Advocacy & GOTV Under COVID-19
This webinar is being interpreted live in American Sign Language.

Please pin the videos of ASL interpreters indicated by “ASL – “ in their names (alternating) to be able to see interpretation throughout the event.
¡Este seminario web está disponible en español! This webinar is available in Spanish!

Este seminario web está disponible en español gracias a los servicios de interpretación de Your Next Solution, LLC.

Para escuchar el seminario en el idioma español deberá:
- Hacer clic en el icono en forma del mundo ubicado en la parte inferior derecha de la pantalla, y
- Seleccionar "Español"
Welcome

Drew Gibson
he/him/his
Policy Manager for HIV & Drug User Health – AIDS United
Washington, DC
occupied Piscataway Conoy & Anacostan land
Aisha N. Davis, Esq.  
she/her/hers  
Director of Policy – AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois  
occupied Peoria land
VOTING AS A TOOL

AISHA N. DAVIS, ESQ.
DIRECTOR OF POLICY, AIDS FOUNDATION CHICAGO.
BUT ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER, THE NEGRO STILL IS NOT FREE; ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER, THE LIFE OF THE NEGRO IS STILL SADLY CRIPPLED BY THE MANACLES OF SEGREGATION AND THE CHAINS OF DISCRIMINATION; ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER, THE NEGRO LIVES ON A LONELY ISLAND OF POVERTY IN THE MIDST OF A VAST OCEAN OF MATERIAL PROSPERITY; ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER, THE NEGRO IS STILL LANGUISHED IN THE CORNERS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY AND FINDS HIMSELF IN EXILE IN HIS OWN LAND.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
I HAVE A DREAM
AUGUST 28, 1963
WELL, I AM ONE WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN DELUDING MYSELF. I'M NOT GOING TO SIT AT YOUR TABLE AND WATCH YOU EAT, WITH NOTHING ON MY PLATE, AND CALL MYSELF A DINER. SITTING AT THE TABLE DOESN'T MAKE YOU A DINER, UNLESS YOU EAT SOME OF WHAT'S ON THAT PLATE. BEING HERE IN AMERICA DOESN'T MAKE YOU AN AMERICAN. BEING BORN HERE IN AMERICA DOESN'T MAKE YOU AN AMERICAN. WHY, IF BIRTH MADE YOU AMERICAN, YOU WOULDN'T NEED ANY LEGISLATION; YOU WOULDN'T NEED ANY AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION; YOU WOULDN'T BE FACED WITH CIVIL-RIGHTS FILIBUSTERING IN WASHINGTON, D.C., RIGHT NOW.

MALCOLM X
THE BALLOT OR THE BULLET
APRIL 3, 1964
YOU BROKE THE CONTRACT WHEN YOU KILLED US IN THE STREETS AND DIDN’T GIVE A F***. YOU BROKE THE CONTRACT WHEN FOR 400 YEARS, WE PLAYED YOUR GAME AND BUILT YOUR WEALTH. YOU BROKE THE CONTRACT WHEN WE BUILT OUR WEALTH AGAIN ON OUR OWN BY OUR BOOTSTRAPS IN TULSA AND YOU DROPPED BOMBS ON US, WHEN WE BUILT IT IN ROSEWOOD AND YOU CAME IN AND YOU SLAUGHTERED US. YOU BROKE THE CONTRACT. SO F*** YOUR TARGET. F*** YOUR HALL OF FAME. FAR AS I’M CONCERNED, THEY COULD BURN THIS BITCH TO THE GROUND, AND IT STILL WOULDN’T BE ENOUGH. AND THEY ARE LUCKY THAT WHAT BLACK PEOPLE ARE LOOKING FOR IS EQUALITY AND NOT REVENGE.

