



**AIDS  
FOUNDATION  
CHICAGO**

# **2023 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

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# POLICY PRIORITIES DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- Each year, AFC's Policy and Advocacy (P&A) team initiates its [policy priorities development process](#) to determine its policy agenda for the state legislative session.
- During the summer and fall of 2022, AFC staff conducted **thirteen (13) listening sessions** designed to engage community stakeholders in conversations about policies impacting people living with or vulnerable to HIV as well as people experiencing homelessness or housing instability. **These listening sessions—attended by 195 people—included people living with HIV, health care and social service providers, advocates, case managers and others.**
- AFC staff conducted a survey to elicit feedback from our priority populations about the pressing issues facing our communities; **130 people from across the state, the majority of who were Black, Latinx or other people of color, completed the survey.**

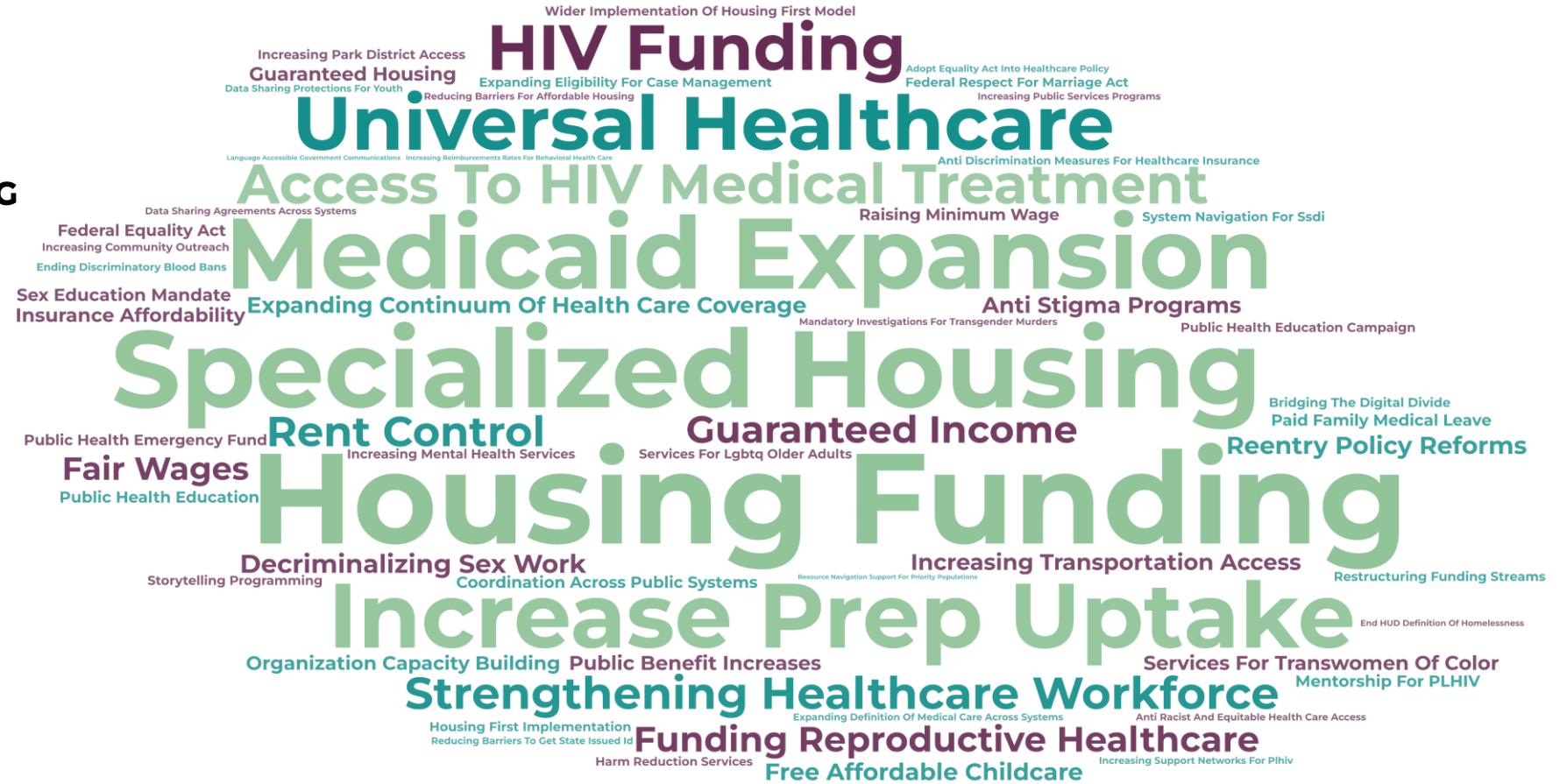
# FEEDBACK FROM LISTENING SESSIONS

**WHAT ARE THE TOP 3 CHALLENGES PEOPLE LIVING WITH OR VULNERABLE TO HIV FACE IN ACHIEVING THEIR BEST HEALTH?**



# FEEDBACK FROM LISTENING SESSIONS (CONTINUED)

WHAT POLICY WOULD YOU WANT TO ENACT TO HELP PEOPLE LIVING WITH OR VULNERABLE TO HIV OR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS OR HOUSING INSTABILITY?



# FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY SURVEY

- **Survey Methods:**

- Survey was fielded in Summer and Fall of 2022
- 130 people across the state of Illinois responded to the survey

- **Demographics:**

- 61% of respondents identified as Black, Latinx or other persons of color
- 53% of respondents identified as women, 36% as men, 4% as transgender and 6% non-binary, nonconforming

- **Survey Results:**

- Across all respondents, **housing, health care and economic stability** were ranked most frequently as top 3 challenges to ending the HIV epidemic and homelessness.
- Across all respondents, **housing, mental health services and availability of medications for prevention and treatment** were ranked most frequently as 3 most important policy issue areas AFC's Policy & Advocacy work should focus on in the coming year

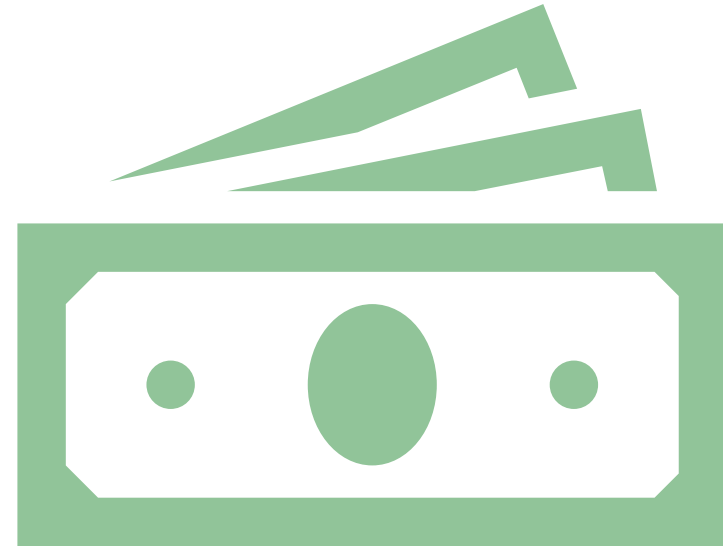
# 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION OVERVIEW

- The 2023 Spring session of the 103rd General Assembly gavelled in on January 11, 2023.
- This year's session will be about 2 weeks shorter than previous years--currently scheduled to end on May 19, 2023.
- **Times are A-changing:**
  - New leadership in both houses, parties
  - Record number of Democratic House members
- **Some of the pressing issues during this year's session:**
  - Fiscal Year 2024 State Budget
  - The Unwinding of the COVID-19 PHE
  - Graduated Tax Proposal (Fair Tax 2.0?)



# **HB1349/SB209: STRENGTHENING AND PROTECTING ILLINOIS' HIV FUNDING INFRASTRUCTURE (SPIHFI)**

- **This legislation includes \$8 million in investments to the state's HIV funding infrastructure in the state's FY2024 budget:**
  - HIV Lump Sum: \$2M (currently funded at \$25.56M)
  - PrEP4Illinois Program: \$5M (New Line Item)
  - STIs: \$1M (New Line Item)
- **This legislation also protects funding for the following:**
  - GTZ-IL: Currently funded at \$10M
  - AAHARF: Currently funded at \$15M\*



# HBXXX/SBXXX: HOUSING FUNDING OMNIBUS



- **Housing is healthcare, especially to people living with or vulnerable to HIV.**
- **This legislation includes \$78.9 million in investments to the housing funding infrastructure in the state's FY2024 budget:**
  - Supportive Housing Services: \$17.9M (currently funded at \$42.59M)
  - Homeless Youth Program: \$5 M (currently funded at \$7.28M)
  - Homelessness Prevention: \$5M (currently funded at \$10M)
  - Emergency & Transitional Housing: \$51M (currently funded at \$10.38M)



# **HB1570/SB122: HEALTHY ILLINOIS FOR ALL**

- **This legislation extends Medicaid eligibility to all low-income Illinois residents between the ages of 19 through 41, with household incomes of up to 138% FPL (\$17,236/year single person) regardless of their immigration status.**
- **This legislation includes additional funding to cover Long Term Services and Supports (both facility-based care and Home and Community-Based Services) in the Health Benefits for Immigrant Adults (HBIA) and Health Benefits for Immigrant Seniors (HBIS) programs.**



# HBXXX/SBXXX: HEALTH INSURANCE RATE REVIEW & AFFORDABILITY



- **No one should have to worry that they can't afford the healthcare they need or have to choose between filling a prescription and paying rent.**
- **Specifically, this legislation seeks to:**
  - Allows the State Department of Insurance to **disqualify health insurance rates that are excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory.**
  - Mandates that the State Department of Insurance **posts proposed health insurance rates on its website** and **provides a 30-day comment period** and a **public hearing** on the proposed rates.
  - Creates the Office of the Healthcare Advocate, an **independent advocate for consumer and small business interests** related to the affordability of individual and small group insurance and HMO plans.

