Priority Population: Black Gay, Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM), Same Gender Loving (SGL) and Bisexual Men

In 2020, Black men accounted for 50% (580) of HIV diagnoses in Illinois.¹

The lifetime risk of HIV transmission for Black Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) is 1 in 2 compared to the lifetime risk among White MSM of 1 in 11.²

Harms Experienced by Black Gay, MSM, SGL, and Bisexual Men

Negative health outcomes for Black MSM that live with HIV including experiencing lower CD4 cell counts, higher HIV viral loads, and more frequent visits to the emergency room.³

Lower PrEP uptake where 10% of prescriptions are filled by Black people compared to 75% of White people.⁴

Undiagnosed HIV reaches 59% of Black MSM, compared to the 26% of White MSM that are HIV positive and unaware.⁵
Policy and Advocacy at AFC

Increased Access to PrEP and PEP through Community Pharmacies Act:

Public Act 102-1051 allows pharmacists to administer and dispense PrEP and PEP under a standing order of a licensed physician. This law aims to address the lower PrEP uptake among Black people by increasing access and availability to PrEP and PEP.

Getting to Zero Illinois Initiative (GTZ-IL) State Funding:

Implementation and spending by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) of the GTZ-IL specific funding to increase access to HIV testing, supportive services, treatment, and education for Black people.

HIV Decriminalization in IL:

Working with the Illinois HIV Action Alliance (IHAA) to implement Public Act 102-0168, which repealed the state’s harmful and outdated “Criminal Transmission of HIV” statute (720 ILCS 5/12-5.01). Decriminalization is an important measure to address stigma and the disproportionate effects of HIV Criminalization on Black, gay men.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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