KIMBERLY LATRICE JONES
HOW CAN WE WIN?
MAY 31, 2020
HISTORY OF VOTING IN THE UNITED STATES
VOTING & COVID-19

This is RIDICULOUS
RACE & HEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate ratios compared to White, Non-Hispanic Persons</th>
<th>American Indian or Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic persons</th>
<th>Asian, Non-Hispanic persons</th>
<th>Black or African American, Non-Hispanic persons</th>
<th>Hispanic or Latino persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases[^1]</td>
<td>2.8x higher</td>
<td>1.1x higher</td>
<td>2.6x higher</td>
<td>2.8x higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitalization[^2]</td>
<td>5.3x higher</td>
<td>1.3x higher</td>
<td>4.7x higher</td>
<td>4.6x higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death[^3]</td>
<td>1.4x higher</td>
<td>No increase</td>
<td>2.1x higher</td>
<td>1.1x higher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

chart via CDC
REMEMBER

VOTING IS JUST ONE OF MANY TOOLS AVAILABLE TO BE HEARD.
THANK YOU

Aisha N. Davis
adavis@aidschicago.org
www.aidschicago.org
Naina Khanna
she/her/hers
Executive Director –
Positive Women’s Network – USA
Oakland, California
occupied Ohlone land
Honoring our Legacy; Protecting our Future: Mobilize the HIV Vote

AIDSWatch at Home: Road to Resiliency

Sept 30, 2020
About Positive Women’s Network-USA

The only national organization in the US led by and for women and trans people living with HIV

• Founded in 2008 by 28 diverse women living with HIV, including women of trans experience
• Today: 3,000 members nationwide

Our mission: To prepare and involve women living with HIV, in all our diversity, including gender identity and sexual orientation, in all levels of policy and decision-making.
universal healthcare
economic justice
sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice
ending criminalization
trans rights, safety & justice
ending violence against women living with HIV
LIBERATION
TRANSFORM SYSTMS
BUILD POWER
Election 2020: Because we know what’s at stake

- Trans* rights are human rights

- Universal Health Care for All

- End Cash Bail Now

- Fighting for our lives

- Fighting for our lives

- HIV is not a crime

- America's black-white maternal mortality gap is widening

Percentage of pregnancy-related deaths by race

- 2007: 34%
- 2011: 42.8%

- Black women: 11.8% vs. 12.5%

Source: CDC Pregnancy Mortality Surveillance System
Credit: Sarah Fritzenzw
FLEX! Elections have consequences

San Francisco DA Chesa Boudin ends cash bail for all criminal cases

Minneapolis City Council Unanimously Votes To Replace Police With Community-Led Model

The Minneapolis City Council on Friday, 18 days after the death of George Floyd, unanimously passed a resolution to replace the police ...

1 day ago

Denver school board unanimously votes to pull DPD officers out of schools

DENVER — The Denver Public Schools (DPS) Board of Education has ...

go to school without the looming threat and fear of the police there ...

2 days ago
The opportunities: Our Issues

Every single issue we work on is on your ballot. Just a few examples:

- **District Attorneys and judges** make decisions about bail, HIV criminalization, and more
- **City Council members** make decisions about the city budget
- **Attorney Generals** make decisions about prison and jail conditions, rights of trans folks when incarcerated
- **State legislators and governors** make decisions about Medicaid, reproductive rights, HIV criminalization, and rights of people of trans experience
- **Congress and the President** take action on reproductive rights, healthcare and housing policy
- **Senators** determine who sits on the Supreme Court
Question 1 on Philly ballot: End illegal stop-and-frisk

Unconstitutional policing — including stop-and-frisk — should have no place in Philadelphia | Editorial

Posted: June 25, 2020 - 4:40 PM

Last year, the Philadelphia Police Department stopped nearly 77,000 pedestrians — 70% of whom were Black.

Prop 115 on Colorado ballot: abortion ban

Prop 115 IS A BACK-DOOR BAN ON ABORTION

VoteNo115.com

@uspwn
The Election Came Down to 77,744 Votes in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan (Updated)

by John McCormack, Senior Writer | November 10, 2016 03:13 PM
BUT...
Georgia shows why November’s election could be chaos

Coronavirus and voting-technology glitches led to hours-long waits for voters.

TIMOTHY B. LEE - 6/16/2020, 4:00 AM

As Coronavirus Infections Surge Nationwide, Threats Rise Of New Shutdowns, Election Disruptions

Florida Among Group of States Seeing Decline in Voter Registration

BY MITCH PERRY | FLORIDA
PUBLISHED 5:39 PM ET JUN. 16, 2020

Covid-19 Changed How We Vote. It Could Also Change Who Votes.

