YEAR IN REVIEW

The Network has been busy since moving to The Center in February 2016

**JULY 31, 2016 – AUGUST 02, 2016**
The Network hosts its first Network Retreat as a Center administered coalition in Albany, NY.

**OCTOBER 19, 2016**
The Network hosted its first Technical Assistance Conference as a Center administered body in Albany, NY.

**OCTOBER 20, 2016**
The Network hosts its first Budget Advocacy Day as a Center administered body in Albany, NY. Network staff and members engage with the Governor’s office, Assembly and State Senate leadership, government agencies OASAS, DOH and OMH and key staff from both houses of the State Legislature.

**DECEMBER 1, 2016**

**DECEMBER 8, 2016**

**MARCH 17, 2017**
After months of advocacy with the Governor and State Legislature, The LGBT Health & Human Services Initiative is awarded an increase in funds, bringing its operating budget to $5.2 million for FY18.
NETWORK CAMPAIGNS

PrEP CAMPAIGN

On World AIDS Day, The Network launched a text message campaign for PrEP (short for pre-exposure prophylaxis), a pill that can lower the risk of getting HIV by over 90%. By signing up, New Yorkers were able to receive personalized information on PrEP and get connected to a medical provider through a text messaging conversation.

55% of the New Yorkers reached were referred or connected to a provider.

Almost 50% of the New Yorkers reached were uninsured or on Medicare/Medicaid.

Almost 40% of the New Yorkers reached were people of color, which is almost 10% higher than New York’s estimated population of people of color size.

LGBT HEALTH MONTH

In a resolution passed by both the New York State Assembly and New York State Senate in 2014, New York State officially declared March LGBT Health Month. Senator Neil D. Breslin and Assembly Member Richard N. Gottfried presented the resolutions to leadership, along with The Network members. This year for LGBT Health Month, The Network focused on barriers to access to health care for LGBT people of color, building cultural competency for doctors providing care to trans and gender nonconforming people, mental health for LGBT youth and healthy habits building for LGBT older adults through a social media campaign on Facebook and Twitter.
NETWORK MEMBERS

**CAPITAL REGION**
Alliance for Positive Health
The Bridge (LGBTCC), Inc.
In Our Own Voices, Inc.
Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson
Pride Center of the Capital Region
Rainbow Access Initiative, Inc.

**CENTRAL NEW YORK**
Cortland LGBT Resource Center
Identity Youth Southern Tier AIDS Program
Lesbian and Gay Family Building Project
Out For Health - Planned Parenthood of the Southern Finger Lakes
The Q Center AIDS Community Resources
SAGE Upstate

**HUDSON VALLEY**
Center Lane - Westchester Jewish Community Services
Community Awareness Network for a Drug-Free Life and Environment, Inc. (CANDLE)
Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center
The LOFT: LGBT Community Services Center

**LONG ISLAND**
Long Island Gay and Lesbian Youth (LIGALY)
Pride for Youth

**WESTERN NEW YORK**
Trillium Health
Gay & Lesbian Youth Services (GLYS) of Western New York, Inc.
Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley (GAGV)
Pride Center of Western New York

**NEW YORK CITY**

**BROOKLYN**
Brooklyn Community Pride Center (BCPC)
Gay Men of African Descent (GMAD)
GRIOIT Circle Inc.
The HEAT Program
Rainbow Heights Club

**BRONX**
Destination Tomorrow

**MANHATTAN**
Ali Forney Center
Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (APICHA)
Audre Lorde Project
Callen-Lorde Community Health Center
Gay Men’s Health Crisis, Inc. (GMHC)
Grand Street Settlement
Harm Reduction Coalition
Hetrick-Martin Institute
Institute for Human Identity (IHI)
The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center
Metropolitan Community Church of New York
The National LGBT Cancer Network
New York Legal Assistance Group, LGBT Law Project
Anti-Violence Project
Peter Cicchino Youth Project
Project Reach
SAGE – Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders
Sylvia Rivera Law Project
Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund (TLDEF)
The Trevor Project
Unity Fellowship Breaking Ground, Inc. (UFBG)

**QUEENS**
Queens Pride House
Queens Center for Gay Seniors - Queens Community House

**STATEN ISLAND**
Pride Center of Staten Island
Letter from Director of AIDS Institute

Dear Colleagues:

The New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute is honored to support and partner with The New York State LGBT Health & Human Services Network (The Network). The AIDS Institute acknowledges The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center for moving The Network forward in its important work.

Since its founding in 1994, the core principles of The Network have included responding to the needs of New York’s diverse LGBT community and working to end health disparities. The Network is comprised of dedicated individuals and organizations that have positively impacted communities across New York and helped inform our efforts at the AIDS Institute.

In 2016, The Network achieved several key accomplishments, including the annual Network Retreat and NYS Budget Advocacy Day, their first budget submission to the Governor’s office, and the official launch of the “Bust the Myths, Get the Facts” PrEP text messaging campaign, which is designed to offer personalized information about PrEP and enhance PrEP access for New Yorkers.

In the next year, The Network will play a crucial role in improving the quality of life for LGBT New Yorkers. Through coordination with more than 50 LGBT organizations, programs and experts throughout the state, The Network supports the goal to end health disparities in the LGBT community - a critical component of Ending the Epidemic efforts.

The AIDS Institute looks forward to our continued partnership with The Network.

Sincerely,

Johanne E. Morne, MS
Director, AIDS Institute

ABOUT THE NETWORK

The New York State LGBT Health & Human Services Network’s goal is to build a stronger, safer health care environment for all LGBT New Yorkers. We work to do this by increasing cultural competency, health care access and health education, Network member organizational capacity, self-advocacy and leadership across New York’s LGBT community.

Over the next five years, The Network will focus on increasing employment opportunities and improving health care access for LGBT New Yorkers, while reducing the health care access disparities for LGBT people of color living in New York State.
The Center

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center currently administers The Network. The AIDS Institute awarded the contract to The Center, a founding member of The Network, in February 2016. As administrator, The Center provides organizational and programmatic support to Network members, coordinates statewide activities for The Network and helps increase cultural competence of New York State agencies so that they may better serve LGBT New Yorkers. In addition, The Center works with The Network to increase funding, public awareness and capacity of LGBT supportive service agencies across the state.

THE NETWORK
The New York State LGBT Health & Human Services Network

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