

HIV & Aging Conference 2024

June 14, 2024
9:30 - 4:00 pm ET



**GMHC presents Thriving as our
Whole Selves: A Celebration of
Aging Well for People living with
HIV**



Program Agenda

9:30 - 10:00 am ET: Registration and Breakfast (provided)

10:00 - 10:20 am ET: Opening Remarks with Armstrong + Kishani of GMHC with Emma Roberts as the event MC

The Celebration Begins

10:20-10:50 am ET: Keynote Speaker - Rod McCoy, Researcher with Us Helping Us, Sex Positive Trainer

Think there's nothing to celebrate about aging when HIV lives with you? Think again! Join Rod on a journey as he shares his professional and personal lessons on growing older with HIV!

10:50-11:00 am ET: Break (visit tables, vendors, relax)

The Celebration Continues

11:00-12:15 pm ET: Fabulous 50's, sexy 60's, sexier 70's and beyond: Intimacy, sexuality and aging for people living with HIV

Panelists:

- Rod McCoy as joint moderator/panelist
- Damon Jacobs – Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist/PrEP advocate
- Angel Santana – Public Health Representative
- Krishna Stone – Director - Community Relations, GMHC

12:15-1:00 pm ET: Lunch (provided)

Program Agenda

Our Right to Celebrate

1:00 - 1:40 pm ET: HIV Policy Updates - Terri L Wilder from SAGE

1:40 - 2:20 pm ET: Legal Action Center presentation covering people rights related to anti-discrimination in Housing, Healthcare and Employment: Colleen McCormack-Maitland, Deputy Director of Legal Services & Jacqueline Seitz, Deputy Director of Health Privacy

2:20 - 2:30 pm ET: Break (visit tables, vendors, relax)

Keeping the Celebration Going

2:30 - 3:45 pm ET: Panel and audience discussion on holistic approaches to healthcare and well being

Moderator: Damon L. Jacobs

Panelists:

- Dr. Eugenia Siegler - MD, Weill Cornell Medicine
- Dr. Anjali Sharma - MD, MS, Professor of Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
- Victoria Graves-Cade - Peer Educator, GMHC
- Reginald Brown - Board Chairperson, VOCAL NY

3:45 - 4:00 pm ET: Closing Remarks



Rodney McCoy

Keynote Speaker

Rodney “Rod” McCoy, Jr. brings his expertise of nearly four decades in HIV prevention and education, as well as his real-life experience as an African American gay/queer man living with HIV. An Oberlin College graduate with a Bachelors degree in Sociology and Black Studies, Rod has worked in many capacities in the field of HIV Prevention, from Health Educator and HIV Counselor to Training Manager and Program Director. As an Adjunct Professor at George Mason University, Rod established the “HIV, Culture and Sexuality” course for the school’s Global and Community Health Department. With Louis Shackelford of the HIV Vaccine Trials Network, Rod created the “Beyond the Red Ribbon” Sex Positivity training for public health professionals. He also currently serves as an Influencer with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to disseminate the Let’s Stop HIV Together campaign via the promotion of HIV prevention, treatment, and stigma messages through social media posts.

Rod has also served as an HIV 50+ Scholar with NMAC; among his accomplishments was helping to develop their Healthy Living curriculum to include sexual health issues for older individuals living with HIV. Rod is the co-host of the podcast “Listen to Daddy” with fellow Leatherman, Daddy Rob, which speaks to issues by, for and about older gay men, as well as his sex, love, and relationship advice podcast “So Help Me Rod.” He is the co-founder of the ONYX Mid-Atlantic Chapter, and holds the titles of Leatherman of Color 2011 and American Leatherman 2017. Finally, Rod currently works at Us Helping Us as a Research Assistant, and he is thrilled to be with the agency in this capacity.

Speaker Bios



Damon L. Jacobs

Damon L. Jacobs is a New York-based Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and HIV prevention specialist who focuses his work on sexual health, polyamory, and harm-reduction. He is best known for championing the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in The New York Times, USA Today, ABC News, MSNBC, NPR, as well as interviewing New Yorkers in his bathtub on "Tub Talks With Damon." He was honored to receive a Commissioner Special Recognition Award for his work through the New York State Department of Health in 2016.



