

# Project Take Charge: HIV and Substance Use Prevention on College Campuses

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# Project Take Charge

- **Purpose:**

- Implement HIV prevention strategies for 18-24 on the campuses of HBCUs and in the community
- Develop and/or strengthen community partnerships
  - HIV testing
  - Condom distribution
  - HIV and substance use prevention education.
- Funded by SAMHSA from 2015 – 2018 (Grant #5H79SP021382-03)



# Partners

- HBCU
  - Clark Atlanta University
  - Morehouse College
  - Morehouse School of Medicine
- Community Based Organizations
  - ANIZ, Inc
  - National AIDS Education & Services for Minorities, Incorporated (NAESM, Inc.)
  - Sister Love, Inc.



# Methods

- HIV testing
  - Testing events on campus
  - Student Health Services (routine HIV testing)
  - Self-reported questionnaire
    - Demographic Data
    - Substance use risk behaviors
    - Sexual risks behaviors
    - HIV testing results
- Condom distribution
  - Condom dispensers
  - Testing events
- Educational activities
  - Peer educators
  - CBO presentations
- **2,231 participants were tested over a three-year period**
  - **43.9% campus (n = 979)**
  - 56.1% community (n = 1252)



# Results

Characteristic	No N(%)	Yes N (%)
Previously Tested for HIV	297 (30.6)	<b>675 (69.4)</b>
HIV Result	- 921 (99.6)	<b>+ 4 (0.4%)</b>
Diagnosed with an STI in the past 12 months (start here)	763 (86.4)	120 (13.6)
Sex while high on drugs/alcohol in past 12 months	579 (62.7)	<b>344 (37.3)</b>
Sex with multiple partners in past 12 months	356 (36.7)	<b>613 (63.3)</b>
Sex with MSM	859 (89.0)	106 (11.0)
Sex with person of unknown HIV status	377 (38.9)	<b>591 (61.1)</b>
Unprotected Sex in past 12 months	270 (25.8)	<b>720 (74.2)</b>
Sex with Anonymous Person	859 (89.1)	105 (10.9)
Sex with Someone from the Internet/App	851 (88.0)	116 (12.0)



# Results

- **Condom Dispenser Tracking**
  - 4,390 condoms were restocked
  - 97.8% of the dispensers were checked weekly and restocked as needed
- **HIV & Substance Abuse Workshops**
  - Seven conducted
  - 175 participants
  - 90% reported increased awareness of their risk of HIV and substance abuse



# Considerations

- Testing during high traffic school times
- Adding more campus testing sites
- Increase number of workshops offered
- Have regular, recurring schedule of workshops
- More oversight completing condom tracker form



# Project Take Charge – Implementation Research

- Expansion of original Project Take Charge
  - Albany State University
  - Atlanta Metropolitan College
- HIV Testing
  - Student Health Clinics
  - Testing events (partnering with CBOs)
- Condom Distribution
  - Condom dispensers on campus
  - **Online condom ordering:** <https://www.projecttakecharge.org>
- Education
  - Peer Educators
  - Workshops
  - Social Media





# Project Take Charge – Implementation Research

- Better understand implementation at each site
- Assessment to better understand implementation barriers and facilitators
  - Key Informant Interviews (Administrators, faculty and staff)
  - Focus groups (students)
- Implementation
- Evaluation
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Grant# 5 U48DP006411-01



# Assessment: Current Policies and Practices

- **HIV Testing and Treatment**

- Inconsistent HIV testing
- Student health services
- HIV positive students referred out to community partners for treatment and counseling
- Community partners have provided HIV testing kits, HIV testing and educational events at all institutions

- **Substance Use**

- Dry Campuses
- No current partnership for substance use prevention and/or education
- Substance use policies are limited to enforcement of "dry-campus" policies.

- **Condom Distribution**

- All schools have provided condoms to students
- Relied in part on condom donations from community partners for condom distribution



# Assessment: Community Partnership Capacity Building

- Desire for strengthened community partnerships
  - Increase sustainability
    - Prior attempts at HIV testing, treatment, and education were successful in the short term
  - Increase consistency
    - Prevention activities were often isolated events and were not part of established or consistent community partnerships.
  - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)s established but not enforced
- Student support for community-based partnerships
  - HIV testing
  - Substance use prevention activities

# Discussion

- HIV prevention strategies at HBCUs and MSIs must address implementation capacity.
- Community partnerships have been successful in the short term
  - Strengthen relationships for sustainability
- Students desire more information and access to HIV testing, condoms, and substance use education
- Inform future implementation of other prevention and education efforts among HBCU's and MSI's.
  - Toolkit
  - Training other institutions