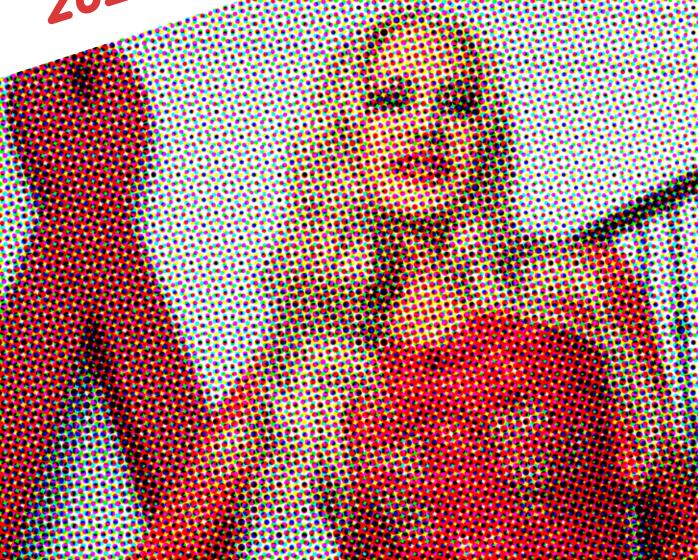
# HIV IRELAND ORT REPORT ANNUAL REPORT 2022



### Introduction

2022 was a year of two halves for HIV Ireland. Our work in the first half of the year corresponded with a significant elevation in cases of COVID-19, with a more dominant but ultimately less serious strain of the virus (Omicron variant) circulating widely within the community. This caused significant disruption to services both within and beyond the organisation for a period of time. Since then, and thanks to the success of the nationwide rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination and booster programme, cases of COVID-19 have steadily declined, allowing for a relaxation of service restrictions, and a return to routine HIV and sexual health service provision for community organisations and healthcare providers alike.

Through our dedicated, peer led, sexual health, outreach programme - MPOWER - HIV Ireland played a leading role in the response to the 2022 mpox outbreak, working closing with the HSE's National Crisis Management Team to deliver key messaging and coordinate a community-led response. The eventual rollout of a targeted vaccination programme saw HIV Ireland's MPOWER programme together with the HSE's Man2Man programme, play a leading role in promoting community engagement and uptake of the vaccine. This saw a rapid decline in the total number of cases within the community by then end of the year.

The sudden attack on Ukraine also brought significant challenges in 2022 and impacted on the work of our organisation. The arrival of many refugees, with some seeking ongoing linkage to treatment and care for HIV, saw our Community Support team engage rapidly in a

widespread community-response initiative coordinated by the HSE. This included signposting and referral services for people living with HIV, outreach and psychosocial supports, and the provision of vital translation and interpretation services for people without English language skills.

The second half of the year saw ongoing programme and project development, including in our community support programme, campaign work, and policy reform agenda. The rollout of self-testing and the return of rapid testing in community venues was a welcome development following the restrictions that coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic. The growth of our peer support programme, covering almost every county in Ireland, has cemented what was once an aspiration of the Positive Now network, to a significant ongoing service for people living with HIV. Success in organisation and programme development saw record levels of investment secured from Gilead Sciences, supported by GSK-ViiV and Certified Proud, to facilitate the development of a communitybased mobile testing service - a partnership of HIV Ireland and ACET (AIDS Care Education and Training).

Significant changes to Ireland's blood donations criteria following a review of Social Behaviours by the Irish Blood Transfusion Service is another welcome development. The result was an end to blanket deferrals for gbMSM in favour of an individualised risk-based assessment model, as championed by HIV Ireland in its participation as a member of the Social Behaviours Review committee headed by Prof Mary Horgan.

