

AAIM: Assessment of the Adaptation and Implementation of the Mpowerment Project

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Project Description

The objective of this project is to better understand how 12 community-based organizations (CBOs), funded under CDC's program announcement 06-618, are implementing and adapting the Mpowerment Project (MP) for young men of color who have sex with other men and young transgendered people of color.

This project's specific goals are to:

1. Review and summarize all available background information about the MP at these 12 CBOs (e.g., grantee original applications, progress reports, site visit reports, PEMS data)
2. Develop site visit protocols tailored to each CBO, and conduct the site visits to observe the implementation of the MP and to meet with program staff, supervisors, and participants
3. Analyze and summarize data about common themes across CBOs, including fidelity, adaptation, and intervention context
4. Convene a stakeholder consultation meeting to review the findings and discuss outcome monitoring options
5. Develop an MP outcome monitoring evaluation protocol



Significance

Very few effective HIV-prevention interventions exist for young MSM of color, one of the groups at highest risk for HIV infection in the US. A strategy for increasing prevention options is for CBOs to adapt interventions proven effective with white MSM for young MSM of color. CBOs across the US are currently adapting and implementing the MP, a community-level evidence-based intervention, but little is known about how agencies are changing the MP from the original model. It is important to assess these adaptations because the original model remains the only community-level HIV prevention intervention developed specifically for young gay and bisexual men that has been shown to have effectively reduced the proportion of men reporting unprotected anal intercourse. Without knowing if the adaptations remain true to the underlying theories and guiding principles of the original intervention, it is difficult to know if the adapted programs are likely to have an effect on risk behavior in the community.

Project End Date: December 2009