In presidential election years, state driver licensing offices and registration drives generate a torrent of new voters. The pandemic has cut that to a trickle.
resistance is our legacy
It's all hands on deck time.
Our Plan

1. **Elevate issues** important to people living with HIV and communities most impacted by HIV in the 2020 election cycle;
2. **Increase voter turnout** in communities impacted by HIV;
3. **Ensure our folks understand** what’s on their ballots;
4. **Build concrete skills** for people living with HIV to influence elections;
5. **Leverage our organizing power into votes at the ballot box**.
What to know about voting: the basics

1. There are ways to vote safely in a pandemic.
2. Opposition forces do not want you to vote.
3. Know about what is on your ballot and vote ALL THE WAY down your ballot.
4. *Every.single.vote.matters.*
RIGHT NOW

#1. Check and confirm your registration status. Deadlines to register and fix registration errors are coming up soon.  www.vote.org

#2. Check if you can request a mail in/absentee ballot.  
https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/

#3. Text all your friends and family and tell them to do the same

#4. Get involved. Whether you have one hour or lots of time, democracy needs you.
Voting safely in a pandemic
Ways to vote (in order of recommendation)

1. Request a mail in or absentee ballot and turn it in, in person, early. 
2. In person early voting
3. In person election day voting
Vote by mail

= a way for voters to cast their ballots without going to a polling place in person.

- It’s sometimes considered a form of “absentee” voting
- It’s a catch-all term for lots of ways people can vote without showing up at the polling place.
- It does not usually replace in-person voting; it provides an additional option.
- Every state has different laws on who can vote by mail and how. Some counties have their own laws!
Why Vote By Mail?

- States with low-barrier vote by mail have higher voter turnout
- Safer in the COVID-19 pandemic!
- Long lines at polling places
- **Better for voters with disabilities**
- Voters can more easily research what’s on their ballot
- Increases participation in down ballot races
- It can be hard to get to polling places on Election Day

**Americans of All Stripes Want a Mail Ballot Option**

As the president wages a disinformation campaign against mail voting, nearly 80 percent of Americans want a mail ballot option this November.
Common Concerns and Rebuttals

But vote by mail is new! **NO IT’S NOT**

- Roughly 25% of voters nationally cast a mail ballot in the last two federal elections.
- Mail balloting is the primary means of voting in CA, CO, HI, OR, WA, and UT. 28 additional states allow no-excuse mail balloting.
- In 2018, more than 31 million Americans, 25.8% of election participants, cast their vote by mail.

But what about fraud? **THERE’S NO EVIDENCE THAT VBM LEADS TO MORE FRAUD**

- From 2000-2012, only 491 cases of absentee ballot fraud, out of billions of votes cast
  (https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/false-narrative-vote-mail-fraud)
Types of vote by mail

- **“Excused” vote by mail**: you need to have a qualifying reason to get approval for voting by mail
  - valid excuses vary from state to state. examples are: being elderly, disabled, hospitalized, on active military duty, out of state on election day. in some states being under COVID-19 quarantine now qualifies as an “excuse”
- **“No excuse” vote by mail**: you can just request a vote by mail ballot. you don’t have to tell them why.
- **automatic vote by mail**: every registered voter automatically receives a ballot in the mail.
How to request your absentee/vote by mail ballot

It varies state to state and deadlines are coming up NOW. Check your state and request your ballot right now at https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/
IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT VOTE BY MAIL

• MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY.

POLITICS

Philadelphia election official warns 'naked ballot' ruling could jeopardize 100,000 Pennsylvania votes

Tucker Higgins
@IN/TUCKER-HIGGINS-SB162295/
@TUCKERHIGGINS
IF VOTING IN PERSON, VOTE EARLY!

It’s safer during COVID

Less likelihood of shenanigans with counting ballots

Fewer people voting; avoid long lines

Please DO NOT contribute to election day lines! Many folks don’t have the privilege of staying in line.
Every Vote Counts

In 2000, the presidential race was decided by 537 votes.
In 2004, the Washington state governor's race was decided by 129 votes.
In 2008, the Alaska state governor's race was decided by one vote.

Vote!

iwillvote.com
Get involved!

In 2018, PWN reached over 10,000 voters. We:
• Canvassed and phonebanked
• Registered voters
• Knocked on doors
• Partnered with HBCU to register young voters
• Served as poll watchers, documented and reported irregularities

This year we have already reached over 50,000 voters in PA, 50,000 voters in CO, and more than 40,000 voters in TX.