Other new and exciting programme developments, including



the development of our counselling programme and dedicated counselling hub project, an online campaign to raise awareness of HIV-related stigma and our programme of peer support, and a pilot out-of-hours testing programme aimed at migrant communities in Dublin in partnership with Prof Jack Lambert and the Mater Hospital were notable highlights of the year.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to our long-standing Prevention, Education and Training Manager Susan Donlon who, after 17 years at the forefront of HIV Ireland and as curator of the National HIV and AIDS Archive, bid us farewell for a new challenge with the HSE's National Screening Service. On behalf of the board and staff of HIV Ireland, both past and present, I wish Susan every success for the future and thank her for her long years of service.

### **Our Mission**

To prevent new HIV transmissions, combat stigma and discrimination, empower and support people impacted by HIV, and raise awareness of HIV and related issues.

### **Our Vision**

An end to new HIV transmissions and HIV-related stigma and discrimination in Ireland.

Stephen O'Hare
Executive Director

### Chairperson's Foreword

40 years after the first identified case of AIDS in Ireland, HIV Ireland continues to work towards ending new HIV transmission and ending stigma. Our work in 2022 meant meeting the challenges posed by the study to advance the objectives mpox outbreak, securing changes to the national blood donations criteria and the return of screening and support services following the ending of the COVID-19 emergency. Success in these areas was mirrored by significant funding awards to develop exciting new communitybased testing and outreach programmes, counselling services, and online campaigns. However, we also remain deeply concerned at the in 2022 and the challenges that remain in accessing key preventive programmes, e.g., PrEP.

Preliminary data (weekly published heartfelt thanks to our volunteer statistics) from the Health Protection board of directors for their Surveillance Centre indicates that 2022 saw double the number of newly notified cases of HIV, when compared to 2021. There are a myriad of reasons which can account years of selfless dedication, financial for an increase in cases, not least the conflict in Ukraine and resulting refugee population, the advent of SH:24, a national STI self-testing service, together with our own HIV self-testing service, and the ending of COVID-19 restrictions on sexual health screening services. These developments notwithstanding, the figures from the HPSC represent a stark reminder that Ireland must redouble its preventive efforts if we are to have any chance of meeting our collective goals of ending new HIV transmission and HIV-related stigma by 2030.

It is the view of the board of HIV Ireland that measures to ensure that Ireland achieves these aims are best

reflected in the development of a national strategic approach and/ or action plan for HIV. Throughout 2022, HIV Ireland engaged readily in the development of a scoping of the global Fast-Track Cities initiative, a cornerstone of Ireland's HIV policy commitment, and in the development of a new National Sexual Health Strategy for Ireland due to be completed in 2023. The outcome of these initiatives should be the advancement of a key strategy approach focussed specifically on HIV, which sets out the aims, objectives, resource requirements, leadership and oversight mechanism and year on reported rise in cases of HIV in Ireland year evaluation framework to ensure the achievements of Ireland's stated aims to date.

> As always, I wish to express my unwavering commitment to HIV Ireland. In particular, I would like to pay tribute to Tim Lee, who retired from the board in 2022, for his many acumen, and good counsel. I also wish to welcome our new board members Steven Lynam, Hugh Nolan, and Christina Kenny who joined us during the year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for their continuing hard work, sensitivity, and professionalism in meeting the needs of service users and members of the community. I also acknowledge and thank our many dedicated volunteers and supporters upon whom the success of our peer-led programmes depends. Finally, sincere thanks to our many funders and supporters, and to the HSE, for their continuing commitment and support throughout the year.

**Bernard Condon SC** Chair of HIV Ireland

### Service Delivery 2022



### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES**

HIV Ireland's Community Support services include advocacy, support, and counselling for people living with HIV (PLWH) or affected by HIV, the capacity building of people living with HIV to self-advocate, community HIV and STI testing, and a street outreach service in which sexual health literature, free condoms, and information on testing services is disseminated to groups vulnerable to HIV. Community Support staff also respond to public queries in relation to HIV and STIs and accommodate agency visits and researchers seeking information on HIV Ireland as well as on issues for people living with HIV or AIDS related illnesses.

