



PROGRAM SUMMARY

As part of our commitment to elevate racial justice in the HIV decriminalization movement, the Health Not Prisons Collective (HNP) is launching an initiative to support legislative advocacy and coalition involvement in HIV decriminalization efforts by Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color living with HIV. The yearlong HNP Advocates project will support three selected advocates from four prioritized states with HIV decriminalization coalitions working on legislative efforts in Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi or Tennessee with some financial resources, mentorship and coaching.

ABOUT THE HNP ADVOCATE PROJECT

The HNP Advocate Project aims to increase meaningful participation and leadership by BIPOC people living with HIV within HIV decriminalization coalitions by supporting, resourcing, and coaching advocates to engage fully with efforts to decriminalize or modernize HIV laws. HNP Advocates will work in state HIV coalitions to gain

knowledge and expertise about the state legislative process, how to engage legislators and other stakeholders to enact change at the state level, and community mobilization tactics.

Participants accepted to the HNP Advocates Project will receive a monthly stipend of \$500 to support their participation in state level HIV decriminalization efforts. They will also receive a skill development training stipend that will support their participation in professional development training and relevant HIV conferences, like HIV is Not a Crime. Monthly coaching and check-ins will be provided by seasoned HIV decriminalization advocates and HNP staff to address emergent needs.

Successful applicants for HNP Advocates Project will be able to commit to the full timeline and schedule of activities listed below.

TIMELINE AT A GLANCE

December 8, 2021 (3pm-4pm EST) - mandatory program orientation meeting #1
December 17, 2021 (3pm-4pm EST) - mandatory program orientation meeting #2
Jan - December 2022 - participation in state coalition meetings, state HIV decriminalization activities, and monthly HNP Advocate calls.
Late 2022: HNP Advocates present on learnings and next steps.

PROJECT STRUCTURE

HNP Advocates will support the work of an HIV decriminalization coalition for twelve months. They are also encouraged to take on leadership or other positions to further build the capacity of their coalition, such as organizing, communication, and/or policy. The training and coaching are offered as a supplement to the skills of the advocates and to address emergent needs that arise during the legislative session.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

(participation in ALL aspects of the program is required for successful completion)

- **December 2021**
 - Welcome Webinar – December 8th
 - Cohort Meeting – December 17th
- **January 2022**
 - Coaching Session 1
 - Program Check-In 1
- **February 2022**
 - Program Check-In 2
- **March 2022**
 - Coaching Session 2
 - Program Check-In 3
- **April 2022**
 - Program Check-In 3
- **May 2022**
 - Coaching Session 3
 - Program Check-In 4
- **June 2022**
 - Mid Year Celebration
- **July 2022**
 - Coaching Session 4
 - Program Check-In 5
- **August 2022**
 - Program Check-In 6
- **September 2022**
 - Coaching Session 5
 - Program Check-In 7
- **October 2022**
 - Program Check-In 8
- **November 2022**
 - Coaching Session 6
 - Program Check-In 9
- **December 2022**
 - End-of-Year Presentation

WHAT DO PARTICIPANTS GET FOR PARTICIPATING?

Advocates in HNP Advocates Project will receive a monthly stipend of \$500/month for twelve months to support their participation in activities in their state HIV decriminalization coalitions. Advocates will be connected with coaching from a seasoned legislative advocate and receive a stipend to participate in advocacy training to fine tune and expand their skills.

ELIGIBILITY

We welcome the participation of seasoned Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) living with HIV who are committed to HIV decriminalization and who reside in IN, LA, MS, or TN. We also encourage newer BIPOC advocates living with HIV in the listed states interested in learning more about the legislative process and participating in HIV decriminalization coalitions to apply. Application materials are [here](#).