

## INTRODUCTION

MSMGF proudly looks back on 9 years of working at the intersection of policy, capacity building, and research in the global effort to create the conditions that reduce disparities faced by key populations in the prevention and treatment of HIV.

Until now, MSMGF has communicated its work to and solicited partnerships from a largely public health-focused audience. The sector, however, is changing. As the HIV response becomes more bio-medicalized, resources become scarcer, and the dynamics of global poverty shift, a broader and more diverse coalition is required.

Starting with this report, MSMGF is making a commitment to an inclusiveness that transcends disciplines and makes clear that HIV is much more than an issue for public health professionals. HIV among gay and bisexual men, men who have sex with men and transgender people reveals deeply embedded social inequity and injustice. Later in the year, MSMGF will embark on a strategic planning process

that will guide our efforts in extending this commitment to all aspects of our organization.

The work of MSMGF and its partners worldwide requires the perspectives and efforts of activists, community members, service providers, policymakers, medical professionals, philanthropists, educators, and all others who are active in one way or another in the global quest for human rights. This report offers an overview of the diversity of our activities and impact in 2014. Please take a look at the ways MSMGF has engaged a growing coalition in the work toward increasing access and ending disparities, and contact the organization if you see ways in which you might contribute to this collective effort.

## GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

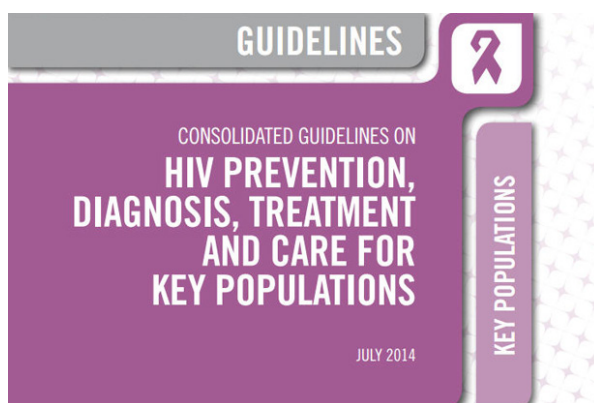
### 2014 MSMGF PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- + Ensuring Normative Guidance For HIV Programs Worldwide
- + Strengthening Our Governance
- + Building Strong Networks
- + Honoring Our Heroes
- + Sharing Best Practices
- + Bridging The Gaps (BTG)
- + Engaging The Global Fund
- + “Speaking Out” In More Places Around the World
- + Advancing Community Research
- + Promoting Access and Accountability
- + Supporting Our Allies
- + Putting Normative Guidance to Work
- + Working Globally; Acting Locally
- + Creating Knowledge
- + Lobbying at the Highest Level

## ENSURING NORMATIVE GUIDANCE FOR HIV PROGRAMS WORLDWIDE

### MSMGF RESEARCH INFORMS WHO CONSOLIDATED GUIDELINES

- The incidence of HIV among men who have sex with men (MSM), people who inject drugs, sex workers, and transgender people continues to increase even as the incidence stabilizes or declines in the general population.
- No prior World Health Organization (WHO) framework existed consolidating up-to-date research on the unique needs of and challenges faced by key populations and interventions and HIV-related services that address them.
- MSMGF conducted research to define the MSM-specific facilitators of and barriers to HIV prevention and care and presented the findings to the WHO.
- In July 2014, WHO released the 2014 Consolidated Guidelines on HIV Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment and Care for Key Populations, which, for the first time, specifically addresses the needs of transgender people. The guidelines include explicit language re: condom and lubricant usage and a recommendation on offering pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for MSM and transgender people. The guidelines also emphasize the important role human rights play in the HIV response. It recommends the review and revision of discriminatory laws that limit access to prevention and care services for key populations.