In 2022, HIV Ireland became the primary Irish HIV community organisation contact for the Ukraine Department of Health when Ireland began welcoming Ukrainian refugees. During this time, we were contacted by 106 Ukrainian people living with HIV who needed HIV medication on arrival in Ireland. Our team worked with all HIV clinics in the Republic of Ireland to ensure smooth access to treatment.

Our Community Support Team continued to exercise flexibility in meeting the needs of our service users during this time. We engaged with service users in-house, in public spaces, by phone, email, on Zoom, or through MS Teams, both in-hours and out-of-hours.

### Interventions for People Living with HIV (PLWH)

In 2022, HIV Ireland supported approximately 850 people living with HIV with a total number of 3,406 interventions. The vast number of interventions related to advocacy, 1-to-1 support, counselling, and moving to, or returning to, Ireland.

Types of Support Offered to People Living with HIV	No. of Interventions
Advocacy (Discrimination/Mortgages/ Housing and Homelessness/Direct Provision/Social Protection	1,507
Covid Related Information (Symptoms, Testing, Vaccinations)	98
-to-1 Support/Crisis Referral	539
Counselling	370
Moving to Ireland/Accessing HIV medication (inc. students, returning citizens, and Ukrainian refugees)	302
egal Information and Support	58
Referrals to Peer Support	102
Miscellaneous Queries	430
TOTAL	3,406

Advocacy interventions in 2022 related mostly to helping PLWHIV access medications and clinic appointments, HIV related discrimination, housing and homelessness, issues with Direct Provision Centres, and Social Protection. Support interventions centred primarily on issues relating to mental health, the sharing of a person's positive HIV status in both personal and formal settings, and on accessing peer support. Where possible, staff sought to learn every client's current health status if further HIV or Covid 19 medical interventions may be needed. This was particularly so with vulnerable groups such as Ukrainian Refugees, the homeless, people who use drugs, and migrants navigating the Irish health system.

### **National Peer Support Programme**

In 2022, HIV Ireland continued to provide peer support to people living with HIV.

A total of 19 trained peer support volunteers based in the Republic of Ireland, and a further 5 from Northern Ireland (13 males and 11 females in total), provided peer support to 102 individuals.

Our Peer Support volunteers reside in 10 counties: Cavan, Clare, Cork, Down, Dublin, Limerick, Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford, and Wexford.

They are from: The Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Brazil, Chile, India, Malawi, Nigeria, Poland, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

### Positive Now And The National Women's Group

HIV Ireland continued to support Positive Now and the All-Ireland Network of People Living with HIV to hold social groups. We also continued to support the National Women's Group to meet in their local areas. A sub-group of 16 Muslim women living with HIV were supported by a dedicated Community Support staff member.

### Annual HIV Ireland Lecture — Professional Clinical Practice (UCD)

This lecture, now in its 12th year, is an integral part of the "Professional Clinical Practice" module offered to senior medical students at University College Dublin. Presented by our senior counsellor, Richard Boyle, "HIV - The Clients' Perspective", was presented this year to over one hundred 4th year medical students. It was a pleasure for Richard to be back in-person, in contrast to the lecture last year which had to be delivered online due to Covid restrictions.

The aim of the lecture is to highlight the stigma surrounding HIV and the importance of sensitivity, compassion, and a constructive mindset when working with patients. The lecture offers insights into the differing perspectives of clients living with HIV or AIDS related illnesses and emphasises the impact that words and the delivery of information by professionals can have on often vulnerable individuals.

### **General Public**

Our Community Support team field calls, emails, and walk-in queries from the general public, which includes the significant others, family, and friends of people living with HIV.

The vast majority of those who called or emailed in 2022 were concerned about where to access HIV testing or full STI screening or how to access PrEP or PEP. Service users were encouraged to avail of the Mater Hospital's community testing clinic located in the HIV Ireland building at 70 Eccles Street, Dublin 7. Gay, bisexual, or other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) seeking rapid HIV testing were referred to our MPower Programme which provided rapid HIV testing throughout 2022.

