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## CHARM's Newsletter: June Issue

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From CHARM <charm@miami.edu>

Date Wed 6/3/2026 12:54 PM

To CHARM <charm@listserv.miami.edu>

## CHARM's Newsletter: June Issue



### Happy Pride Month!

June is [Pride Month](#) - a time to celebrate and honor LGBTQ+ identities and history. At CHARM, we proudly celebrate all identities and the diversity that strengthens our community. Wishing everyone a joyful and meaningful month ahead!





**June 19, 2026 is Juneteenth!**

**Juneteenth** also known as **Freedom Day** is a national holiday dedicated to the celebration of African American resilience, achievements, culture, and history. Click [here](#) to learn more about this national holiday.



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A graphic for the "FABULOUSNESS CORNER". It features a stage with red curtains on the left and right. Two spotlights are positioned above the stage, casting a yellow beam of light onto the text "FABULOUSNESS CORNER" which is written in a bold, red, serif font. The background is a light gray.

**2026 Weeklong Training Seminar**



From May 18th to May 21st, the **EIS Core** hosted the **Weeklong Training Seminar** where national and local implementation science experts, UM researchers, and EIS core leadership convened for a week of implementation science focused training, consultations & networking, implementer-researcher partnership building, and more. This in-person event was attended by 83 unique participants over the course of the 4 days. We extend congratulations to the EIS Core team for their leadership and thank you to all attendees!



## CHARM Awards & Opportunities



**CHARM MHD-CE Core Presents the 2026  
Community Microgrant & Pilot Award Awardees**  
Stay tuned for video presentations of their projects!



**Oasis Foundation:  
Mutual Aid Initiative**

—♦—  
**Roxana Bolden**



**Uplifting Men's Voices**

—♦—  
**Alberto Perez  
Bermudez**



**Mapping  
Our Healing**

—♦—  
**Luna Plaza**



**Stories That  
Save Lives**

—♦—  
**Claudia Sanchez**



**Breaking Barriers &  
Building Equity**

—♦—  
**William Campos**



**Club B.O.I.**

—♦—  
**Tajma Darlington**



**Healthy Futures  
for LGBTQ+  
Autistic People**

—♦—  
**Claire Barone**

## Applications are OPEN!

**Deadline to apply: June 26, 2026**

Applications are now open for the 2026-2027

**EIS Core Boutique Mentoring Program!**

Selected mentees will meet with their “EIS mentoring pods,” to work toward obtaining funding in EIS, prepare for scientific publications with an EIS focus, and build an independent research program in EIS.

Eligible applicants are Early Stage Investigators who work in HIV and Mental Health, are from a CHARM affiliated institution (UM, FIU, UCF, FSU), will be able to meet every month for a calendar year (Sept. 2026-August 2027), and are looking to apply for an EIS focused grant. Pre-doctoral trainees (e.g., PhD students) are not eligible to apply.

**Questions?** Contact **Alex Porras**  
([axp2629@miami.edu](mailto:axp2629@miami.edu)).

Scan the **QR code** or [click here](#) to apply.

## E. IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE CORE

### Boutique Mentoring Program

**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN! DUE JUNE 26TH**

EIS mentoring pods for guided support, focusing on K- and R-level funding, publications, and independent EIS research

SCAN ME



For more information or questions, please contact EIS Core Coordinator **Alex Porras** ([axp2629@miami.edu](mailto:axp2629@miami.edu))

# Featured Publications

## Longitudinal Determinants Associated with Latino Sexual Minority Men's Recent HIV Testing

Alyssa Lozano, Nequiel Reyes, Manuel A. Ocasio, Daniel J. Feaster, Steve Safren, and Audrey Harkness

### Background

- Miami-Dade County leads in US HIV incidence, with **Latino sexual minority men (LSMM)** diagnosed with HIV more frequently than any other subgroup.
- **HIV testing** is a first step toward linkage to appropriate biomedical prevention or treatment services, therefore maximizing the reach of HIV testing to LSMM is paramount.
- **The purpose of this study was to identify longitudinal determinants associated with recent HIV testing among LSMM in the greater Miami, FL area.**

### Methods

- Participants included 234 LSMM who completed a self-report assessment of HIV-prevention service engagement and related measures at baseline, 4- and 8-months.
- We utilized **stochastic search variable selection (SSVS)** and **hierarchal linear modeling** to identify predictors of recent HIV testing.

