



**SOUTHERN
AIDS
COALITION**

CDC Funding Gaps in the South **Advocacy Toolkit: Mississippi**

The Problem

The Deep South, including Mississippi, has the **highest death rates** from HIV of any US region.¹

The South, including Mississippi, has the **lowest survival rates** after a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS than any other US region.²

Mississippi ranked **8th in the country** in the rate of **new HIV diagnoses** in 2014.³

Mississippi ranked **9th in the country** in the rate of people living with HIV in 2013.³

CDC Funding Inequities

- Community-based organizations (CBOs) are especially qualified to provide HIV testing and other prevention services for hard-to-reach communities.
- Community-based organizations **outside** of the Jackson metropolitan area were **completely left out** in recent HIV prevention funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (Grant No. PS15-1502)
- **64% of all new HIV diagnoses** in MS in 2013 were in areas **left out** of funding.⁴
- **57% of people living with HIV** in MS in 2013 live in areas **ineligible** for funding.⁴
- Despite its high rates of new HIV diagnoses and of people living with diagnosed HIV throughout the state, only one Mississippi-based CBO (in Jackson) received funding pursuant to PS15-1502.⁴

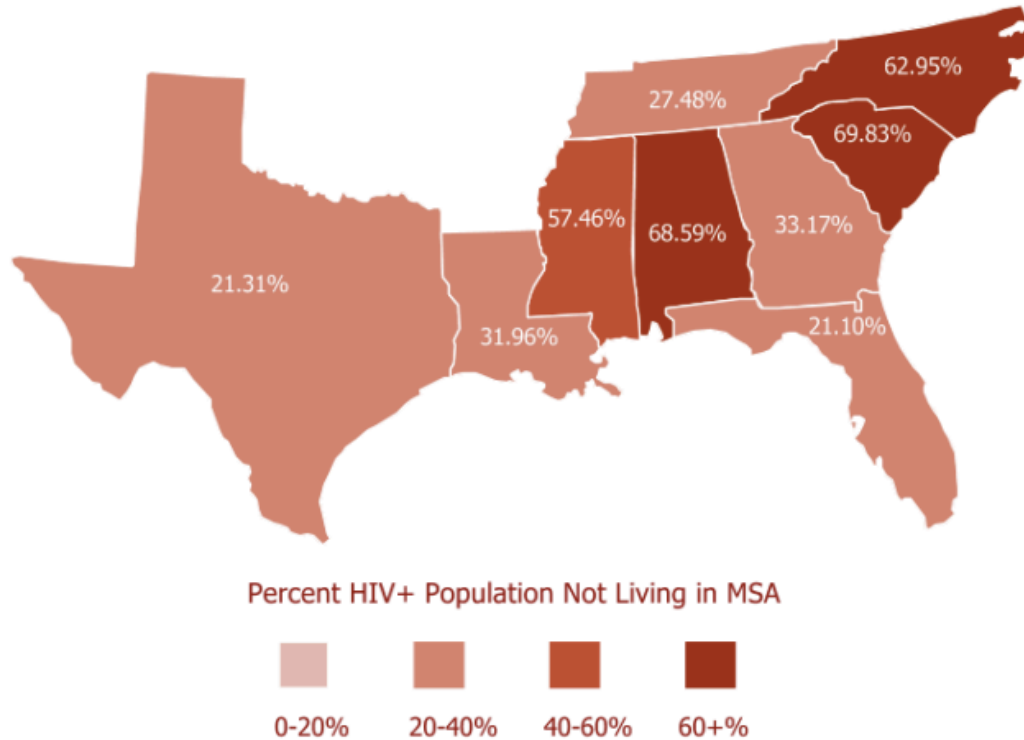
¹ REIF, SAFLEY & McALLASTER, A CLOSER LOOK: DEEP SOUTH HAS THE HIGHEST HIV-RELATED DEATH RATES IN THE UNITED STATES (2015), <https://southernaids.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/a-closer-look-deep-south-has-the-highest-hiv-related-death-rates-in-the-united-states-final.pdf>.

² Reif et al., *HIV Diagnoses, Prevalence and Outcomes in Nine Southern States*, 40 J. COMM. HEALTH 642 (2014), <https://southernaids.files.wordpress.com/2015/01/hiv-diagnoses-prevalence-and-outcomes-in-nine-southern-states-final.pdf>.

³ CDC Atlas Data, <http://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/nchhstpatlas/main.html?value=atlas>.

⁴ McALLASTER & FANG, SOUTHERN HIV/AIDS STRATEGY INITIATIVE, ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL: WHAT DOES HIGH IMPACT PREVENTION FUNDING MEAN FOR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS IN THE DEEP SOUTH? (2015), <https://southernaids.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/one-size-does-not-fit-all-updated-11-11-15.pdf>.

Percent of People Living With HIV Living in Areas Ineligible for CDC Funding⁴



What do we want from the CDC?

1. HIV prevention grants for community-based organizations located in smaller cities and rural areas in MS.
2. Community-based organization prevention dollars that are distributed consistent with the geographic distribution of the HIV epidemic.
3. Grants should include the opportunity to get technical assistance for smaller community-based organizations.

Make Your Voice Heard

We are collecting letters to send to Dr. Eugene McCray, Director of HIV/AIDS Prevention at the CDC, from concerned individuals, including people living with HIV, friends and family, and advocates.

Send us your letter by April 1, 2016!

Send to: Southern HIV/AIDS Strategy Initiative, Duke Law School, Box 90360
Durham, NC 27708