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CHAMP Prevention Justice Fellows at Graduation

[Report from the first Prevention Justice Seminar](#)

CHAMP held the first ever Prevention Justice Seminar (PJS) in New York City from October 4-November 22

The PJS is an intensive, intergenerational course in which participants share experiences and skills and learn new information towards building the movement for HIV prevention justice.

Each meeting of our seminar included presentations, discussion, and reading materials. Now on our website (<http://www.champnetwork.org/index.php?name=PJS-Main-Page>), you can **view our classes, including speaker bios, presentation summaries, reading lists and pictures!**

We congratulate our **26 Prevention Justice Fellows** upon their graduation!

WHAT IS THE PREVENTION JUSTICE SEMINAR?

- a lively TRAINING COURSE looking at the history and realities of economics, politics, and social change movements in the United States!
- the ONLY program bringing together HIV prevention issues with human rights, racial justice, sharp data analysis, and a willingness to challenge the "conventional wisdom" in order to win better policies in our next generation.
- a place to pull together the skills, passion and intelligence of people with HIV, community leaders and organizers, youth, students, service providers, thinkers and trouble-makers who want to increase our POWER to win REAL CHANGE

Contact CHAMP to bring the Prevention Justice Seminar to your area!

The AIDS movement after 11/2: Finding the Way Forward

In the weeks after the election, CHAMP is participating in national and local strategic discussions in Cleveland, New York City, Vermont and Washington DC about the priorities for the AIDS movement in this challenging time. Our year-end report will include recommendations from these gatherings, as well as a preview of AIDS community initiatives for 2005.

→ Over 80 participants came from four different states and every borough of New York for *The Election And The Epidemic: Turning Our Frustration Into Power To Change AIDS Policies*, a day of information and strategy sponsored by **AIDSVote** and **CHAMP** just four days after the election. They represented a wide range of community, HIV/AIDS and religious groups, and included many young leaders, immigrants & people with HIV



The day was a spirited, productive and positive start to ramping up our efforts – our summary is available at <http://www.champnetwork.org/index.php?name=power>.

Guest speakers were Mark McLaurin, GMHC; Robert Cordero, Housing Works; Jennifer Flynn, NYCAHN; Asia Russell, Health GAP; and Keynote Speaker Esther Kaplan, author of *"With God on Their Side: How Christian Fundamentalists Trampled Science, Policy, and Democracy in George W. Bush's White House"*

Thanks also to our co-sponsors: Adolescent AIDS Program (Montefiore), CitiWide Harm Reduction, Columbia Global Justice, Housing Works, New York AIDS Coalition (NYAC), New York City AIDS Housing Network (NYCAHN), NY Student AIDS Initiative, Partnership for Family Health: Northern Manhattan

→ On the eve of World AIDS Day, CHAMP's Julie Davids was a panelist for *AIDS and the 2004 Elections: Where Do We Go From Here*, a series of strategy sessions hosted by the **Greater Cleveland AIDS Task Force**. Facilitated by the Task Force's indefatigable Earl Pike, it was clear that Ohio activists are ready to move onward after a valiant fight against a homophobic ballot initiative and one of the tightest presidential votes in history.

→ If you are in or near Philadelphia, please join CHAMP in supporting **ACT UP Philadelphia's** post election town meeting on Monday, December 13 at 5:30 pm at St. Luke's Church, 330 S. 13th Street. Contact them at actupp@critpath.org or 215-731-1844 for more details.

→ And we congratulate **Housing Works** on opening their new office in Washington, DC, and look forward to using this vital "home base" for AIDS activists in the nation's capitol in the coming months.

Launch of the HIV Prevention Organizing Project (H-POP)

CHAMP's **HIV Prevention Organizing Project (H-POP)** initiates and assists national organizing campaigns to defend and expand HIV prevention efforts. Our **current priorities** include:

- debunking attacks on condom effectiveness;
- protecting scientific objectivity in government-funded research;
- winning funding for, and implementation of, comprehensive sexuality education; and
- opposing misleading abstinence-only education

NEW: WEEKLY AND MONTHLY MEETINGS: H-POP NYC!