### Results

- SSVS identified four variables that were then entered into a hierarchal linear model.
- Over time, participants were significantly more likely to have had a recent HIV test.

**Three of the four variables identified were significantly associated with recent HIV testing:**



Knowing people who had a recent HIV test



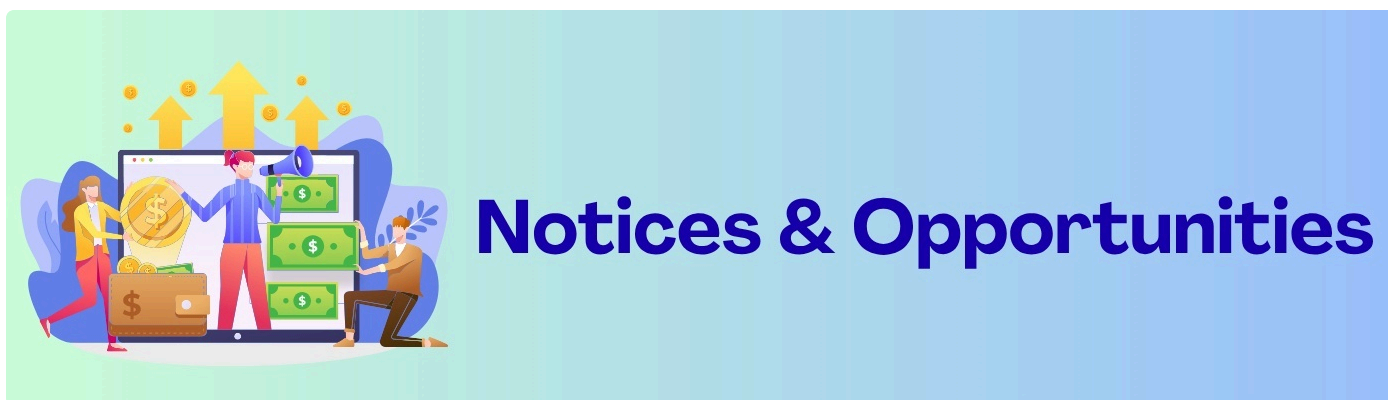
Knowledge about HIV



Sexual behavior indicating CDC PrEP eligibility

### Conclusions

- This study identified multilevel determinants associated with LSMM's recent HIV testing.
- At the individual level, HIV testing was influenced by behavioral risk factors related to sexual activity and HIV knowledge.
- Pertaining to the interpersonal level, knowing people who recently tested for HIV was associated with HIV testing.
- Multilevel adjunctive interventions and implementation strategies that increase HIV knowledge and leverage peer influence may improve testing uptake among LSMM in the Miami, FL area.



- **The UM PI Award Financial Dashboard is now LIVE!**
  - The **Award Financial Dashboard** is an interactive Power BI dashboard designed to provide Principal Investigators (PIs) and department/center administrators with consistent, standardized, and transparent insight into award finances.
  - The dashboard supports proactive financial management by making grant expenditure data easier to access, interpret, and act upon. Click [here](#) more information.
- **Dr. Audrey Harkness** and the **REACH Equity Team** are **currently hiring a Postdoctoral Associate!** This position is full-time and in-person at the School of Nursing and Health Studies at the Coral Gables campus of UM. This position will support multiple funded research projects that apply implementation and behavioral science approaches to improve the reach of HIV and mental health services for populations affected by HIV-related disparities, with a particular focus on Latino men who have sex with men (MSM).
  - The Postdoctoral Associate will contribute across a range of activities, initially including quantitative and qualitative data cleaning, data analysis, and manuscript preparation. As new projects launch, responsibilities may expand to include project management and other collaborative research tasks.
  - The position also offers robust opportunities for implementation science mentorship, training, and professional development, including through our Engaged Implementation Science Core via the Center for HIV and Research in Mental Health (CHARM).
  - Interested candidates can use this link to apply through UM Workday: <https://careers.miami.edu/us/en/job/R100096163/Post-Doctoral-Associate>
  - Click [here](#) to learn more about the **REACH Equity Team**.
  - **Questions?** Contact **Audrey Harkness** ([aharkness@miami.edu](mailto:aharkness@miami.edu)) and **Jorge Limia** ([jml843@miami.edu](mailto:jml843@miami.edu)).
- The **National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) HIV Research Program (HRP)** is informing you of an opportunity to request administrative supplements (to existing HIV research grants) that focus on

