Welcome!

“Will I ever date again?”
“How can I tell?”
“What can I do if I don’t feel respected by my doctor?”
“How do I tell my kids?”

An HIV diagnosis comes with a lot of questions that doctors can’t answer. We are cis and trans women living with HIV who have grappled with these questions and many more.

Join the #PWN_Cares Sister Circle and bring our voices into your support group, meeting, clinic, or event through an innovative multimedia series and connect women living with HIV to a vibrant, supportive sisterhood through a program designed to build community and reduce isolation.

Learn more and register for the orientation at pwn-usa.org/pwncares
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In 2008, 28 women living with HIV possessing a deep desire to create a unified voice and build collective power for women living with HIV across the United States founded Positive Women’s Network – USA, better known as PWN.
Who We Are and What We Do

SISTERHOOD
• We are a nationwide community of women living with HIV. Our mission is to prepare and involve all women living with HIV, in all our diversity, including gender identity and sexual expression, in all levels of policy and decision-making.

SOLIDARITY
• Every day, PWN-USA inspires, informs and mobilizes women living with HIV to advocate for changes that improve our lives and uphold our rights.

ACTION
• Whether it’s picking up the phone, sending an email, meeting with your legislators or hitting the streets, there is a place for you in advocacy. We bring you the information and tools you need to make a difference.
Sisterhood + Solidarity

- What brings us together is what we all have in common
- Sister support is essential to overcoming life after diagnosis
- Sisterhood that’s supportive, inspiring and full of information
- Social connection has proven essential to retention in care and improved health outcomes.
Sisterhood Connections

Chapters in 6 states

1. New York
2. Pennsylvania
3. Colorado
4. South Carolina
5. Louisiana
6. Texas

State Leads in 13 States

1. Alabama
2. Arizona
3. Florida
4. Georgia
5. Illinois
6. Mississippi
7. Missouri
8. Michigan
9. Nevada
10. North Carolina
11. Oregon
12. Tennessee
13. Virginia

Key:
- Current PWN chapter
- Current PWN State Lead
- Strong PWN membership base

pwn-usa.org/regional-chapters/
pwn-usa.org/state-leads/
About PWN Cares

- Funded through ViiV Positive Action for Women Grant
- Premiered in 2017
- Interactive video series consisting of 8 videos and accompanying resources
- Videos were released as virtual coffee-table discussions

But Why Did We Do This?
Concept of PUNCares

- Reduce isolation in women living with HIV.
  - Newly diagnosed
  - Living in rural areas with limited contact with other women living with HIV

- Before policy and advocacy--community.
  - Real-life stories from women living with HIV.
  - Promote sisterhood & togetherness
Process

- Communications Department → Communications Actions Team → Members with relevant experience
  - Healthy Relationships; Disclosure; U=U; Being Trans w/HIV; Mental Health & Wellness; Dating; Advocating for Self; and Motherhood
- Hired a videographer and editor for interviews.
- Released the videos with tie-in days
  - Virtual coffee-table discussions in 90 minute sessions.
  - Q&A and open discussion with stars from videos.
Tying the series into awareness days

PWN Cares

Join Tiommi Luckett, Venita Ray & Teresa Sullivan online in open conversation as they share their personal experiences with intimate partner violence, HIV and healthy relationships and answer your confidential questions.

An interactive multimedia series by and for women living with HIV
pwn-usa.org/pwncares

lively & living well with HIV

Monday, October 26, 1 PM EDT/10 AM PDT
Register at bit.ly/pwn2019

Disclosures: It’s Complicated

Thursday, March 8, 3 PM EST/12 PM PST
Register at bit.ly/pwncares

Undetectable equals Untransmittable

Tuesday, November 20, 1 PM EST/10 AM PST
Register at bit.ly/pwncares

Keeping It Real: Being True & Living with HIV

Wednesday, July 11, at 1 PM EDT/10 AM PDT
Register at bit.ly/pwncares

PWN Cares 2017 & Beyond

How do we maintain our health and wellness beyond just being undetectable?