Starting on January 5th, **H-POP NYC** will meet *every Wednesday night* in midtown Manhattan to work on our campaigns. We will hold monthly forums for community skills-building and education. We'll announce the location in the next 2 weeks! The H-POP NYC has been initiated by the graduates of the *Prevention Justice Seminar*. To join the H-POP, write to champ@champnetwork.org or call 212-966-0466 x 1206.

Every month, the H-POP will host a **community forum** on prevention research and activism. And we will share the information on our website with allies worldwide.

Meet the Strategy Lab for HIV Prevention Policy and CDC Watch

CHAMP's Strategy Lab for HIV Prevention Policy is a national, decentralized policy and tactical think tank for information-sharing, policy analysis, curricula and publication development, and community mobilization on HIV/AIDS prevention policies. Learn about our work at www.champnetwork.org/index.php?name=strategy.

The Lab brings together people living with or at risk of HIV, activists, academics, researchers and public policy people to discuss, formulate and implement effective campaigns to increase and sustain common-sense, science- and human-rights-based HIV prevention.

The Lab has initiated **CDC WATCH**, an oversight project to ensure progressive public attention to the role of CDC in establishing HIV prevention policies. Our Lab will publish a regular briefing, coordinate community participation in key advisory panels and sessions, and facilitate information sharing and data analysis.

Generations of CHAMPions: AIDS Activist Interviews

CHAMP is committed to intergenerational organizing, sharing our skills and experiences as activists of all ages. These two profiles, featured at <http://www.champnetwork.org/index.php?name=interview>, will introduce you to two people of different generations who are building our Power Grid for AIDS Justice

Walt Senterfitt, one of CHAMP's beloved Board Co-Chairs, started his career as an activist growing up in the segregated South. In his 40 years of activism, Senterfitt has been a community organizer, high school teacher, nurse, health care union organizer and pursued a graduate degree in epidemiology in his mid-40's. He currently works for the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and is a Board member of Being Alive in Los Angeles.

Elizabeth Lindsey is an activist and volunteer for CHAMP and ACT UP Philadelphia, and is a full-time employee of Philadelphia's Maternity Care Coalition. She began her career as an activist organizing a caravan tour for the Pennsylvania Abolitionists United Against the Death Penalty. Elizabeth also organized queer and black students at her alma mater, Swarthmore College.

Root Shock: Housing, Displacement And HIV/AIDS



Root Shock: How Tearing Up City Neighborhoods Hurts America, and What We Can Do about It

is a compelling new book by CHAMP ally Dr. Mindy Fullilove, showing how individuals and families are harmed by the destruction of their communities. The book tells stories of people forced from their homes by urban development policies that broke apart African American neighborhoods. This created conditions that allowed HIV/AIDS and other health challenges to swell.

Our **Root Shock comic book** summarizes the book's message. We are working with local organizations to help people discuss this information as they make plans to save or revitalize their communities.

Thank you to Michelle Posadas of **Spiral Q Puppet Theater** in Philadelphia for drafting and drawing the comic book!

Position Announcements

P/T Project Coordinator / AIDS Activist Labor of Love

20-25 hours a week, can include health insurance
Salary range \$14,000-\$19,000, depending on hours and experience

Must be a detail-oriented and organized self-starter with:

- excellent verbal, written and problem-solving skills;
- proven capacity to meet deadlines and handle multiple tasks; and
- demonstrated commitment to HIV/AIDS and social justice issues.

Graphic skills, HTML experience and/or Spanish fluency a plus

Duties will include:

- Assisting the Executive Director on coordination of logistics for our training programs, public policy work, community organizing campaigns and special events
- Maintaining records and correspondence with individual donors, foundations and partner organizations
- Documenting activities and achievements of organization on our webpage, print and electronic media
- Writing outreach, press and publicity materials
- Managing database, files and email lists
- Contributing to the orientation and continuity of a small team of volunteers and interns

*Application deadline: **December 16, 2004***

Spring Internships

These internships are unpaid but will provide experience in a start-up social change organization, working alongside experienced community organizers and activists. Interns must be available 20-25 hours a week for at least 15 weeks.

