

HIV Vaccine Awareness Day

Newsletter

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Research non-profit est. 1993 dedicated to HIV and other infectious disease prevention, treatment, and education

VACCINE-O-LICIOUS 18 TAKING OVER BROOKLYN

Our annual Vaccine-O-Licious event will take place Sunday, May 28th at 3 Dollar Bill, 260 Meserole Street, Brooklyn 11206 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm.

Drop-in to see 8 performers compete for the title of Mx. Vaccine-O-Licious 18 and unite in support of an HIV vaccine. Information on our studies will be shared and you can enjoy free food, enter TV raffles, and have a good time. All are welcome and entry is free!

Grab Your Free Tickets HERE



YOUR PARTICIPATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

ANOTHER HIV PREVENTION OPTION: INJECTABLE PREP

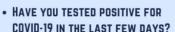
Project ACHIEVE study participants contributed to a large step forward in HIV prevention! Our research site was involved in HPTN 083, the first study to compare the efficacy of long-acting cabotegravir (CAB LA) to daily oral tenofovir disoproxil fumarate/emtricitabine (TDF/FTC) for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to prevent HIV infection. The development of safe and effective long acting alternative agents for HIV PrEP increases HIV prevention choices and helps those who find taking a daily pill challenging.

The study enrolled 4,570 cisgender men who have sex with men and transgender women who have sex with men at 43 sites in Argentina, Brazil, Peru, South Africa, Thailand, Vietnam, and the United States, including our Project ACHIEVE site in New York City. In May 2020 the study results showed that CAB LA, given intramuscularly every 8 weeks, provided high efficacy compared to TDF/FTC. Approximately 3 times the number of incident HIV infections were in the TDF/FTC arm than in the CAB LA arm. After more analysis of the interim study data, CAB LA was found to be statistically superior to (that is, better than) daily oral TDF/FTC for PrEP in HPTN 083. Results from this study and a sister study, HPTN 084 among cisgender women in sub-Saharan Africa, led to U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of CAB LA use as PrEP for eligible at-risk adults and adolescents to reduce the risk of sexually acquired HIV in December 2021.

This was a great achievement and was only made possible by participants like you who join our studies. Thank you!

CLICK ON A STUDY TO VISIT ELIGIBILITY SURVEY

COVID- 19 ORAL TREATMENT STUDY



- RECEIVE UP TO \$600 FOR COMPLETING ALL STUDY ACTIVITIES
- 7 VISITS TO OUR OFFICE OVER A 6-MONTH PERIOD
- FREE CAR TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED FOR SAFETY







CMV IS THE #1 VIRAL CAUSE OF BIRTH DEFECTS.

THERE IS NO VACCINE.

HELP CHANGE THAT.

JOIN A PAID VACCINE RESEARCH STUDY.

EARN UP TO \$3325.



TELL A FRIEND

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MEET DEVIN BARZALLO



Pronouns: He/Him **Hometown**: Colonia, New Jersey **Affiliations**: LGBT+, Ecuadorean Devin Barzallo is a third year medical student at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He is working at Project ACHIEVE as a Research and Mentorship Program (RAMP) scholar through the <u>HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN)</u> program.

What motivated you to join Project ACHIEVE?

As a student doctor, I am interested in research projects that can benefit my future patients, especially those that relate to the LGBT+ community. I applied for RAMP through HVTN and found the project titled 'Experiences of monkeypox virus infections and sequelae among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in NYC'. This opportunity was the perfect mesh of my professional and personal interests of community engagement, LGBT+ populations, underserved populations, and infectious disease.

What does your role entail?

As a RAMP Scholar, my primary focus at Project ACHIEVE is working with the upcoming study on the Mpox virus. I am involved with recruiting and interviewing participants, research logistics, and assisting with various tasks around the lab.

How has your experience been so far?

I have had a great experience in the lab so far – and I'm happy to be back in New York City. I love all the research happening in the laboratory, and I'm excited to see the results of the study I'm working on. I appreciate how inclusive Project ACHIEVE has been, and how integrated it is in the community.

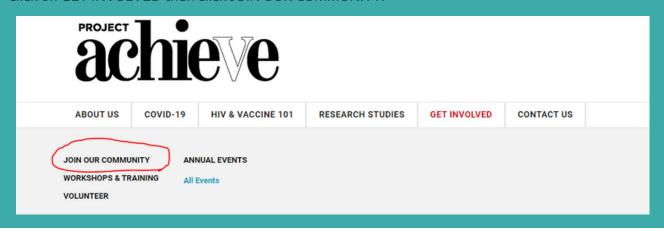
What do you like to do for fun outside of work?

Outside of work I enjoy being active and biking everyday. I love to go hiking and traveling to new cities. I enjoy how many things there are to do in the city, and some of my favorite places are the Noguchi Museum and Met Cloisters. Some of my favorite coffeeshops I enjoy working in are Remi 43 in Midtown East and Frame NYC in the Upper East Side.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS! JOIN OUR COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (CAB)

Consider joining <u>The HIV Prevention Research CAB</u> which is critical to keeping researchers informed of local issues and concerns that can influence the conduct and implementation of our studies. You can help give advice on scientific and ethical issues regarding study design, recruitment, and protection of study volunteers.

If you're interested in volunteering on the CAB, please visit our website, <u>projectachieve.org</u> and click on GET INVOLVED then click JOIN OUR COMMUNITY.





Founded in 1987, AHF is a Los Angeles-based global non-profit organization that provides cuttingedge medicine and advocacy regardless of ability to pay to over 1,700,000 people in 45 countries. The largest provider of HIV/AIDS medical care in the world, AHF hopes to rid the world of AIDS through its network of pharmacies, thrift stores, testing centers, healthcare contracts, and other strategic partnerships. AHF implements new programs in communities across the U.S. and abroad, expanding delivery of healthcare and influencing policy with the aim of saving more lives.

AHF is a co-sponsor of our upcoming Vaccine-O-Licious 18 community event on May 28th, where performers will unite in support for an HIV vaccine and compete to be crowned Mx. Vaccine-O-Licious 18. AHF has also co-sponsored other Project ACHIEVE community events in the past.

AHF Healthcare Centers offer a wide range of services. From HIV diagnostics to primary care, they've got you covered. Their locations provide various services, so make sure you call the AHF Healthcare Center nearest to you and ask what services they offer. AHF services are part of your complete HIV medical care. They provide clients with access to the additional specialists, medications, and services they need to be as healthy as possible. To learn more about AHF and their services, visit HIVcare.org.



