# Socio-ecological Approach to Health Interventions for Black & Latinx LGBTQ Youth

Renata Arrington-Sanders, MD, MPH, ScM;

**Associate Professor** 

Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine

National Academy of Sciences Workshop August 27, 2021

## Disclosures

• No financial disclosures.



## Background

#### 37,832 NEW HIV diagnoses in 2018

- 2 in 10 were in youth 13 to 24 years old
  - 9 in 10 youth were men
  - 5 in 10 gay and bisexual young men were Black

## HAVE YOU TESTED LATELY?

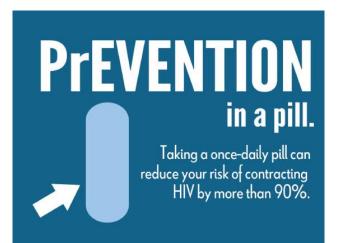














## Objectives

- Describe socio-ecological framework and multi-level health interventions to:
  - Address HIV prevention
  - Increase health access for sexual and gender minority youth

## Socio-ecological Approach to Interventions

Cultural/ Policies

**Structural** 

Social

Personal

Individual Youth Scripts
Laws, policies

Institutions/Guideline Healthcare, school, etc.

Interpersonal

Social support, parents, providers, partners

Intrapersonal

Knowledge, perceived risk, enabling factors

### Individual Level

Personal

Individual Youth



Intrapersonal Knowledge, perceived risk, enabling factors

## Increasing Health Awareness

- PrEP awareness among youth is low
  - Web-based survey of young Black MSM in DC, Baltimore, NY, 38% were aware of PrEP

Community messaging to increase

awareness

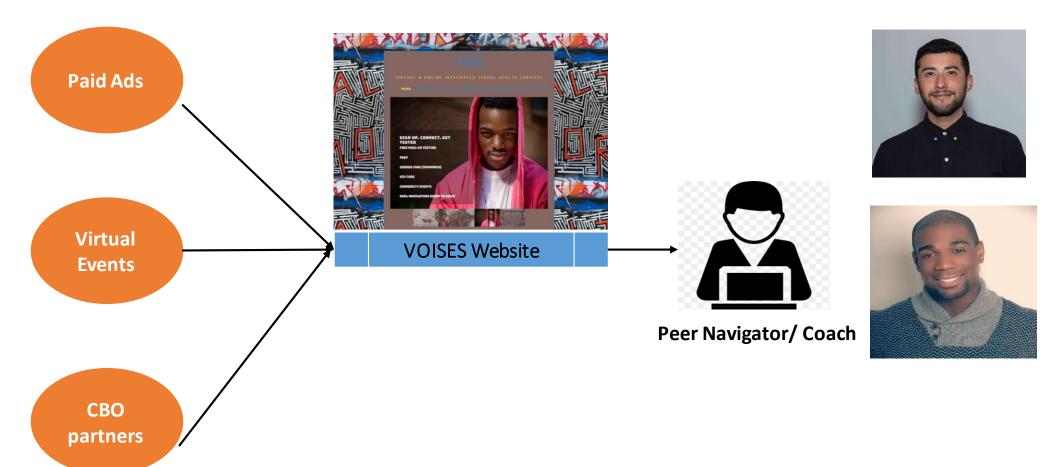






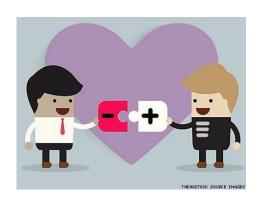
# Meeting Youth in Virtual Spaces: VOISES-Virtual Online Integrated SExual Health Services





## Social Level

Social



Interpersonal
Social support, parents,
providers, partners

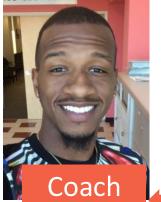
Individual Youth

## PUSH: Providing Unique Support for Health National Institute of Drug Abuse

## push

#### R01DA043089

- Coach-based intervention to engage Black and Latinx sexual minority males and transgender women in HIV treatment and PrEP use
- Focused on life skills, MI, reflective listening, and goal setting