An interactive multimedia series by and for women living with HIV
pwn-usa.org/pwncares

Healthy Beyond AIDS: Taking Care of Mind & Spirit

Monday, March 6, 4:30 PM EDT/1 PM PST
Register at bit.ly/pwncares

Dating with HIV

Thursday, June 28, 4PM EDT/1 PM PST
Register at bit.ly/pwncares

Motherhood with HIV

Monday, May 13, 4:30 PM EDT/1 PM PST
Register at bit.ly/pwncares

@uspwn
pwn-usa.org
PWNCares Sister Circle

- Expanding the reach of the PWNCares series
- Working more closely with providers and support group facilitators
- Offering guidance for using the resources effectively
- Offering real-life connections with women living and thriving with HIV in their areas
PWN Cares Sister Circle Outcomes

Short-term:
- Reduced isolation
- Increased social connection

Long-term:
- Increased self-confidence
- Reduced internalized stigma
- Increased comfort with disclosure and self-advocacy
- Some will even become advocates!
PWN Cares Sister Circle

- **Use the videos and resources** in support groups, meetings, events (e.g., for awareness days, testing days, etc.), or individual/group counseling
- **Collect feedback and contact info** (will be kept confidential) for women interested in meeting other women living with HIV in their area and/or getting involved with PWN
- PWN staff will **connect these women with others in their area, invite them to online and in-person activities to engage them in our community** and eventually take the first steps into advocacy when they are ready
- **Optional follow-up virtual discussion** with providers/facilitators to share feedback, lessons learned, best practices, etc.
PWN Cares Sister Circle

- Resource sharing
- Collaboration among providers and support group facilitators nationwide - chance to share lessons learned and best practices
- Opportunities for women living with HIV to engage in community-building and introductions to advocacy in person and online with no need for public disclosure
PWN Cares Sister Circle

3 National Online Events in 2020:

- **Fri., Feb. 14,** at 2pm EST/1pm CST/12pm MST/11am PST (Valentine’s Day): PWN Cares - **Love After Diagnosis**

- **Fri., June 26,** at 2pm EST/1pm CST/12pm MST/11am PST (National HIV Testing Day): PWN Cares - **What U=U Means to Us**

- **Fri., Oct. 23,** at 2pm EST/1pm CST/12pm MST/11am PST (Day of Action to End Violence Against Women Living with HIV): PWN Cares - **We Deserve Better**
PWNCares: Love After Diagnosis

Friday, Feb. 14
at 2pm EST/1pm CST/12pm MST/11am PST

- A screening of the 10-minute video, **PWNCares: Dating with HIV**
- **A lively, real-time conversation** with a dynamic group of cis and trans women living with HIV.
- **Women can share and ask questions anonymously** as participants in the videoconference (only panelists will be on video).
- Will also be **livestreamed through PWN’s Facebook page** (facebook.com/pwnusa) and will be available on our YouTube channel later.
Topics of discussion will include:

- Experiences with **dating and relationships** after diagnosis
- **Intimacy** after diagnosis
- **Disclosure** in romantic/intimate contexts
- Recognizing **red flags for intimate partner violence** (and how to stay safe)
- **Self-love** regardless of relationship status

Fri., Feb. 14, at 2pm EST
Next Steps

- **Complete a very brief questionnaire** coming to the email you registered for this webinar with to help us meet your needs.

- You will receive **updates, resources, ideas**, and will be asked to let us know about the group discussion(s) or event(s) you are planning and how we can support.

- Send us very brief feedback and contact info for interested women who attended group/event and **we will connect them** to other women in their area and/or invite them to virtual events tailored to women new to PWN.
Other Resources/Opportunities

- **Sister Circle Facebook group**: A secret group for women living with HIV to facilitate online conversations, share resources, and offer support without concern about public disclosure.

- Opportunities to **share your resources** with the Sister Circle network of providers and facilitators

- Opportunities to **share lessons learned, best practices**, etc., and otherwise **collaborate** with Sister Circle network of providers via email list and optional virtual meetings
Questions?

Ask now!

Or ask later…

jennie@pwn-usa.org (PWNCares and Sister Circle questions)
evany@pwn-usa.org (membership, chapter, state lead questions)