## STRENGTHENING OUR GOVERNANCE

### MSMGF APPOINTS FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FILES ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

- Since its founding in 2006, MSMGF has operated as a program of AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), an American AIDS service organization. As MSMGF gained international prominence and a reputation for effective work worldwide, the case was made for the importance of independence.
- Among the benefits of organizational independence will be greater freedom to take mission-aligned advocacy positions and cultivate deeper relationships with donors who have a specific interest in international health and human rights
- The decision was made to restructure MSMGF as an independent subsidiary corporation of APLA. In 2014, MSMGF appointed its first Board of Directors and filed articles of incorporation.

## BUILDING STRONG NETWORKS

### MSMGF, MARSA AND ARAB FOUNDATION LAUNCH MENA ADVOCACY GROUP

- With funding in 2014 from the Robert Carr Civil Society Networks' Fund (RCNF), MSMGF leads and supports the Consortium of MSM Networks, which include African Men for Sexual Health and Rights (AMSHer), the Asian Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM), the Association for Integral Health and Citizenship in Latin America and the Caribbean, (ASICAL), the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM) the Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC), The South Caucasus Network on HIV (SCN), the African Black Diaspora Global Network (ABDGN), and Middle East and North Africa-based (MENA) M-Coalition.
- In cooperation with MARSA and the Arab Foundation for Freedom and Equality (AFE), MSMGF supported the launch of the M-Coalition in July as a platform of well-trained advocates working in the MENA region. M-Coalition is the newest network to join the Consortium.



## HONORING OUR HEROES

### SOU SOTHEAVY RECEIVES DAVID KATO VISION & VOICE AWARD

- An important step along the journey toward justice is recognizing those who have made significant contributions to ensuring access to health education and treatment resources for the world's most vulnerable populations.
- For three years, the David Kato Vision & Voice Award (DKVVA) has recognized the leadership of individuals who strive to uphold the numerous dimensions of sexual rights for LGBTI people around the world, and in 2014, MSMGF assumed responsibility for the award's operations.
- In February of 2014, in a ceremony during the Teddy Awards in Berlin, the first award under MSMGF's leadership was presented to transgender activist Sout Sotheavy for over two decades of hard-fought advocacy in her home of Cambodia.



## SHARING BEST PRACTICES

### MSMGF ORGANIZES 6TH IAC PRE-CONFERENCE, HOSTS MSM NETWORKING ZONE

- MSMGF and its programs shared the global stage with 13,600 other researchers, advocates, policymakers, and activists from 200 countries at the 2014 International AIDS Conference (IAC) in Melbourne.
- MSMGF contributed to the international convening by successfully organizing its 6th Pre-Conference to the IAC. Titled, *Setting the Pace: Gay Men, MSM and Transgender People in the Global HIV Response*, the pre-conference is recognized by the IAC as an official affiliated event.
- The pre-conference was offered free of charge to 516 attendees, representing 268 organizations, from 59 countries, 32% of whom were from the global south. MSMGF offered scholarship support to 27 participants who would not have otherwise been able to attend AIDS 2014.
- MSMGF partnered with Victorian AIDS Council and several regional networks of MSM to organize the MSM Networking Zone at IAC – a safe space for gay and bisexual men/MSM to share information and explore cooperative opportunities through workshops and symposia attended by hundreds of people daily.
- MSMGF also presented a poster on the results of the external evaluation of the pilot phase of the Speaking Out initiative, including the key findings and recommendations as well as the ongoing work on developing and implementing an M&E framework for the MSMGF's advocacy work.



