



INTERNATIONAL **AIDS HOUSING** ROUNDTABLE



07.18.10

Housing and HIV/AIDS: Bridging the Gap

An official satellite of XVIII International AIDS Conference in Vienna, Austria

Organized by the International AIDS Housing Roundtable, a project of the National AIDS Housing Coalition

Date: Sunday, July 18th

Time: 3:45 – 5:45 pm

Room: MR10

Who is affected by both housing instability and HIV/AIDS?

* Poor people * Slum dwellers * Women * LGBTQ communities * (Im)migrants * Mobile populations *

Fact: *One quarter of the world's population lives in slums, which are characterized by poor sanitation, unsafe water supply, malnutrition, insecure land tenure, and lack of access to basic health, transportation, and other public services. **Slum conditions increase the risk of HIV infection and poor health outcomes related to AIDS-related complications and mortality.***

Fact: *Regardless of socioeconomic status, HIV/AIDS is inextricably linked to stigma and discrimination, which can impact family and community support, income and employment, and housing security. Gender inequality and homophobia impact both housing security and HIV/AIDS risk, creating a double vulnerability for HIV-positive women and sexual minorities. **The realization of housing rights may mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS by combating stigma and discrimination, reducing dependency, and enhancing personal autonomy and economic security.***

Fact: *Adequate housing is a human right and a necessary foundation to fulfill other rights and to enjoy a decent quality of life. **Housing security eases the burden of care and support and optimizes health outcomes.***

Featured Speakers:

Dr. Toorjo Ghose, University of Pennsylvania (USA)
Eunice Kyomugisha, Shelter and Settlements Alternatives (Uganda)
Bernard Frederick, Caribbean Harm Reduction Coalition (Saint Lucia)
Tamar Ezer, Open Society Institute (USA)
Esther Mwaura, GROOTS (Kenya)
Nicasio de Rosas, Philippine Support Service Agency, Inc. (Philippines)
Peter Obi, Association of Positive Youth Living with HIV/AIDS (Nigeria)
Oswaldo Rada, RedLA+ (Colombia)
Joe Scarborough, Delaware HIV Consortium (USA)
Barry Freedman, People Living with HIV Project (Australia)

There is an urgent need for dialogue on poverty, housing instability, slums, gender-based property and inheritance rights, the economic impact of stigma and discrimination, and mobility and migration as critical issues in global policy and program responses to the continuing AIDS crisis. The purpose of this satellite is to examine the relationship between HIV/AIDS and housing instability across the globe from a human rights- and evidence-based perspective. International HIV/AIDS and housing activists urge our colleagues to unite to demand that adequate housing be an integral part of any HIV/AIDS public policy development and that housing be treated as an urgent matter.

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