Angel Santana

Angel Santana is a HIV Tester and counselor in the emergency department at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School for the Infectious Disease Practice in Newark, NJ. Angel worked for the Healthy Divas Intervention which was an intervention for Transgender women providing supportive services with goal orientated motivational interviewing to improve retention in Medical care and medication adherence. A Puerto Rican Transgender woman, Angel has been an active member of the LGBTQ activist community as a transgender case manager and counselor since 2010. She has also served as an instructor for the Los Angeles Police department on cultural competency with a focus on engagement with the transgender community. Angel has dedicated her career to uplifting transgender voices and helping people make healthier choices, leading by example.

Krishna Stone



Krishna Stone is the Director of Community Relations in the Communications Department at GMHC. She originally connected with GMHC in 1986 as a walker in the first annual AIDS Walk New York and then started volunteering. In 1993, she became a staff person and, as of 2024, she has been an employee for 31 years! She organizes community events such as rallies, candlelight vigils, non-denominational gatherings, press conferences, local/state/national conferences, dance party/fundraisers, panel discussions, trainings, and site visits for people all over the world.

In 2014, she received an award from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for “her outstanding dedication to combatting the spread of HIV.” In 2017, Krishna was one of the four Grand Marshals for the NYC LGBT Pride March and received a proclamation from the former governor’s office, “in honor of her dedicated service and continuing contributions to our great State.” In 2019, she was awarded the Sam Ciccone Community Service Award by the Gay Officers Action League New York (GOAL-NY). She was also profiled in Victoria Noe’s book, “Fag Hags, Divas and Moms: The Legacy of Straight Women in the AIDS Community.”

In 2020, she received the Gay City News Impact Award for her commitment and service. And in 2021, she was spotlighted by POZ Magazine’s POZ 100: Black Advocates—both HIV positive and negative—who are making a difference in the fight against HIV and AIDS in the United States. On December 1, 2022, she received the World AIDS Day award from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene “for her work at GMHC and planning past World AIDS Day citywide events.”

She is the proud mother of her 28-year-old daughter, Parade.



Terri L. Wilder

Terri L Wilder, MSW manages the HIV/Aging policy advocacy portfolio at SAGE where she implements the organization's federal and state HIV/aging policy priorities. She has worked in HIV care since 1989 providing social services, directing education programs for clients and medical providers, and advocating for policy change. She is an experienced public speaker who has presented at conferences around the world on a variety of HIV topics. Terri is also an award-winning writer who has published on variety of HIV-related topics through The Body's website, among others. Terri served on the New York Governor's Task Force to End AIDS (EtE) and The New York Governor's Hepatitis C Elimination Taskforce where she contributed to the development of state plans to end the HIV epidemic and eliminate Hepatitis C. She is currently a member of the New York State Department of Health AIDS Advisory Council EtE Subcommittee as well as The Minnesota Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention (MCHACP). Terri has been recognized for her work through The POZ 100: Celebrating Women edition of POZ magazine (2017), as well as awards from the NYS DOH AIDS Institute, AIDS Survival Project, and Bridging Access to Care, Inc. She is an adjunct professor at Columbia University where she teaches a variety of courses, including human sexuality, gender and sexuality, queer theory, and healthcare policy.



Colleen McCormack-Maitland

Deputy Director of Legal Services

Colleen leads LAC's direct legal services and education/know-your-rights work for New Yorkers with arrest or conviction records or who are living with HIV. She also provides technical assistance and training to community members, health and social service providers, lawyers, and others working in the reentry, HIV, and substance use fields.



Jackie Seitz

Deputy Director of Health Privacy

Jackie advocates for privacy rights for people living with HIV, people who use drugs, and people in recovery. She provides legal counsel, training, and resources around the country on health privacy laws. Jackie is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and New York University School of Law. She lives in Northern Manhattan and speaks Spanish.



Dr. Eugenia Siegler

Genie Siegler is the Mason Adams Professor of Geriatric Medicine and Professor of Clinical Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine. She is an associate program director for the medical resi-dency at the Weill Cornell Campus of the New York-Presbyterian Hospital, where she is a teach-ing attending on the inpatient geriatric service and sees geriatric outpatients.

She is a geriatrics consultant to NYPH-Weill Cornell's HIV practice, the Center for Special Stud-ies. In addition, she is a member of the Medical Care Criteria Committee (MCCC) for the New York State AIDS Institute (AI) Clinical Guidelines Program and the AI's Clinical Quality Advi-sory Committee. She also serves on the Scientific Committee of the International Workshop on HIV and Aging.

