



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Rudolph W. Giuliani  
Mayor

Neal L. Cohen, M.D.  
Commissioner

[nyc.gov/health](http://nyc.gov/health)

August 29, 2001

NYC Communities of Color HIV/AIDS Coalition  
c/o Hilda N. Melore

~~1075 W. 157th Street~~  
~~Brooklyn, New York 11234~~

Dear Sir/Madam:

Thank you for the letters to Deputy Mayor Lhota and to me regarding new HIV funding. As you are aware, the New York City Department of Health received \$5 million in new funding this city fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2001, for HIV/AIDS prevention and education. Funds were provided for this purpose by the City Council in Fiscal Year 2002, and because of the urgency of this public health issue, Mayor Giuliani has committed to continuation funding for Fiscal Years 2003 and 2004. Our Department is now in the process of developing a plan to ensure that these funds are used to support new HIV prevention services in the most heavily-affected communities, reach the populations most in need of these services, and maximize spending before the end of the current fiscal year, which is June 30, 2002.

The Department of Health, in addressing the prevention of HIV/AIDS in the City, is using a comprehensive plan developed in collaboration with the New York City HIV Prevention Planning Group (NYCPPG), and in consultation with the New York State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The NYCPPG's priorities reflect the populations most at risk for HIV infection, which include many individuals in communities of color. We will also support technical assistance to community based organizations and other providers of HIV prevention services in communities of color, which may or may not currently have contracts with federal, state and local health agencies. The programs that these funds will support will be conducted by providers in the community and community based organizations, and we will require these organizations to demonstrate that they have a history of serving their communities and are culturally and linguistically competent to do so. Preference will also be given to organizations proposing to serve communities of color, whose board and staff composition is reflective of the communities they propose to serve.

NYC Communities of Color  
HIV/AIDS Coalition

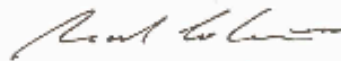
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The HIV Prevention Program will select the providers for these programs through a competitive bidding process, and expects to award new multi-year contracts to these providers. The anticipated accruals from this year's budget, as these new programs are put in place, will support enhanced HIV prevention activities currently being conducted by community based organizations and other providers in the community.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,



Neal L. Cohen, M.D.  
Commissioner

NLC/ds

cc: Honorable Joseph Lhota