

***Hyacinth AIDS Foundation
Paterson: Mpowerment/PrEP Counselor***

Under the supervision of the Prevention and CTR Managers, the Mpowerment/PrEP Counselor performs assigned duties relating to the implementation and evaluation the Mpowerment Project in Paterson, NJ. The Mpowerment project targets Gay and Bisexual Men (GBM) between the ages of 18 to 29 in the Paterson and Passaic County area. The services offered through the Mpowerment Project include the Effective Behavioral Intervention (EBI) Mpowerment, Many Men Many Voices (3MV), and PrEP counseling, referrals, and assessment services. The program will be staffed by 2 full time employees who will be responsible for co-coordinating all project activities. These individuals will also assist with referrals and providing rapid HIV/Syphilis counseling and testing services to the target population.

Mpowerment Duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Recruit & Maintain Core Group Members who will make decisions on the project's guiding principles (e.g., naming the local project, planning intervention activities, developing materials, outreach to local GBM etc.), plan regular meetings that are fun, social, and productive review and evaluate all parts of the project and address issues facing young gay and bisexual men.
- Conduct Informal and Formal Outreach Events that spreads a norm of safer sex and HIV antibody testing, uses peer influence to change behavior, which is achieved through nonjudgmental and supportive peer interactions and is reinforced through other project activities.
- Facilitate and recruit participants for M-groups that teach safer sex practices, negotiation skills, and how to do informal outreach.
- Assist with a Publicity Campaign that creates attractive informative materials that diffuses messages reminding young gay and bisexual men of the importance of safer sex, encourages HIV testing and seeking of medical care.
- Conduct Health Education and Risk Reduction Educational sessions at locations and venues that the target populations frequent or to community gatekeepers or providers that have access to the target population of the project.
- Manage day-to-day Drop-in Center activities that incorporate social, education, and community building activities.

Many Men, Many Voices (3MV) duties include but are not limited to:

- Recruit, assess, and screen clients' eligibility for participation in regional statewide 3MV retreats with the three regional Hyacinth GBM projects.
- Assist with the facilitation, coordination, and planning of two annual regional 3MV retreats.
- Maintain all necessary paperwork for evaluation and monitoring of

PrEP duties include but are not limited to:

- Assess client's level of risk to determine appropriateness for PrEP
- Engage identified high-risk individuals in discussions regarding HIV risk reduction and all manner of PrEP information to include at a minimum:
 - What is required of the client to ensure that PrEP is maximally effective
 - The potential side effects of PrEP medication
 - Schedule of medical follow up visits monitoring health status relative to possible side effects
 - Discussion of relationship situations when PrEP may no longer be appropriate
- Assess client's health insurance status and refer clients with prior authorizations, insurance enrollment, and pharmaceutical company assistance as needed
- Assist clients in the development of their adherence plan
- Provide sexual risk reduction counseling regarding HIV and STIs
- Monitor clients to ensure regimen adherence and clinical follow up visits
- Provide tracking and follow up with clients and or providers 90 days after initiation of PrEP

Professional Responsibilities:

- Attend and participate in regular staff meetings, trainings, regional MSM workgroup meetings, and supervisory conferences.
- Maintain working relationships with other community providers and gatekeepers who have access to the target population.
- Observe established administrative procedures.
- Provide monthly and quarterly written reports and maintain statistics as required.
- Ensure numerical client data is entered into assigned state reporting systems on a consistent and monthly basis as client access services
- Represent the agency at community events, meetings and conferences.
- Participate in evaluation activities based on program goals and objectives.

Qualifications:

- **Ability to work flexible hours, primarily non-traditional office hours that will include evenings and weekends.**
- Commitment to Hyacinth philosophy
- Prior knowledge and experience working in HIV/AIDS prevention with a specific focus on gay and bisexual men or other non-identified men who have sex with men (MSM).
- Must be familiar with the local young gay/bisexual men's community. Must be able to work effectively and sensitively with homosexually active men of varying socio-cultural backgrounds and levels of homosexual identification
- Strong program development skills, with an emphasis on enhancing adolescent's leadership skills and abilities.
- Successful and demonstrated completion of NJDHSTS Test Decision Counseling, Results Counseling and Partner Notification Counseling course.
- Prior experience or training in the Effective Behavioral Interventions (EBIs): Mpowerment & Many Men, Many Voices (3MV).
- Knowledge, experience, and a nonbiased opinion regarding the administration and uptake of PrEP for high risk individuals.

- Bachelor's degree plus two years' experience in HIV/AIDS or related field preferred. A candidate, who has no degree but seems exceptionally suitable, will be considered if he/she has four additional years of relevant experience.
- Excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication skills.
- Strong graphic design and marketing skills are a plus.
- Access to currently registered car and a valid driver's license.

The Hyacinth AIDS Foundation is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer and will consider all qualified applicants without regard to sex, race, creed or religion, color, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, or veteran, sexual orientation or marital status.

Send Resume and Cover Letter to: Derrick Gibbs - dgibbs@hyacinth.org