

Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA)
National AIDS Strategy Resolution
March 26, 2008

WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS continues to be a critical healthcare crisis in the United States with over 1 million people believed to be infected with HIV;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and local health departments have recently announced higher rates of HIV infections in some communities in the United States;

WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects certain populations, particularly the poor, African-Americans, men who have sex with men, Latinos, Native Americans, substance users and the incarcerated;

WHEREAS, certain populations such as women, the young, and heterosexuals are also vulnerable to HIV/AIDS;

WHEREAS, the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS has previously gone on record in support of reducing and eliminating new HIV infections in the United States in its December 2005 white paper “Achieving an HIV-Free Generation”;

WHEREAS, quality healthcare and drug treatment are essential for people with HIV/AIDS, particularly the poor, to remain healthy and reduce the likelihood of further spread of the epidemic;

WHEREAS, there are numerous Federal agencies and programs, state and local governments, and public and private organizations that currently address the various aspects of domestic HIV/AIDS epidemic but do not coordinate their efforts to maximize results;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS urges the President to develop a comprehensive National HIV/AIDS Strategy, a “Domestic President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)” in order to create an HIV-free generation in the United States and to ensure the proper coordination of the necessary healthcare and treatment to those with HIV/AIDS who are in need;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such a strategy utilize the recommendations of the “Achieving an HIV Free Generation”;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the President appoint a National HIV/AIDS Coordinator to oversee the development and implementation of the Strategy for the federal government who has the authority to identify and manage the resources, policies, and research in order to accomplish the Strategy’s goals;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Strategy includes measurable goals and outcomes and its work shall be periodically evaluated and monitored;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Strategy address the racial and other groups disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS including African Americans, men who have sex with men, Latinos, Native Americans, substance users, and the incarcerated, as well as address the special needs of women, youth, and heterosexuals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Strategy in its development and implementation include all relevant Federal government agencies and be coordinated with and involve state and local governments, affected and interested communities and businesses.

**Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA)
Resolution Commending HIV/AIDS Bureau Staff
March 26, 2008**

WHEREAS, the President signed into law the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment and Modernization Act on December 19, 2006 that considerably alters the manner in which Ryan White funds are distributed and utilized;

WHEREAS, the HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) of the Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, successfully implemented the law with its many new features and requirements in a timely and professional manner that required a great deal of staff time and leadership;

WHEREAS, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act requires the development of a Severity of Need Index that seeks to improve the distribution of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funds in such a way that could help improve the healthcare and well being of more low-income people living with HIV/AIDS;

WHEREAS, the HAB has overseen the development of a comprehensive Severity of Need Index with the assistance and input of outside affected parties, which is now available for public comment; and

WHEREAS, the HAB has been providing valuable Technical Assistance to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico so that it can address the ongoing challenges of implementing the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program in Puerto Rico;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS commends the staff and leaders of the HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) of the Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services for its exemplary work and dedication over the past year. In particular the Council commends HAB for: 1) expeditiously and diligently implementing the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Modernization Act; 2) developing a Severity of Need Index that seeks to distribute Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funds to those areas where the need is greatest; and 3) providing technical assistance to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as it seeks to improve in the delivery of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Programs.