

SUSTAINing Together Training Scholarship Opportunity

Healing-Centered and Anti-Oppressive Leadership: Cultivating the Next Generation of Emerging HIV Leaders

Scholarship Details:

The SUSTAIN Wellbeing COMPASS Coordinating Center is excited to announce an intensive training opportunity for emerging leaders in the HIV field within the US South. The 2-day in-person training will be held in Houston, Texas, from Wednesday, March 26, and Thursday, March 27, 2025. We will select 15 recipients. They will receive a \$1,650 scholarship stipend to offset the travel costs to and from the training (including flight, hotel, food, rideshare, and any other costs associated with the travel) and compensation for their time. SUSTAIN will provide breakfast, lunch, and snacks during the full days of training.

About the Training:

As seasoned HIV leaders transition out, a new generation of passionate advocates is poised to step in, bringing fresh perspectives to drive progress in the fight against HIV. In the US South, where organizational capacity and infrastructure are scarce, this shift in leadership highlights a unique opportunity to build structures and enhance leadership styles that address unique healthcare needs and evolving structural challenges. This also underscores the need for mobilizing and planning to address the current HIV landscape and the intersectional structural issues contributing to the HIV epidemic, specifically in the Southern US.

There is a need for a new generation of HIV leaders to actively work against systemic oppression, advocate for racial and social justice, and create inclusive environments that are trauma-informed and healing-centered. Furthermore, it is critical for emerging leaders to unlearn practices rooted in white supremacy work culture, patriarchy, and other oppressive approaches that continue to perpetuate inequality, discrimination, injustice, marginalization, and power imbalances. This 2-day workshop will delve into strategies that resist oppression as a leader and skills that foster healing-centered environments for everyone.

This training will:

- Discuss the historical and current landscape of HIV, intersectionality, and systemic oppression
- Discuss historical HIV leadership and their responses to the HIV epidemic
- Identify ways in which healing-centered and anti-oppressive leadership styles can combat current structural issues that contribute to the HIV epidemic
- Identify and practice leadership strategies and skills that resist oppression and foster healing-centered environments for everyone

Participants will engage in group discussions, role-playing, and other hands-on learning methods to learn how to utilize leadership approaches or practices rooted in anti-oppression, relationship-building, decision-making, and communication in their daily work.

Scholarship Eligibility:

- Scholarship applicants must live in the 12 US southern states supported by COMPASS (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, or Texas).
- Scholarship applicants must answer the question of what makes them an emerging leader. For this training opportunity, we are using a broad definition of "emerging leaders." For instance, an applicant could be an early or mid-career professional who has recently taken on a leadership position or has limited experience in that role. Applicants of any age who are new to leadership are welcome to apply. Applicants will be able to highlight what makes them an emerging leader in their responses.
- Scholarship applicants must demonstrate a commitment to serving people living with HIV and people with lived experiences who are most systematically impacted.

Please note:

- If selected, the scholar must actively participate in all aspects of the program through completion (i.e., attending and participating in the 2 day training, completing pre and post-surveys, etc.).
- If selected, the scholar **must** attend the entire training in person at the University of Houston in Houston, Texas.
- Please note that for this training opportunity, we will not offer translation or interpretation services, however, we are developing programming specific to Latinx communities. Be on the lookout for Spanish/multilingual training in the future.

The deadline to submit a scholarship application is Sunday, November 10, 2024, at 11:59 pm CST. For questions, assistance, and accommodations, contact Lladira Aguilar at laquila9@central.uh.edu and Alejandra Avilés (aaviles3@central.uh.edu).

Page: Scholarship Selection Criteria

We would like to know more about you. Please submit the following information to apply for the scholarship.

First Name

Last Name

Pronouns

Gender Identity

Sexual Orientation

Race/Ethnicity

Address:

Street: _____

Line 2: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip code: _____

Phone number:

If any safety or well-being emergencies should arise while you are attending the training, please list an emergency contact:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Do you require accommodations to participate in the training (audio/visual support, for on-site training: dietary, allergies, mobility, etc)? If so, please specify below.

Are you employed by/affiliated with an organization that serves People Living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA) and communities most impacted by the HIV epidemic?

Yes or No

Name of the organization where you provide services to PLWHA and communities most impacted by the HIV epidemic:

Your title at the organization or describe affiliation with the organization(s) (volunteer, etc.)

How many months or years of experience do you have in the field of HIV? Please type 'years' or ' months' after the number.

Please describe your experience working in the field of HIV.

Please describe your leadership experience and give examples of what makes you an emerging leader.

Tell us about your values in relation to your work and leadership within HIV.

How would you describe anti-oppressive and healing-centered leadership in your own words?

Please provide a brief summary of what you hope to learn in this training and how this would help enhance your leadership skills.

Is there anything we have not asked that you would like us to know about you?

Upload Resume (required)

If you are selected to receive this scholarship, please note the following:

- The scholarship will go directly to you and not the organization you are affiliated with.
- Once you accept the scholarship, you will begin the contract process with the University of Houston to receive the funds.
- You are responsible for completing the contract paperwork for the University of Houston **as soon as possible**. If you do not respond to contract requests in a timely manner, you may experience delays in receiving funds.
- Please note that you may **not** receive funds by the time of travel due to possible contract process delays in the business and legal departments at the University of

Houston. We promise to stay in constant communication and provide updates throughout this administrative process. SUSTAIN's goal is for you to receive the scholarship stipend prior to the training and give you sufficient time to book your travel.

- You will receive a 1099 form which is used to report non-employment income to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
- You are responsible for booking your travel arrangements (e.g. flight and hotel).
- If you receive the scholarship funds but are **not** able to attend, you are responsible for returning the funds to the University of Houston.