Preventing HIV in the Trump Administration: US City & African American Community Perspectives

Kevin T Jones, MEd, MPH
Executive Director
@kevtrijones | @uchapsusa | #UCHAPSatUSCA
About UCHAPS

- **Coalition** of health departments, HIV planning groups and community members

- **Harness the collective voice** – of community and government – to identify and implement strategies that address HIV and social influencers of health

- **Serve as a partner** to local, state and federal officials actively involved in HIV planning
UCHAPS Membership

- Atlanta (Fulton County)
- Baltimore
- Chicago
- Fort Lauderdale (Broward County)
- Houston
- New York City
- Philadelphia
- San Francisco (San Francisco County)
- Washington, DC

UCHAPS’ Strategy to Improve Public Health

- Delivering peer-to-peer technical assistance
- Identifying ‘on-the-ground’ best practices
- Educating policy makers and stakeholders
- Informing / providing feedback on federal initiatives
African Americans in the United States

When white America catches a cold, Black America catches pneumonia.

African Americans are 12% of the US population, and:

- 45% of new HIV diagnoses
- 22% have a bachelor’s degree or higher (36% Whites)
- 7.7% unemployment rate (3.9% Whites; 4.4% nationally)
- 30% of people arrested; 49% of people in prison
- 32% of children in food insecure households (16% White children)
- $19,000 in liquid retirement savings ($130,000 for average White families)
US Cities & African Americans

Policing

Gentrification

Infrastructure

Emergency Preparedness

Voting
African Americans, Cities & HIV Landscape

PrEP Access for all African Americans

- Expanding effective biomedical intervention: knowledge and access
- *Do people know about it? Can they get it?*

CDC PS18 1802 and Local Health Department Funding

- New funding formula
- Funding may not go to previous directly-funded, local jurisdictions
- *Is there a requirement for local involvement in HIV planning?*
African Americans, Cities & HIV Landscape

HIV Cluster Detection via Molecular HIV Surveillance
• Soon, greater responsibilities for local and state health departments
• How do we instill community trust and buy-in?

HIV Criminalization
• Laws that state or imply that having HIV is inherently dangerous
• Laws that are outdated: “Undetectable = Untransmittable” (U=U)
• Are African Americans disproportionately affected by these laws (also)?
How do you eat an elephant?

- All by yourself?
- One bite at a time?
Multi-issue Engagement, Education & Mobilization

• Use HIV as lens of compassion for understanding and identifying strategies
• Think and plan beyond the *echo chamber*
• Bring nontraditional stakeholders to the table
• Create or join new coalitions and partnerships
  • Community and government are key to bridging knowledge and power
  • Passion and expertise are harnessed strategically
  • Successes and failures are recognized together; more people to share the story
  • Holding entities accountable for the sake of justice
How do you eat an elephant?

MOBILIZE WITH UCHAPS

www.uchaps.org