After receiving her undergraduate degree in Biochemical Sciences from Princeton University, Dr. Siegler obtained her M.D. from Johns Hopkins. She trained in Internal Medicine at Bellevue and New York University Hospitals, where she was intern, resident, and chief resident. Following residency, Dr. Siegler completed her fellowship in general internal medicine and geriatrics at the University of Pennsylvania.



Dr. Anjali Sharma

My research focuses on metabolic complications of HIV infection associated with aging, particularly among women. I joined the Einstein faculty in 2013 to build on existing collaborations with expert HIV researchers, and more importantly, to develop new collaborations with scientific experts investigating aging, and conditions associated with aging that are prevalent in HIV-infected populations. Additionally, I am conducting research on visceral adiposity and age-related metabolic disorders among HIV-infected women, in a project that utilizes two novel imaging techniques to quantify visceral adiposity and skeletal microarchitecture in aging HIV-infected and uninfected women, to assess the relationships between visceral adiposity and metabolic disorders associated with aging (osteoporosis, sarcopenia, and subclinical atherosclerosis) in HIV-infected women. Prior to joining Einstein faculty, I was awarded a grant to study factors associated with bone loss among women and men with and at-risk for HIV infection, from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Physician Faculty Scholars Program, as well as an AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition (R03) by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, to study the role of insulin-like growth factor in the development of reduced bone mineral density in two large cohorts of drug using men and women with and at-risk for HIV infection. Additional areas of research interest include the effects of regional adiposity and obesity on health in HIV-infected populations.



Victoria Graves-Cade

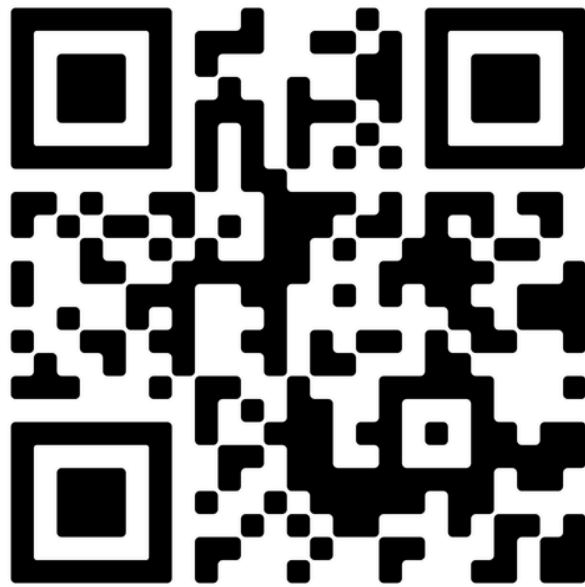
My name is Victoria Graves-Cade, and I am a Peer Educator with ACRIA@GMHC. I am 65 years young and a Long-Term Survivor of 29 years. I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology and have worked in the field of Health and Human Services, HIV care, Substance use and Mental Health for over 27 years before retiring in 2012. I have been with ACRIA@GMHC on this Health Literacy and Aging for Older Adults contract since 2017. Health Literacy for Older Adults provides community engagement, city-wide partnerships, organizational needs assessment and consumer workshops on sexual health and HIV prevention to name a few topics. I am an advocate and member in several amazing organizations such as, NCNW Inc, Bklyn Section, Age Friendly Central Brooklyn, Emmanuel Baptist Church Healing Touch Ministry, Borough of Brooklyn Faith Based Initiatives and HIV Task Force, National Minority Aids Council 50+ Scholar, National HIV and Aging Advocacy Network Membership Committee and Special Interest Group Women of Color Rise Up, New York Knows Women Advisory Board and the Black and Latina Subcommittee. My why I do this work is to End the Epidemic and Stigma of HIV, bridge disparities in health care, unapologetically empower black and brown women and save lives.



Reginald Brown

Reginald Brown has a legacy of power, radical acceptance, and compassion at VOCAL-NY. From fighting for gay liberation as a student to Occupy Wall Street, Reginald has led a life of activism. Occupy Wall Street brought them to VOCAL-NY, leading them to be a part of the Positive Living Union. Reginald learned the power of their story as someone living with HIV/AIDS. Reginald helped win the 30% rent cap for HIV/AIDS Services Administration beneficiaries. They credit their mother for always telling them they could be anything they wanted to be. Embracing this, they have become a board member at VOCAL-NY, a PLU member, and a VOCAL representative at People's Action. They have helped many find power in their story, showing them it is their most valuable asset.

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