

Dear colleagues,

We are excited to invite you to attend the nation's first public health summit focused on discussing and generating solutions for syndemic approaches to end the intertwined health conditions of 5 epidemics: HIV; STIs; Viral Hepatitis; Substance Use Disorders and Mental health; and Reproductive and Sexual Health, the [Syndemic Solutions Summit](#).

- **WHEN/WHERE IS THE 2023 SYNDEMIC SOLUTIONS SUMMIT:**

- **Dates:** Wednesday, July 26 - Thursday, July 27, 2023
- **Location:** The Kauffman Foundation Conference Center, 4801 Rockhill Rd, Kansas City, MO 64110
- **Cost:** There is a nominal \$100 fee registration. This fee will cover participants CEUs and continental breakfast and boxed lunch on 7/26/23. Any registrants attending on behalf of federal grants will deduct breakfast and lunch from the daily per diem as required by federal grants.

**What is the 2023 SYNDEMIC SOLUTIONS SUMMIT:**

- It is the nation's first known public health summit focused on discussing and generating solutions for syndemic approaches to end the intertwined health conditions of 5 epidemics: HIV; STIs; Viral Hepatitis; Substance Use Disorders and Mental health; and Reproductive and Sexual Health.
- The Summit has been developed based on presentations by U.S. government agency leadership and conversations in the public health workforce about the need for a syndemic approach to strategically ending these 5 confounding epidemics.
- The inaugural Summit will be a neutral space for the public health workforce across the 5 confounding epidemics - federal and state government, health departments, researchers, community organizations, and people with lived experience - to gather for a collaborative approach to creating syndemic solutions.
- Using a syndemic lens and being mindful of the populations and communities these health conditions most impact, the Summit will be centered on health equity and trauma-informed approaches aligned with the social determinants of health.

- **WHY DO WE NEED THE 2023 SYNDEMIC SOLUTIONS SUMMIT:**

- To create a neutral space for government, the workforce, and people with lived experience to learn and listen, and collaboratively chart the path forward
- To step away from focusing on each of the health conditions as their own "vertical" and focus more broadly on solutions such as braided funding, standardized language, streamlined data gathering, and program best practices.

- **WHO IS HOSTING THE 2023 SYNDEMIC SOLUTIONS SUMMIT:**

- **Host:** The Syndemic Solutions Summit is being hosted by the Collaborative to Advance Health Services (CAHS) that is housed within the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) School of Nursing and Health Studies.
- **History and Growth:** The Collaborative was started in 2012 by three female public health implementation science researchers/principal investigators who believed their individual grants could be more impactful if they collaborated together. Today, the Collaborative has grown to a leadership team of 8 public health researchers and experts and is a fully grant-funded unit implementing a grant portfolio of approximately \$43 million.
  - **Our Mission:** To advance health and wellness by bringing research to practice, supporting organizations through change processes, and providing high-quality training and technical assistance to the health services workforce.

- **What We Do:** The Collaborative's subject matter expertise, combined with extensive experience in applied research and implementation science, allows us to translate, disseminate and promote the adoption and implementation of evidence-based practices in health services.
  - **Leadership:** Started by 3 female public health researchers (*Laurie Krom, MS, Education, Pat Stilen, MSW, Social Work, and Jackie Witt, JD, MSN, WHNP-BC, FAANP, Nurse Practitioner and Lawyer*) the Collaborative's Leadership Team has grown to 8 researchers/public health experts that lead federally-funded national grants to address public health issues that require a syndemic approach: HIV/STI/Viral Hepatitis/SUD/Reproductive and Sexual Health
  - **Summit Contributors:** As a commitment to creating solutions for a syndemic approach across the 5 health issues of HIV/Viral Hepatitis/STI/SUD/Reproductive Health, several of CAHS's key grants have work plan deliverables directly related to summit sessions and are contributing to hosting the event.
- **Advisory Council:** In addition to the Leadership Team, the Summit's agenda is guided by an external Advisory Council of 12 experts representing the health workforce across the 5 epidemics: HIV, STIs, Viral Hepatitis, Substance Use Disorders and Mental Health, and Reproductive and Sexual Health. (Names are listed alphabetically)
  - **Jamille Fields Allsbrook**, Sr. Policy Advisor, Office of Population Affairs, HHS OS/OASH
  - **Liz Burden**, National Council for Mental Wellbeing
  - **Pat Castillo**, Vice President, Training Operations/Director, National Coalition Institute; Community Anti-drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)
  - **Kathryn Cates-Wessel**, CEO/Executive Director, American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry
  - **Guillermo Chacon**, CEO Latino Commission on AIDS and member of PACHA
  - **Mimi Cove**, Urban Survivors Union
  - **Corinna Dan**, Vice President Public Health Maximus, Professional Services in Public Health
  - **Laura Guzman**, Action Executive Director, National Harm Reduction Coalition
  - **Angela E. Maxwell**, President NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals
  - **Jesse Milan**, President/CEO AIDS United
  - **Boatemaa Ntiri-Reid**, Sr. Director Syndemic Approaches, National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)
  - **Dawn Tyus**, Morehouse School of Medicine and African American Behavioral Health Center of Excellence

