

AIDS Community Outreach to Special Populations

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Background/Introduction

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) collaborates with rural, underserved, and minority communities to improve access to health information. Outreach efforts to special populations include (but are not limited to) NLM database training, providing Internet access, acquisition of computer equipment, and Web site development. NLM offers competitive awards to community-based organizations and libraries through the AIDS Community Information Outreach Program. This program offers funding to design and conduct projects that will improve access to HIV/AIDS-related health information for patients, the affected community, and their caregivers. NLM also cosponsors the Arctic Health and American Indian Health Web sites, which provide health information for and about American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Barriers

NLM recognizes the many barriers that affect the availability and accessibility of HIV/AIDS information, such as the lack of:

- Computer stations with Internet access in community settings.
- Privacy.
- Computer skills.
- Relevant and appropriate sites for special populations.
- Qualitative, authoritative, and accurate information on the Internet.

Breaking Down the Barriers: AIDS Community Information Outreach Program

NLM offers funding for communities to design and conduct projects with the following goals:

- Promote improved access to HIV/AIDS information for health-care professionals, patients, the affected community, caregivers, and the general public.
- Encourage partnerships and community-focused activities.
- Promote awareness and use of technology applications for improved information access.

Funding can help improve areas such as:

- Information retrieval.
- Skills development.
- State-of-the-art resources.
- Resource development.
- Document access.

Types of organizations and consortia include:

- Public libraries.
- Community-based organizations or patient advocacy groups.
- Health departments or other local, municipal, or state agencies.
- Faith-based organizations.
- Partnerships among the above-listed organizations.

Standard awards are offered up to \$50,000, Express awards are offered up to \$10,000.

Proposals are due to NLM by Friday, June 16, 2006.

View the 2006 AIDS Community Information Outreach Projects solicitation at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/oam>.

Previously funded AIDS Community Information Outreach Projects are posted at http://www.sis.nlm.nih.gov/outreach/aids_cio_projects.html.

Contact Robin Hope-Williams at 301-496-6546 or rhwili@mail.nih.gov with questions or concerns regarding this solicitation or submission of the proposal.

Please share this information with your colleagues.

