

## The Transitions Project: Enhancing HIV Prevention in Transgender Communities

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**Project Description:** The Transitions Project provides capacity building assistance (CBA) and technical assistance to community based organizations (CBOs) and health departments throughout the US to promote knowledgeable, sensitive, and effective HIV/AIDS prevention for transgender communities of color and HIV+ transgender people. We conduct skills building workshops for the staff of CBOs and health departments at cities across the US. In the context of these workshops, key personnel of CBO staff have the opportunity to learn about the needs and priorities of delivering HIV prevention services to high-risk transgender people of color and are introduced to the core elements and components of three of the HIV prevention interventions that are part of CDC's Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions (DEBI) project: the Mpowerment Project, Sisters Informing Sisters About Topics on AIDS (SISTA), and Healthy Relationships, all three of which we are adapting for implementation with transgender populations. CBOs may request individualized CBA services through CDC to implement an adapted intervention at their agencies. Ongoing consultation is available to all agencies receiving CBA services.

**Significance:** This CDC-funded capacity building project is the first of its kind to address the HIV prevention needs of transgender communities. Estimates of HIV prevalence among transgender women, especially transgender women of color, have been the highest for any risk group in the US.

**Project Ending Date:** March 2009