July 25, 2012

Press Briefing:
“Assessing the U.S. Government’s Efforts to End AIDS in the U.S.”

Walter E Washington Convention Center,
Press Conference Room 3
10:00am – 11:00am

SPEAKERS:

Carl Schmid, Deputy Executive Director, The AIDS Institute

Carl Schmid has been with The AIDS Institute, a national public policy, advocacy and research organization, since February 2004. He is co-chair of the AIDS Budget and Appropriations Coalition; a Convening Group member of the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership, and co-chair of an HIV Testing Reimbursement Work Group. He is a former chair of the HIV Prevention Action Coalition and the Ryan White Reauthorization Work Group. He remains active in those coalitions and others that advocate for Medicaid, Medicare, and Healthcare Reform; the AIDS Drug Assistance Program; and Hepatitis. He was a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS from 2007-09, and chaired its Domestic Subcommittee. In 2010 he was named by POZ Magazine as one of the 100 most effective AIDS fighters and by Whitman Walker Health as one of the 25 individuals who have played prominent roles in the fight against HIV in DC. Mr. Schmid earned a B.A. in Public Affairs and a M.B.A. in International Affairs from the George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Co-convener of “AIDS in America.”

Julie Scofield, Executive Director, National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors

Julie Scofield joined the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) as their first Executive Director in February 1993. Under Ms. Scofield’s leadership, NASTAD has grown from a staff of one, to a highly respected national HIV/AIDS organization of 30 FTEs and major programs in the areas of HIV prevention, care and treatment, viral hepatitis, government relations, and global HIV/AIDS technical assistance.

Prior to opening NASTAD’s national office, Ms. Scofield served as legislative assistant in the Washington, D.C. office of former New York State Governor Mario M. Cuomo. Ms. Scofield represented Governor Cuomo on HIV/AIDS and science and technology policy and funding issues before Congress and the Administration from 1987 to 1993. Ms. Scofield served on the legislative staff of former U.S. Representative Stan Lundine (D-NY) from 1981 to 1987.

Co-convener of “AIDS In America.”
Ronald Johnson, VP of Policy & Advocacy, AIDS United

Ronald S. Johnson currently serves as the Vice President of Policy and Advocacy of AIDS United, a national organization that achieves its mission to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States through national, regional and local policy/advocacy, strategic grantmaking, and organizational capacity building. AIDS United was formed from the merger of AIDS Action and the National AIDS Fund. Mr. Johnson had served as the Deputy Director of AIDS Action.

Prior to joining AIDS Action, Mr. Johnson served as the Associate Executive Director of Gay Men’s Health Crisis (GMHC). In that capacity, he managed GMHC’s public policy, advocacy and government relations functions and served as a member of the senior management. Prior to coming to GMHC in November 1997, Mr. Johnson served for five years in the Office of the Mayor, City of New York as the first Citywide Coordinator for AIDS Policy. Mr. Johnson also has served as the executive director of a community-based organization, the Minority Task Force on AIDS.

Mr. Johnson has served on numerous boards of directors of non-profit agencies, including Gay Men’s Health Crisis, Lambda Legal, and the NAMES Project, and was a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS from 1996-2001.

Daniel C. Montoya, Deputy Executive Director, National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC)

NMAC represents a coalition of 3,000 faith and community based organizations as well as AIDS service organizations advocating and delivering HIV/AIDS services in communities of color nationwide. NMAC works to develop leadership in communities of color to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Daniel has more than 22 years of senior level HIV/AIDS and public health experience, focusing on strategic communications, public affairs and project management. Prior to joining NMAC, Daniel served as Director of External Affairs for Health Programs at American Institutes for Research. He has also served as Government Affairs Director at AIDS Project Los Angeles and Executive Director of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV and AIDS. He sits on the boards of the Office of Minority Health Resources Center, National Latino AIDS Action Network (NLAAN), One Living, R. Scott Hitt Foundation and is a member of the DC Mayor’s Commission on HIV/AIDS.

C. Virginia Fields, President and CEO, National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc (NBLCA)

C. Virginia Fields is the President and CEO of the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, Inc. (NBLCA). She brings to the position over eighteen years of experience as an elected official in New York City, where she won widespread praise as a consensus builder around important city, state and national policy issues. During her tenure, the NBLCA has grown to include affiliate chapters in 11 cities, nationwide. Ms. Fields’ expertise in government and politics led to the successful implementation of noteworthy public policy achievements in domestic and international HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care.

In 2008, Ms. Fields was appointed to the New York State AIDS Advisory Council by Governor David A. Paterson. In 2011, Ms. Fields was appointed to the U.S. Department of Health and
Human Services’ Region II Health Equity Council, one of ten such regional councils across the nation addressing health disparities and social determinants of health.

Ms. Fields is the former President of the Borough of Manhattan, New York City. She was elected Manhattan Borough President, chief executive of 1.5 million residents, in 1997 and re-elected in 2001. In 2005, she was a Democratic candidate for Mayor of New York City, becoming the first African-American woman to seek that office. She served as a member of the New York City Council from 1989-1998, upon her election to the position of Manhattan Borough President.

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, Ms. Fields received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Knoxville College in Tennessee. She received a Master’s Degree in Social Work from Indiana University. Ms Fields is an adjunct lecturer at New York University’s Silver School of Social Work.

A recipient of numerous awards, citations and honors of distinction for her leadership on health, education, community and economic issues, Ms. Fields resides in New York City.