implementation science research involving people who use drugs who are at risk for HIV or living with HIV.

- [PA-26-001: Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements](#) (Parent Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional).
- The NIDA-specific guidance and receipt dates as in here: [IC funding considerations](#).
- The [University of Alabama at Birmingham \(UAB\) Heersink School of Medicine \(HSOM\)](#) is launching a major strategic initiative in implementation science to build upon a robust extramural research portfolio across disease areas.
  - Recruitment is for tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-earning faculty at all ranks and includes academic appointment in one or more of 27 academic departments across the HSOM, many of which rank in the top 10 nationally in NIH funding for public institutions.
  - **Please click this link for more information:** <https://uab.peopleadmin.com/postings/26969>



## Highlighted Core Services

- **Peer Review:** CHARM organizes mock review meetings of grant proposals prior to NIH grant submissions. Each review consists of a one-hour Zoom meeting with up to three reviewers, who provide structured, constructive feedback to strengthen the proposal before submission. CHARM also provides Specific Aims Reviews for investigators who would like to receive feedback on an aims page under development to evaluate the key aspects of significance and innovation in early stages of the grant proposal process. Please contact **Yanexy Rivera** at [yc9@miami.edu](mailto:yc9@miami.edu) for more information on dates.
- **Grant Ready with CHARM:** A comprehensive pre-submission support program designed to prepare investigators for NIH grant submission. The program includes Specific Aims review, Methods consultation as needed, and a full mock peer review. Editorial services are provided upon completion of the full program to ensure clarity, coherence, and compliance prior to submission. Please contact **Yanexy Rivera** at [yc9@miami.edu](mailto:yc9@miami.edu) for questions or to participate in the program.
- **CLARO Measures Library:** The El Centro/CHARM measures library houses a multitude of measures translated into Spanish and other languages and can be used to identify and access measures for

research studies.

- **Consultations:** Consultations can be requested via the **Research Navigation Portal** (see the [CHARM website](#) for more information).
  - The **Methods Core** supports researchers and community members via consultations regarding quantitative and/or qualitative research methods, designing a study, power analysis, data management, and more.
  - **EIS Core** leadership and co-investigators are available for 1-on-1 consultations to advise on Implementation Science Guidance, grant development, match-making with community stakeholders and implementers, finding a partner for specific implementation science work, and more.
  - The **MHD-CE Core** provides consultations on psychosocial assessment, community-engaged research methods, intervention development, IRB and human-subjects considerations, identifying community partners or stakeholders, engaging with the Community Advisory Board, recruitment support, and grant development related to mental health disparities or community engagement.
- **Implementer Consent-to-Contact Database:** One-time survey for South Florida implementers involved in implementing HIV and Mental Health services at various community organizations. Respondents answer questions about their needs, priorities, and interest in participating in implementation research.

To see more information on our services, please visit our website: [charm.miami.edu](http://charm.miami.edu)



## Need a Consultation?



Use the **CHARM Research Navigation Portal** to easily request consultations from our 5 Cores and take your research to the next level!

Visit the [Navigation Portal Page](#) on our website for more information.



The CHARM team wishes you a Happy Father's Day!



 [Add Comment](#)

#### More from newsletters



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by Gelman, Barry, M.D.



**Inside OPX – Q4 Edition, May, 2026**  
by Murphy, Kristen P, Falzoni, Juliana

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