Professional queries centred on best practice when working with PLWH, helping clients access HIV testing or, if their clients are living with HIV, to access HIV medication or full sexual health screening. Queries from significant others, and family and friends of someone living with HIV, were mostly related to supporting that person and/or enquiring about transmission risks.

### INTERVENTIONS FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC Type of Query **Total Number** of Interventions **HIV and STI Testing** 665 PrEP/PEP 96 64 HIV/STI Symptoms 59 Transmission Risks 53 **Professional Queries** Supporting Someone Living with HIV 15 **TOTAL** 952

### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

This service develops and delivers a range of HIV education and training programmes to advance our objectives to end new HIV transmissions in Ireland and eliminate HIV-related stigma and discrimination. We also provide associated training on sexual health, safer sex and STI prevention, hepatitis, and drugs-related education including chemsex training.

Our in-person education and training programmes continued to be suspended in the first half of 2022 due to the pandemic, and with remote working arrangements in place, education sessions were delivered online.





### Webinar Education Series.

A total of 21 education webinars were delivered, with a total of 249 attendees.

- 1. HIV: Preventing new transmissions in Ireland
- 2. HIV: Stigma & Discrimination
- 3. Women & HIV
- 4. Let's Talk About HIV in Ireland
- 5. STIs, Condoms & Safer Sex

In addition to webinars scheduled as part of our calendar of training, education and training was delivered with National College of Ireland, Depaul, Focus Ireland, Portlaoise Sexual Health & PrEP Clinic, Crosscare/Dundrum Rathdown Youth Service, Foroige (REAL U Programme), The Talbot Centre, Tusla and Spirasi.

### **E-Learning Courses**

Launched in Autumn 2021, our HIV eLearning modules continued to be a popular resource for those seeking this type of education.

Two modules are available at www.hivireland.ie/elearning:

- 1. HIV Prevention in Ireland
- 2. HIV: Stigma & Discrimination

In 2022, 200 people registered to complete the modules, with 50% of those registered completing the modules in full.

### Foróige REAL U Programme

In 2022, Foróige published the updated Relationships and Sexuality Education Programme, REAL U (Relationships Explored And Life Uncovered), following a review in 2021. The updated resource now includes a new HIV education and training session for the Sexual Health Module of the REAL U Programme and HIV Ireland was happy to support the development of this as well as continuing to support its delivery with youth workers.

### **Corporate Events and Presentations**

We offer a series of educational talks for corporate organisations who want to learn more about the global targets to end HIV and AIDS and what we are doing in Ireland to reach those targets. These talks are usually delivered at key dates during the year such as Zero Discrimination Day, Irish AIDS Day, HIV Long-Term Survivors Day, and World AIDS Day.

13 educational talks were delivered in 2022. Thank you to all the organisations for their support: Irish Life, Bearing Point, OutBio, Fidelity Investments, Fine Gael LGBT, Accenture, Indeed, Gilead Sciences, LinkedIn, Groupon, Rent the Runway, State Street and Bank of Ireland.



### Free Resources and Free Condoms Services

Limited access to free condoms remained available through our Free Resources Services for organisations providing HIV and sexual health promotion services and events. In 2022, 35 requests for free condoms were received directly from organisations, with 6,000 condom packs provided. A further 120,000 condoms were provided in venues through our MPOWER programme.

Additionally, there were 63 requests received for free HIV and sexual health resources from organisations for specific events such as Health Promotion events, HIV and Sexual Health Education, Freshers and SHAG weeks, LGBT+ Pride events, and Irish and World AIDS Day events.



### **MPOWER PROGRAMME**

The MPOWER Programme at HIV Ireland is a suite of peer-driven community-level interventions which aim to achieve a reduction in the acquisition of HIV and STIs and an overall improvement of sexual health and wellbeing among gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men (qbMSM).