Any hours you can contribute are needed, RIGHT NOW.
Sign up to get involved at https://votepositiveusa.org/volunteer
#PWNVotes Election Toolkit

As we approach a historic election cycle next year, we encourage PWN-USA members and allies to remember what’s at stake for people living with HIV and communities most impacted by the epidemic. It’s critical that we vote and ensure our folks are well-informed about their voting rights as well as what will be on the ballot – all the way down to state and local races. Below, we have compiled a toolkit with links, resources, and tips on how to effectively leverage your vote and get your community involved this election cycle! At the bottom of this page, you can watch our #PWNVotes 2018 webinar series!

Part 1. Preparing the vote: registering voters & removing barriers to voting

Part 2. Researching local issues, candidates, and ballot measures

Part 3. Issue elevation tactics

Part 4. Getting Out the Vote (GOTV) for Election Day

@uspwn

pwn-usa.org
The Vote Positive 2020 Pledge

Because we understand what is at stake...

.. Because we are fighting for our communities...

... Because we're here for 2020 and beyond...

... Because health care and dignity are human rights...

we're putting it all on the line for 2020

@uspwn

pwn-usa.org
TAKE ACTION! 5 steps to organize the vote

2. Register to vote by mail or absentee: https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/
3. Get everyone you know registered to vote by mail, including educating them about why this is important: family, friends, clients, neighbors.
4. Look at your calendar tonight and plan for hours you can give for the next 5 weeks: Contrary to popular belief, the most important day is **NOT election day. It is well before that**. Think about whether you can take some time off right now to help out!
Thank you! LET’S DO THIS!

Naina Khanna
Executive Director
Positive Women’s
Network-USA
naina@pwn-usa.org
@nainadevi
Follow us on twitter: @uspwn
@votepositiveusa
Jaron Benjamin
he/him/his
VP of Community Mobilization & National Advocacy – Housing Works
New York City, New York
occupied Munsee Lenape land
Presented by:
Jaron Benjamin
VP, Community Mobilization

September 30, 2020

MORE THAN ELECTION DAY:
COMMUNITY BUILDING THROUGH YEAR-ROUND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Our Engagement Philosophy

Housing Works conducts Voting Surveys Every Two Years
Our Engagement Philosophy

Housing Works conducts Voting Surveys Every Two Years

2018 Results (from 577 respondents):

• High Rate of Registration and Voting
  About 80% were registered, and about 80% of those registered voted
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• Engagement and Beliefs on Ending AIDS
YOUR VOTE COUNTS

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ELECTION YEAR AND YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

- Register online or by mail by OCT 9
- Request an absentee ballot by OCT 19
- Submit an absentee ballot by NOV 3
- Vote in person by NOV 3

FOR A FULL VOTER TOOLKIT GO TO: bit.ly/HWGOTV2020
Our GOTV Model

Housing Works is Engaging Staff, Residents, and other Community Members
Our GOTV Model

Housing Works is Engaging Staff, Residents, and other Community Members

• Agency-wide Outreach
  All members of the organization have access to our voter-toolkit – video explainers & webinars, links to posters and voter registration and voting deadlines
Our GOTV Model

Housing Works is Engaging Staff, Residents, and other Community Members

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• **Resident Specific**
  Our organizers are in close contact with housing site directors to ensure that our residents are registered to vote at the place they live, request absentee ballots, and vote
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• **Advocacy Department is Always Available for Trouble Shooting**
Protesters flood GOP offices

Capitol Police arrest 80 demonstrating against bill to replace Obamacare

Wheelchair-bound protesters dragged out of senator's office

GOP health care bill on the brink (again)

Pence: GOP is close to repealing Obamacare

Trump largely absent in final health care sprint
Presented by:
Jaron Benjamin
VP, Community Mobilization
September 30, 2020

MORE THAN ELECTION DAY:
COMMUNITY BUILDING THROUGH YEAR-ROUND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Questions?

Please use the Q&A box within Zoom to ask any questions.
Please join other advocates for unprogrammed social time in the Zoom meeting linked on the AIDSWatch website from 4:30-5:00 PM EST.
AIDSWatch
THE ROAD TO RESILIENCY
AIDS Watch
THE ROAD TO RESILIENCY