## BRIDGING THE GAPS (BTG)

### MSMGF AND JOHNS HOPKINS LAUNCH PROVIDER TRAINING CURRICULUM

- Ending disparities in access to health education and care can be a complicated and daunting bureaucratic web. MSMGF facilitates the advocacy work of its partner organizations by providing assistance in the areas of work planning, budget planning and development, grant reporting, information exchange and services, linkages and referrals, and organizational development more broadly.
- In 2014, MSMGF renewed its technical assistance partnerships with 7 counterparts in Africa and Latin America, including the establishment of funded sub-contracts and project work plans with 3 partner organizations in Kenya, 1 in Zimbabwe, 1 in Costa Rica, and 2 in Ecuador.
- Training in the area of MSM sexual health is also essential, and in 2014 MSMGF partnered with Johns Hopkins University to launch a 9-chapter curriculum for training healthcare providers that covers all aspects of MSM sexual health. The curriculum and a set of accompanying training and evaluation tools are available for download on a newly constructed microsite dedicated to provider engagement to be launched in 2015.



## ENGAGING THE GLOBAL FUND

### CLAC FACILITATES KEY AFFECTED POPULATIONS ENGAGEMENT WITH GLOBAL FUND

- With the support of the Global Fund, MSMGF established the Community Leadership and Action Collaborative (CLAC) alongside six global advocacy organizations to offer technical assistance in the areas of health education, rights, and access for MSM, drug users, sex workers, and transgender people. Our partners are: AIDS Rights Alliance of Southern Africa (ARASA); the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+); Global Action for Trans\* Equality (GATE); Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP); International Network of People Who Use Drugs (INPUD); and International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC).
- CLAC facilitated a training in Tunisia on the Global Fund's New Funding Model and held consultations in Cameroon with civil society advocates, effectively engaging a coalition of key affected populations (KAP).
- In June, CLAC was invited by the Global Fund to facilitate improved KAP engagement in Uganda, Kenya, and Nigeria, in partnership with local community-based groups.

**“...[I]t is the first time all key populations are at the same table [here]. The taskforce is like a dream come true.” -Michael Irigo Oliver on CLAC's 7/15 meetings in Cameroon**

## “SPEAKING OUT” IN MORE PLACES AROUND THE WORLD

### MSMGF ADVOCACY INITIATIVE EXPANDS TO KENYA

- Through its Speaking Out Initiative, the MSMGF works to ensure that local MSM activists and organizations are prepared to advocate on their own behalf with their respective governments.
- The initiative has already been implemented in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Central America, and Asia.
- 2014 saw the expansion of Speaking Out to East Africa when MSMGF supported the convening of an MSM Technical Working Group in Kenya and offered Speaking Out as a way to help group members engage in national HIV planning processes.



## ADVANCING COMMUNITY RESEARCH

### 5000 RESPONDENTS FOR 3RD GMHR SURVEY

- The circumstances of access to HIV information and care are ever changing. MSMGF took a community-based participatory approach in its efforts to design and conduct research and keep stakeholders current when it implemented the Global Men's Health and Rights Survey (GMHR) in 2010 and 2012. GMHR is a multi-lingual, international online survey for gay and bisexual men and MSM.
- The GMHR's data on the unique experiences of gay men, bisexual men, and MSM help advocates build powerful cases for improving access to prevention and treatment services.
- In 2014, MSMGF conducted the survey for a third time. The 2014 edition includes a battery of questions focused on the experiences of transgender men who have sex with men. It also adds Arabic, Chinese and Portuguese to the set of language options, which already included Chinese, English, French, Spanish, and Russian. Over 5000 respondents participated in the 2014 baseline survey.

## PROMOTING ACCESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

### WORLD CAB CALLS ON PHARMA COMPANIES TO INCREASE ACCESS TO HEP C DRUGS

- On the road to ensuring that life-saving resources go to those who need it, the challenge is often less about the sufficiency of resources and more about equitable access to them.
- In February, MSMGF took a seat at the table at the very first World Consumer Advisory Board Meeting on hepatitis C in Bangkok alongside 38 international activists from 22 countries to engage pharmaceuticals companies on the issues of patent updates, access plans, and other matters that facilitate or restrict patients' access to care.
- The meeting concluded with the issuing of a press release calling on pharmaceuticals companies to provide greater access to hepatitis C treatment.

