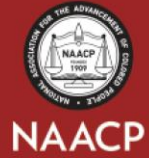




THE BLACK CHURCH & HIV THE SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPERATIVE



Addressing HIV In Your Church Year-Round Engage YOUR Ministry

January

- **Engage** your Ministerial Team and Staff Leadership around HIV as a social justice issue.
- Download the Pastoral Brief and Activity Manual and discuss key points during one of your leadership meetings.

February

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (February 7)

- Declare that your Place of Worship is a "Safe Space."
- Use **National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day** as an opportunity to engage and empower your entire congregation, preaching about HIV as a social justice issue.
- Let your Congregation know that you are joining the fight by ending:
 - Stigmatization
 - Shame
 - Silence

March

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (March 10)

National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS (Visit <http://www.balmingilead.org/nwpha/> for annual date)

- Engage your Prayer Ministry in the first week of March and undergird your efforts in prayer during the **National Week of Prayer for the Healing of HIV and AIDS**.
- Engage your Women's Ministry for **National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day** by inviting someone living with HIV to speak to your Women's Group.
- Talk about issues associated with HIV.

April

National Youth HIV & AIDS Awareness Day (April 10)

- Engage your Youth and College Ministry by inviting someone living with HIV to speak to your Youth Group.
- Begin a dialogue around what is a healthy relationship.
- Talk about issues associated with HIV.

May

Wedding Season

- Engage your Spiritual Care and Counseling Teams.
- Have your Marriage Ministry ask soon-to-be couples if they have had a recent HIV test together. Your local board of health department should be able to give you more information about Partner Testing.

June

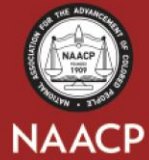
National HIV Testing Day (June 27)

- Engage your Health and Wellness Ministry in a community wide testing event. (Check with your local board of health to determine if prior training and/or certification for your Ministry Members is required.)





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July

Day of Unity (Third Sunday of July)

Continue the tradition of *The Black Church & HIV's* Day of Unity by committing to preach about HIV as a social justice issue.

August

National Faith & HIV Awareness Day (August 27)

- Engage your Men's Ministry by inviting someone living with HIV to speak to your Men's Group.
- Discuss issues associated with HIV and other health disparities, including prostate cancer.
- Participate locally in one of the many Interfaith activities throughout the country occurring for National Faith & HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (FaithAidsDay.org).

September

National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day (September 18)

- Engage your Seniors Ministry by inviting someone who is over 50 years old and living with HIV/AIDS to speak to your Seniors Group.
- Talk about issues associated with HIV.

October

- Engage your Singles Ministry around HIV by hosting an open dialogue and discussion on sex.
- Bring in professionals or expert who can interweave the facts around biblical principle.

December

World AIDS Day (December 1)

- Engage your Health and Wellness Ministry in a community wide testing event. (Check with your local board of health to determine if prior training and/or certification for your Ministry Members is required.)