The **Community Organizing Intern** will:

- Assist the HIV Prevention Organizing Project (H-POP), a local activist group fighting for HIV/AIDS Prevention Justice (must be available for Wednesday night meetings)
- Coordinate a national assessment of grassroots networks and organizers • Participate in strategy development, community recruitment, and mobilization for national and local advocacy campaigns

The **Development and PR Intern** will:

- Research and compile information on foundations
- Maintain grant and donor databases
- Assist with production of publicity materials, grant applications and reports
- Assist with strategic media efforts.

*Application deadline: **January 15, 2005***

The true CHAMPs: Thanks to our staff, volunteers and supporters

This fall, CHAMP had the fortune to host **two trainees** from the **National Health Service of the UK!** **Samantha Matin**, Policy Coordinator and **Anna Jebb**, Program Coordinator provided essential staffing to our projects while learning about life in a land without nationalized health care... We wish them the best as they return to London.

And we could not have made it through without our **wonderful volunteers**, who inspire us with their commitment and generous donation of their time and skills. Much thanks to:

Sarah Bradley, Policy Fellow
Ed Davids, copywriting
Chip Fears, bookkeeping volunteer
Rob Mealey, campus organizer / prison health advocacy
Kevin Chinzhe Lo, writer and editor
Katie Romansky, Prevention Justice Seminar volunteer
Ismael Sala, graphic design
Susan Wolfson of *Sensei Health Communications*, public relations

For assistance with **organizational development**, we thank *Kwame Banks, Lisa Cowan and Arnaldo Simo of Community Resource Exchange* and **Rebecca Subar** of Philadelphia.

Our **Board of Directors** has provided guidance and hours of work in our first year, and we thank you for all you have done: *Chris Bartlett, Amadee Braxton, Rob Camp, Jennifer Flynn, Gregg Gonsalves, Jeff Maskovsky, and co-chairs Erme Maula and Walt Senterfitt.*

And we urge everyone to go see the smash hit musical **People are Wrong**, written by CHAMP volunteer **Julia Greenberg**.

Much thanks to our **foundation** supporters, including recent contribution from The **Jim and Lynn Levinson Fund of the Erie Community Trust**, the **John M. Lloyd Foundation** and the **Overbrook Foundation**, and all of our **individual donors**, including recent donors *Paul Davis, Hassan J. Gibbs, Dr. David Hoos, James Learned, David Munar, Jane Silver, April Smith, and Shawn Towey.*

Thanks to everyone for helping people get it right, as we join together in the struggle for justice into 2005

An Invitation to Join CHAMP

As this year draws to a close, we face **daunting challenges** in our fight against AIDS. George W. Bush's re-election threatens to overturn many of our hard-won victories and to stall the imperative effort to combat this global epidemic.

In these times, we must remember that **we have been here before, and we been victorious**. We have fought hostile administrations, intolerance and bigotry – and we are prepared to do so again. We realize you may be hearing many calls for support, but we come to you now to ask you to contribute to CHAMP's *concrete, practical plan* to defend -- and expand -- the fight against HIV/AIDS.

There are many ways to contribute to CHAMP. On our webpage (www.champnetwork.org), you can register for our **Action Alert List**, and learn how to become part of our **Programs and Trainings**.

However, CHAMP's activist orientation makes fundraising particularly challenging. We receive no funds from government or pharmaceutical companies. Your financial support will enable us to continue to grow. We are seeking **sustainers** who pledge a monthly donation, as well as **founding donors** to help us scale up our efforts.

To make a donation to CHAMP, click on <http://www.champnetwork.org/index.php?name=support> or contact Julie Davids at jdavids@champnetwork.org / 212-966-0466 x 1206.