## SUPPORTING OUR ALLIES

### INTERNATIONAL REFERENCE GROUP ON TRANS\* ISSUES MEETS WITH UNAIDS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Transgender people are among those facing the most significant disparities in access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services. The International Reference Group on Transgender and HIV Issues (IRGT) was formed to bring the experiences of this key population to the international space. MSMGF hosts IRGT, which in turn advises the MSMGF on transgender issues.
- MSMGF supported a meeting of the IRGT in 2014 in Melbourne, Australia at the International AIDS Conference, where the group discussed its strategic objectives and defined its policy and advocacy agenda.
- UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibé met with the IRTG during its convening to discuss the involvement of trans advocates in the agency's decision making processes, policy and programmatic agendas.

## PUTTING NORMATIVE GUIDANCE TO WORK

### MSM IMPLEMENTATION TOOL REVISED IN BANGKOK

- The WHO's Consolidated Guidelines describes the evidence-based interventions most effective at addressing the HIV service needs of key populations. For MSM, however, challenges in accessing basic services mean that members of this population do not receive the health and prevention benefits of interventions promoted by the WHO to the degree that they could.
- To support the implementation of interventions that better serve MSM, a global collaboration of MSM advocates, service providers, and researchers led by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and MSMGF, began creating the MSM Implementation Tool (MSMIT). As a resource for public health workers, HIV program managers, and community and civil society organizations, MSMIT presents examples of good planning and implementation practice, highlights issues of concern to MSM for consideration, and offers guidance on how to overcome challenges.
- In 2014, MSMGF organized a consultation in Bangkok in which several of the MSMIT's creators met with experts and community stakeholders to review and revise the first draft of MSMIT. The discussion resulted in improvements to the guidance and validation of best practices covered. The final version of MSMIT is expected to be released in early 2015.



## WORKING GLOBALLY, ACTING LOCALLY

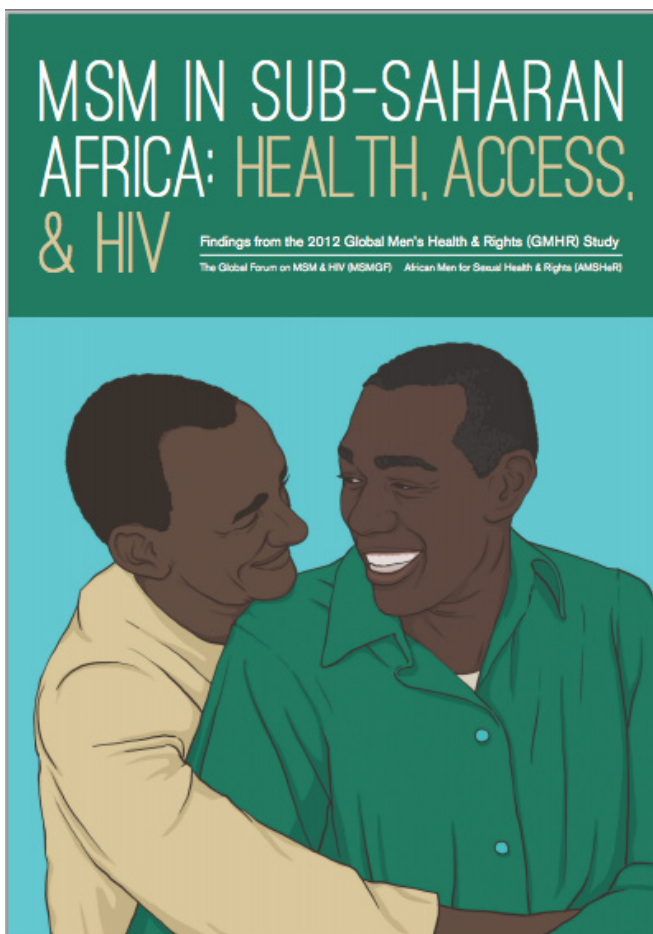
### MSMGF PROVIDES 100+ TA HOURS TO SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA ORGANIZATIONS

