

## SPOTLIGHT

### Community-led engagement



### CDC PREVENTION GRANTS BRING NEW RESOURCES TO OREGON:

In 2021, two community-based agencies in Oregon, Cascade AIDS Project and HIV Alliance, were awarded five-year grants to scale up prevention efforts. Cascade AIDS Project will be focusing services on MSM of color and HIV Alliance will be focusing on people who inject drugs; both projects aim to ensure that at least 75% of their service population is Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. These awards are highly competitive; many states do not have any agencies that received them. To have Oregon receive two grants speaks volumes about the work CAP and HIV Alliance are doing to end new HIV transmissions in Oregon.

### ME CUIDO, TE CUIDO:

Familias en Acción hosted the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Latino Health Equity Conference on June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The annual conference bridges the gap between health research and practice to develop health equity strategies for Latinos. This year's conference aimed to broaden community knowledge and awareness on sexual health, sexuality, and HIV by leveraging the experiences of the Latino community and highlighting community-driven initiatives that prevent new HIV infections, support Latinos living with HIV, and work towards ending cultural stigmas

that impact Latino health. The two-day conference featured over 20 presentations, bringing together 35 speakers from 25 local and national organizations and more than 400 registered attendees from over 120 organizations. The statewide conference engaged participants from 15 different Oregon counties; more than half of participants identified as Latin/Hispanic origin.

Familias en Acción also launched their *Me Cuido, Te Cuido* trainings in 2021. *Me Cuido, Te Cuido* was developed for community organizations and leaders within the Latinx community to promote health literacy, HIV/STI awareness and prevention and access to resources. The training is offered statewide to community health workers (CHWs), community leaders, health educators and *promotores de salud* working in the Latinx community. Twenty-three community leaders from 7 agencies were trained as facilitators. All trainings were conducted in Spanish. Facilitators will use their training to bring *talleres*, or classes based in popular education, to people in their home communities; classes will focus on taking care of oneself, each other, and the community – with an emphasis on HIV prevention, sexual health and wellbeing.

