

BE THE GENERATION

TO END THE AIDS EPIDEMIC

BTG News

2022 Edition, Issue 3

From the Editor

This newsletter is focused on the HIV epidemic in the U.S. But as I write today, I can't help but be distracted by the welt on my forearm from the monkeypox (MPV) vaccine I received under my skin this morning. The welt is about the size of a quarter, but what it represents could fill an ocean. It represents the third major global outbreak of a virus in my lifetime. It represents our ongoing unpreparedness to deal with outbreaks—especially those that disproportionately impact the most disenfranchised among us. It represents my privilege for being able to access a vaccine while people in Central and West Africa have been dealing with MPV for decades and still have little to no vaccine access. It represents the truth about international borders: they are a human construct with a problematic history, and they are not recognized by viruses. It represents the differential value placed on different human lives. It reminds us that we share this world, and our lives are interconnected whether we acknowledge that or not.

Yes, this newsletter is focused on the HIV epidemic in the U.S. But we will certainly fail to end the HIV epidemic if we continue to neglect the interconnectedness of our shared global health. Let us start by acknowledging that, here and now. Read on for updates in HIV prevention research—and remember that my struggle is yours, and yours is mine.

As always, share our [resources](#) and [stay in touch!](#)

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The HPTN Scholars Program is pleased to announce the next group of talented Scholars. During the next 18 months, they will conduct secondary analyses of HPTN study data, working alongside leading HIV prevention researchers affiliated with the Network.

[Meet the Scholars](#)



The banner features the text "Knowledge. Networking. Mentorship." on the left, the HPTN logo and "SCHOLARS PROGRAM" in the center, and a photo of hands stacked in a circle on the right. Below the banner are seven individual portraits of the scholars, arranged in two rows: four in the top row and three in the bottom row.

The latest HPTN Scholars Program cohort.



There is still no HIV vaccine. Did you know that you can help find one?

On May 18, National HIV Vaccine Awareness Day, the HVTN launched a new initiative called the Red Ribbon Registry! This registry enables volunteers across the US to join a community of individuals ready help end HIV through the discovery of a preventive HIV vaccine.

On the website, www.HelpEndHIV.org, volunteers can learn about HIV and progress in vaccine research. Those who are interested in joining a study can complete a survey to join the Red Ribbon Registry, enabling them to be contacted by nearby research sites to see if they want to join active studies.

The fight against HIV has progressed thanks to long-standing collaborations between researchers and community members. With the Red Ribbon Registry and our national [advertising campaign](#), we continue to invite a new generation of community members into the process as important partners in the advancement of science and the ending of suffering and death from HIV-related illnesses.



HANC is pleased to share these updates and other resources:

- [Webinar Library](#): a collection of over 30 of our webinar recordings on topics such as Monkeypox (**new**), HIV & race, HIV & women, HIV genetic sequencing, HIV & aging, outreach & marketing, Native Americans & HIV, microbicides research, pregnancy & lactation in HIV research, HIV in the Latinx community, community engagement, and more.
- [Understanding Science Video Series](#): More than ever, communities need trustworthy information on the basics of science. HANC therefore formed a work group with international membership to develop videos on several important topics. Why is science essential? Why is research important in science? The short videos answer these and other questions, aiming to make understanding science and clinical research easier.
- [Be the Generation website](#): the best place to go for trustworthy information on biomedical HIV prevention research. Features sections on

PrEP, U=U, Microbicides, HIV vaccine research, inspiring videos from researchers and community members, and even a quiz to test your knowledge of HIV prevention research.

- [Transgender Training Resources Homepage](#): the Division of AIDS at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has put all its amazing resources related to research with transgender communities in one place. All resources are free; you may just need to create a free account if you don't have one already.

Important Dates

- September 18: [HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day](#)
- September 27: [National Gay Men's HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#)
- October 8-11: [US Conference on HIV/AIDS](#)
- October 15: [National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day](#)
- November 20: [Transgender Day of Remembrance](#)