- Leveraging the power of global networks has proven an effective strategy in making change at all levels from on-the-ground services to national legislation to the policies of international agencies. At the same time, MSMGF recognizes that a global focus shouldn't come at the expense of the needs in one's back yard.
- Since its creation, MSMGF has offered the same technical assistance services it provides to partners around the world to Bay Area nonprofit organizations, research institutions, and public agencies working to ensure access to HIV care and education for MSM.
- In 2014 alone, MSMGF provided over 100 hours of technical assistance and capacity building services in the areas of funding, monitoring and evaluation, program management, and research review to Bay Area organizations, including the San Francisco and Alameda County Departments of Public Health, San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Black Brothers Esteem Program, and UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention Studies.

## CREATING KNOWLEDGE

### MSMGF PUBLISHES 11 PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Access to the most current research is a powerful and necessary tool in optimizing health services and challenging policy, and when critical questions go unaddressed, MSMGF seeks answers.
- MSMGF prioritizes original research – publishing and presenting with a frequency that belies its size as a small organization. Highly interdisciplinary in its approach, MSMGF's research is rooted in the psychology, economics, and political science of HIV and AIDS and access to education and care.
- In 2014, MSMGF presented its research 4 times and published 11 articles in internationally recognized, peer-reviewed journals on the intersections of labor, bias, criminalization, technology, stigma, and behavior in the disparities related to the epidemic.



## LOBBYING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

### MSMGF CONVENES MEETING OF GLOBAL PARTNERS AND PEPFAR DIRECTOR

- In the U.S., the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) represents the country's largest governmental commitment to HIV prevention and care worldwide. The Global Fund supports programs to combat HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria. Together, the U.S. government's commitments through PEPFAR and the Global Fund account for nearly half of all global funding for HIV and AIDS.


- Ambassador Deborah Birx is the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, and in this role she oversees the implementation of PEPFAR activities as well as the U.S. government's engagement with the Global Fund. Following Dr. Birx's appointment, MSMGF arranged for representatives from four of our partner organizations in Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, and Kenya to meet with her at our office in Oakland, California, during her visit to San Francisco in October.
- MSMGF partners shared their experiences of and concerns about funding patterns and the practices of larger international non-governmental organizations. Our partners then presented their recommendations to Dr. Birx, which included increased direct funding to community-based, MSM-led organizations, greater inclusion of MSM in planning processes, and a commitment from PEPFAR-funded organizations to the human rights of MSM and other key populations.

## YEAR IN NUMBERS

### 2014 MSMGF PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**5871** Research respondents reached

**8** Regional partnering MSM networks

African Men for Sexual Health and Rights (AMSHer), the Asian Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM), the Association for Integral Health and Citizenship in Latin America and the Caribbean, (ASICAL), the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM) the Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC), the South Caucasus Network on HIV (SCN), the African Black Diaspora Global Network (ABDGN), and MENA-based M-Coalition.

**21** Number of community-based organizations with which MSMGF has a sustained partnership

Cambodia: Rainbow Advocacy Team, ARV User Association, Paper Flower  
Cameroon: Affirmative Action  
Costa Rica: CIPAC  
Cote d'Ivoire: Alternative CI  
Ecuador: Kimirina, Equidad  
El Salvador: ASPIDH Arcolris Trans, Esmules  
Ghana: Center for Popular Education and Human Rights Ghana  
Honduras: Asociacion Kukulcan  
Kenya: Ishtar, PEMA, LVCT  
Lebanon: AFE/M-Coalition  
Morocco: ALCS  
Nigeria: Initiative for Advancement of Humanity  
Panama: AHMNP  
Tunisia: ATL  
Zimbabwe: Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe

