the impact of HIV/AIDS.



THE AIDS INSTITUTE

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For additional information or to participate in National HIV/AIDS & Aging Awareness Day activities, please visit the AIDS Institute at [www.TheAIDSInstitute.org](http://www.TheAIDSInstitute.org), email [Aging@TheAIDSInstitute.org](mailto:Aging@TheAIDSInstitute.org) or call 813/258-5929 ext 4

**For local information, please contact:**

## The AIDS Institute



THE AIDS INSTITUTE

The AIDS Institute is a national nonprofit and nonpartisan public policy research, advocacy, and education organization with offices in Washington, DC and Tampa, Florida.

Begun as a grass roots community mobilization effort in the late 1980s, The AIDS Institute’s mission is to promote action for social change through public policy research, advocacy, and education.

The AIDS Institute has expanded its vision and scope to include an affiliation with the Division of Infectious Disease and International Medicine at the University of South Florida, College of Medicine. The AIDS Institute remains focused on HIV/AIDS while incorporating efforts in related areas including hepatitis, malaria, tuberculosis, and systems issues such as access to services, poverty, and human rights.

[www.TheAIDSInstitute.org](http://www.TheAIDSInstitute.org)

## HIV/AIDS & Older Adults



### HIV/AIDS & Older Adults

In 2007, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported persons aged 50 and older accounted for approximately:

- 10% of new HIV diagnoses
- 24% of persons living with HIV
- 33% of persons living with AIDS
- 19% of all AIDS diagnoses

It is necessary for specific programs to be developed and implemented for older adults who need to be informed about the transmission and prevention of HIV.



### Target Audience

- I. People living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs) who are aging with the disease or already over 50 at the time of their individual diagnosis
- II. Increasing percentage of the population that needs to protect itself from HIV infection, including the growing baby boomer population
- III. Increasing number of grandparents becoming the primary guardian for children who have lost their parent(s) to HIV/AIDS



Despite myths and stereotypes, many seniors **are** sexually active, and some are drug users; therefore, their behaviors **can** put them at risk for HIV infection.

Due to unique challenges and issues among the HIV and aging population, the campaign hopes to bring those issues to light and to work closely with other local, regional and national organizations.

### How can you get involved?

The AIDS Institute believes that education is the key to curbing the spread of HIV for older Americans and ensuring the best possible care and treatment for those already living with the virus.

In an effort to continue to expand awareness for the annual campaign, we invite your organization and its community members to participate in awareness day related activities on or around **September 18th**. Examples of suggested activities include:

- 1) Encourage and promote HIV testing among older Americans
- 2) Provide HIV prevention and education messages to older Americans
- 3) Provide resources for linkage to treatment and care for HIV infected older Americans
- 4) Organize health fairs that focus on HIV/AIDS and healthcare in older Americans
- 5) Encourage older Americans to practice safer methods to prevent HIV/AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's)
- 6) Conduct events at senior community centers or nursing home facilities
- 7) Talk to an older adult in your family about getting tested

#### References:

- 1) CDC, "Persons Aged 50 & Older", Feb 08, [www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/over50/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/over50/index.htm)