# **HB2/SB78**: OVERDOSE PREVENTION SITES PILOT

- **OPS have been shown to save lives, reduce the spread of infectious diseases, such as HIV and Hepatitis C, and link those with substance use disorders to behavioral and physical health care.**
- **Specifically, HB2/SB78 would:**
  - Create a harm reduction services license for OPS pilot sites
  - Connect folks to community support or other existing medical care, treatment, recovery programs and harm reduction services
  - Establish minimum principles and features for OPS, informed by the harm reduction and medical communities
  - Require programs to hire peers/people with lived experience along with medical staff.



# HBXXX/SBXXX: HEALTHCARE PROVIDER CULTURAL COMPETENCY



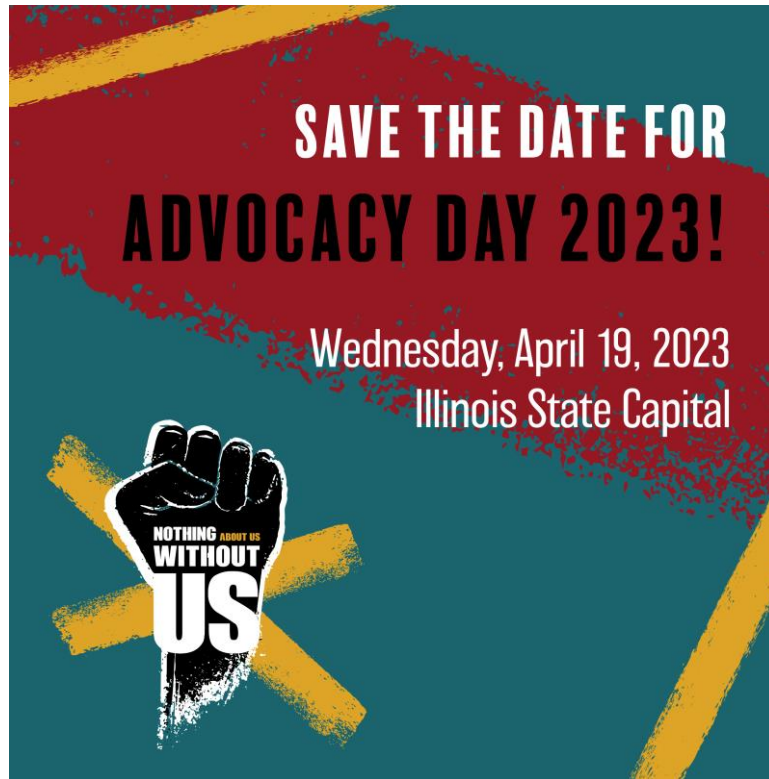
- **Cultural competency training among medical providers celebrates these cultural differences and includes information on sensitivity related to providing affirming care to:**
  - People in the person's preferred language,
  - People with disabilities,
  - People living with HIV, and
  - People of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.
- **This legislation would require health care professionals with continuing education requirements to undergo cultural competency training.**

# **HB1286/SB126: GENDER-INCLUSIVE MULTIPLE-OCCUPANCY RESTROOMS**



- **Illinois law currently prohibits business owners and public entities from installing gender-inclusive multiple-occupancy restrooms, even if businesses want to do so to better support their customers.**
- **HB1286/SB126 seeks to allow but not require public and private entities to install gender-inclusive multiple-occupancy restrooms in their buildings if they want to do so.**

# WHAT'S NEXT?



## **ILLINOIS' HIV ADVOCACY DAY 2023**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023**

**PLACE: ILLINOIS STATE CAPITOL**

**THEME: "NOTHING ABOUT US,  
WITHOUT US!"**

**This will be the first in-person Advocacy Day in Springfield in FOUR YEARS!**

**#AD23 Registration goes live on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 @ NOON!**

**Sign-up for AFC's Mobile Action Network by texting AFC to 40649!**

# REMEMBER THESE 3 THINGS:

- **INCREASED FUNDING TO END THE HIV EPIDEMIC:** AFC is advocating for \$8M in increased funding to the state's HIV prevention and treatment fund (\$2M), PrEP4Illinois (\$5M) and STI testing and treatment (\$1M).
- **INCREASED FUNDING TO END HOMELESSNESS:** AFC and CHH are advocating for \$78.9M in increased funding for Supportive Housing Services (\$17.9M), Homeless Youth Program (\$5M), Homelessness Prevention (\$5M) and Emergency & Transitional Housing (\$51M).
- **ILLINOIS' HIV ADVOCACY DAY IS BACK!:** Advocacy Day 2023 returns to Springfield in-person on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. #AD23 Registration goes live on Tuesday, February 7, 2023! Remember, "Nothing About Us, Without Us!"

# ANY QUESTIONS?





# FOR MORE INFORMATION



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