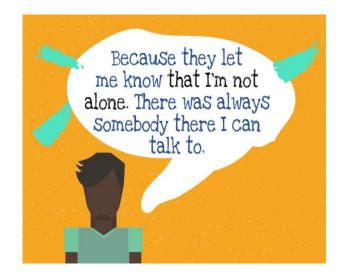






Principal Investigators: Sanders/Celentano

 Health coaches helpful to identifying and reaching goals and making feel accepted



 Participants described knowing someone or having a peer in their network made them feel more likely to take PrEP



## Prepping for "The Talk": Helping Parents and Youth Talk About





#### Sexuality

- Motivational interviewing (MI)-based intervention
  - Parents: sexual health and PrEP education (video)
  - LGBTQ Youth: MI-based risk reduction counseling inclusive of PrEP (in person)
- Randomized Control trial to determine feasibility, acceptability, and preliminary effectiveness of the intervention on PrEP uptake
- N=100 youth-parent dyads
  - o Outcomes:
    - Primary: PrEP uptake (self-report and blood spot)
    - Secondary: PrEP interest, HIV risk behaviors

Principal Investigator: Rusley K23MH123335-01

### Structural-Level

**Structural** 

Institutions/Guideline
Healthcare, housing, etc.

Individual Youth



## Access to safe housing & employment

- 25% of PUSH Study participants described
  - Being without a regular place to stay in the prior 12 months
  - Engaging in transactional sex
  - Having a regular job was protective
- Work2Prevent
  - Goal-setting and skill-based intervention in 70 young MSM and TW
  - Targets economic stability through job readiness and employment





## Policy-Level

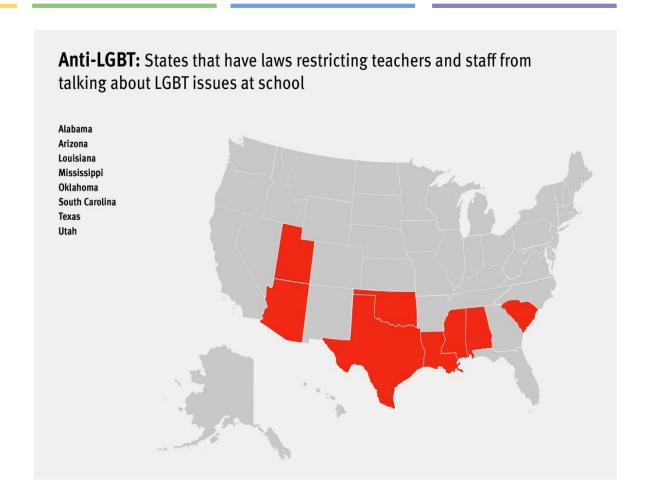
Cultural/ Policies Scripts
Laws, policies



Individual Youth

# Access to Comprehensive Sexual Education & Reproductive Health

- Sexual education varies by state
- YRBS Data (13 states)
  - Young men who reported sex with other men were less likely to report school-based HIV education than heterosexual peers
- 8 states restrict teachers from providing LGBTQ-focused education



#### **Equality**



The assumption is that everyone benefits from the same supports. This is equal treatment.

#### **Equity**



Everyone gets the supports they need (this is the concept of "affirmative action"), thus producing equity.

#### **Justice**



All 3 can see the game without supports or accommodations because the cause(s) of the inequity was addressed.

The systemic barrier has been removed.

## Acknowledgements

- Adolescent Medicine Faculty
- Errol Fields, MD, PhD, MPH
- David Celentano, ScD (co-PI PUSH Study)
- Noya Galai, PhD
- Andrea L Wirtz, PhD
- Jennafer Kwait, PhD
- Chris Beyrer MD, MHS
- Nadia Dowshen, MD
- Larry D'Angelo, MD
- Kimberly Hailey-Fair, MPH
- James Conley
- Durryle Brooks, PHD
- James Case
- Funder: NIDA R01DA043089; CDC EHE funds

- William Vickroy
- Marne Castillo, PhD
- Shima Ge, BS;
- Connie Trexler, RN, CPN, MSHS
- Rashida Carr
- Anthony Green
- David Hardy, MD
- James Leslie
- Blain Smith
- Xander Lopez
- Anderson Schlupp
- Susan Lee
- Anthony Morgan
- Allison Agwu, MD, MHS
- Participants who shared their experiences.









## Questions?