**10,418** MSM & transgender people served by Partner Organizations

**9** Webinars

**105,577** Online Reach

**7** Direct advocacy actions

**33\*** Publications and presentations\* including 11 in scholarly peer-reviewed journals

**503** People trained, across 27 countries in which TA was provided

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. Algeria       | 16. Lebanon   |
| 2. Burkina Faso  | 17. Mali      |
| 3. Cambodia      | 18. Morocco   |
| 4. Cameroon      | 19. Nicaragua |
| 5. Costa Rica    | 20. Nigeria   |
| 6. Cote d'Ivoire | 21. Palestine |
| 7. Ecuador       | 22. Senegal   |
| 8. Egypt         | 23. Sudan     |
| 9. El Salvador   | 24. Togo      |
| 10. Ghana        | 25. Tunisia   |
| 11. Guatemala    | 26. Yemen     |
| 12. Honduras     | 27. Zimbabwe  |
| 13. Iraq         |               |
| 14. Jordan       |               |
| 15. Kenya        |               |

## FEATURED PARTNER

### MSMGF LOCAL PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: GAYS AND LESBIANS OF ZIMBABWE (GALZ)



Key to MSMGF's efforts to promote access to health education and care is our ability to work directly with on-the-ground service organizations and support their work in client services and advocacy. Our work with one of these partners in 2014 highlights MSMGF's approach to supporting local efforts to remove the barriers that stand between MSM and HIV prevention services and care.

Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ) is Zimbabwe's only association focused specifically on the needs and interests of the country's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) community. In the context of intermittent violence and surprise government raids that may shut down their office for days or weeks, the association delivers programs on a range of issues, including gender inclusion, psychosocial support, and skill development.

GALZ is also active in health and health care. Acutely aware of how anti-LGBTI sentiment limits access to HIV prevention efforts GALZ led an effort to deliver the MSMGF global training curriculum to local health care providers in June 2014. With support from the MSMGF and Johns Hopkins University, GALZ trained 30 staff members from Zimbabwean health institutions, international NGOs, human rights organizations, and government bodies on the unique sexual health needs of MSM. An evaluation of the two-day training showed that participants' overall knowledge of MSM and MSM-related health increased significantly and that their attitudes toward homosexuality improved dramatically

"The greatest thing I learned is acceptance, to know that people are different. Regardless of someone's sexual orientation, you are supposed to treat them according to the oath you take when you finish medical school. This was very empowering and I am thankful for that."—  
Physician and participant in GALZ 2-day training

## PROGRAM PROFILE

### SPEAKING OUT: MSMGF'S GLOBAL ADVOCACY AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

MSMGF launched Speaking Out in 2010 as a way to support the efforts of activists and grassroots organizations working to at once empower MSM individually and advocate for policies that promote access to HIV education, prevention, and care.

Speaking Out identifies and maps injustices against MSM, supports the development of locally generated initiatives to address the issues, and empowers MSM and transgender communities through organizing and leadership development activities.

The activities supported by MSMGF's Speaking Out Initiative are having measurable impact at the local and national levels:

- Less violence toward MSM and discrimination against transgender people,
- Improvements in the media representation of MSM and transgender people, and
- Increases in access to HIV-related services

Here's what some of Speaking Out's global participants are doing...

*There may be "good" services from the Ministry of Health and civil society groups, but we need more. Making all people aware of what the government is offering [is what is needed] to be most effective – Alfredo Ocampo Ortega, Activist, Nicaragua*

*Stigma and rejection from family and society limit options for MSM and transgender people. Many resort to crime and sex work. Our organization is doing advocacy with the government, AIDS Prevention Committee, and Ho Chi Minh Lawyers Group in support of a legal framework to support MSM called the Law of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention for MSM – Le Thanh, G-Link, Vietnam*



## SUPPORTERS

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### FUNDERS

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Victorian AIDS Council Gay Men's Health Center  
ViiV Healthcare's Positive Action Programme  
World Health Organization

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## FINANCIALS

2014 REVENUE – \$3,336,448

