



Toronto, Ontario | June 2 - 4, 2010
du 2 au 4 juin 2010

North American
Housing and HIV/AIDS Research Summit V

Ve Sommet nord-américain
de recherche sur le logement et le VIH/sida

North American Housing & HIV/AIDS Research Summit V Program

PROGRAM

Background

Launched by the US National AIDS Housing Coalition in 2005, the Housing and HIV/AIDS Research Summit Series is now established as the premiere venue for informing HIV/AIDS housing policy, and is acknowledged as an innovative and influential opportunity for the broader discussion of housing and health. The 2010 North American Housing and HIV/AIDS Research Summit will be the first Summit meeting held in Canada, and will continue the collaboration of the National AIDS Housing Coalition (NAHC), the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN), and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The Summit Series provides a unique forum for presentation and discussion of research findings on the role of housing in HIV prevention and care. Summit IV, held June 3 – 5, 2009, in Washington DC, was the first North American Summit convened jointly by the National AIDS Housing Coalition (NAHC) and the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN), in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Summit IV brought together 200 researchers, policy makers, service providers and people living with HIV/AIDS, representing 24 U.S. states, six Canadian provinces, West Africa and Haiti.

Summit V Theme

A strong and consistent evidence base identifies housing status as a key structural factor influencing HIV vulnerability, risk and health outcomes, and shows that receipt of housing assistance has an independent, direct impact on receipt of HIV care, health status and mortality among homeless/unstably-housed people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). The theme of Summit V is **Evidence into Action**, with a focus on evidence-based policy and practice that targets housing as a key social determinant of HIV risk and health outcomes. Summit V participants will review and consider evidence-based activism and practice strategies (data, tools and strategies to translate knowledge into action), for:

Bringing effective housing interventions to scale:

Now that we have solid evidence of the effectiveness and cost-utility of housing as an HIV prevention and care intervention, we are moving on to the question of how to go to scale with proven housing interventions. What are the costs/savings associated with unmet housing needs? “How much” and what types of housing do PLWHA require? How should evolving research on HIV prevention and treatment inform eligibility for targeted housing resources? What are the unique housing needs and barriers faced by special populations and in different parts of the world? How can we use existing research on the importance of housing to effective HIV prevention and intervention to elevate the issue on a global level?

Sustaining evidence-based practice and policy:

At the practice level, the Summit series provides an opportunity to transfer and exchange knowledge from successful interventions, to promote evidence-based practice and to address practice challenges. At the policy level, we need to continue to share and synthesize evidence to support and expand public investment in housing as HIV prevention and care. Summit V presentations will include: final cost effectiveness and cost-utility findings from CHHP and H&H; a cost analysis of the San Francisco findings on housing and HIV mortality; a process evaluation of H&H housing interventions; and a policy toolkit for disseminating results.

Holding providers, communities and governments accountable for outcomes:

Sustaining public investment and bringing it to scale will also require holding providers, communities and governments accountable for outcomes. Summit V would provide a forum for interdisciplinary discussion of and work on: benchmarks for monitoring housing need and interventions; report card metrics for use globally; and other advocacy strategies and tools to ensure accountability at the local and national level. Summit participants will work together to develop concrete messages to be delivered at the 2010 International AIDS Conference in Vienna.

Outcomes to date of the Summit Series

- Recognition of Summit materials as an authoritative and credible policy resource on housing, health, and HIV prevention
- Research Summit Policy Paper and CD Briefing Book Series
- Housing is HIV Prevention and Care Policy Tool-Kit
- November 2007 special "Housing and HIV" issue of AIDS & Behavior
- Launch of the International AIDS Housing Roundtable (IAHR)
- Ongoing collaboration between NAHC and the OHTN to support knowledge transfer and evidence-based skills building among PLWHA, advocates and policy makers at the global, national, regional and local levels
- First International Summit on Poverty, Homelessness and HIV/AIDS, held in Mexico City in 2008, in conjunction with the XVII International AIDS Conference (IAC)
- International Declaration on Poverty, Housing Instability & HIV/AIDS – with over 800 endorsers to date
- December 2009 White House Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP) convening on Housing and HIV/AIDS
- Ford Foundation funding to support a housing plenary/satellite meeting at the XVIII IAC in 2010 in Vienna