MPOWER devises sex-positive, judgement-free and harm reduction-based resources, services and supports where the needs of gbMSM have or can be identified. The programme strives to be inclusive of the diverse identities within the community of gbMSM and to incorporate the experiences of both HIV-positive and HIV-negative men.

The programme is delivered within the context of a broader sexual health and wellbeing framework which aims to take into consideration the range of social determinants of health that impact on sexual practices and vulnerability in acquiring HIV & STIs. This includes mental, physical and social health. HIV Ireland's MPOWER Programme is funded by the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme.



### **New MPOWER Team Member**

In September, Andrew Shannon joined the MPOWER team as our Chemsex Project Coordinator, a first-of-its-kind role in Ireland. Andrew has a background in Social Care and recently completed postgraduate studies in Sexuality and Sexual Wellbeing. He will be working on co-developing new resources and services which respond to the needs of gbMSM engaged in chemsex and club drug use. We're excited to have him on board and we're confident that he will be a valuable asset to the team.



### Service Delivery Rapid HIV Testing

Our free rapid HIV testing service was available to gbMSM on evenings and weekends throughout 2022. The service returned to community-based venues following their extended closure during the pandemic. The service continues to be delivered by our team of gay and bisexual male volunteers, who represent a diverse range of ages, ethnicities, and serostatuses. The volunteer team are trained to perform the rapid test and to offer information and referrals to service users. The overarching aim of this peer-led, communitybased testing service is to reduce the number of gbMSM living with undiagnosed HIV, link those who receive reactive results with clinical services for confirmatory testing and access to treatment, and to ensure that getting tested for HIV is as simple, accessible, and convenient as possible. During 2022, we had one intake of new trainee volunteers which brought us to a total of 51 gbMSM offering the service to the community.

In total, 750 rapid HIV tests were performed during the 171 testing sessions that took place throughout the year. 12 service users received a reactive result. All those who received reactive results were successfully connected with a clinical service for confirmatory testing and subsequently diagnosed positive. 98.4% of service users received a negative result and were offered information about their HIV prevention options.



### Outreach

The MPOWER Outreach service aims to connect with gbMSM where they meet to socialise and/or have sex. Our team of peer sexual health outreach workers offer information, support, resources, and referrals relating to HIV, STIs, and sexual health and wellbeing needs.
The MPOWER outreach team offered this service Monday to Saturday throughout the year.

### Online Outreach

Many gbMSM use online platforms to seek, organise and meet their sexual partners as well as obtain information on sexual health. Our outreach team is available to offer information, support and referrals on popular hook-up apps and dating sites such as Grindr, Scruff, Squirt, BBRT, and PlanetRomeo. In addition, the outreach team were also available by Zoom, WhatsApp, text, email and by phone.

Throughout 2022, 2,553 gbMSM connected with our outreach workers using online platforms. The type of information and support offered varied across several sexual health and wellbeing topics. The most frequent topics discussed were Access to PrEP, Information on HIV & STI Testing, Experiencing Symptoms, and Concern about a Sexual Risk Event.

### One-to-One Support

Throughout 2022 in-person sessions for individuals requiring additional support beyond what is provided through other interventions continued to be available. This intervention primarily provides a higher level of support, specifically for those with the greatest need and the most pronounced barriers around accessing services. These sessions are reactive to service-user needs; the length and focus is determined by the presenting issues. 10 gbMSM accessed this one-to-one support in 2022.



### HIV Self-Test Service

Our HIV self-test service continued throughout 2022. The service seeks to increase HIV testing among those who experience barriers to traditional testing opportunities. The key aims of the HIV self-testing service is to reach those most at risk of acquiring HIV, to do so as early as possible in order to link people to care if they receive a reactive result, and to offer prevention information and referrals to those who test negative.

The HIV self-testing service for gbMSM is delivered by the MPOWER team at HIV Ireland. Every Tuesday afternoon throughout the year, a dedicated online portal opens to gbMSM to order a self-test kit. Orders close once the weekly allowance has been allotted. The MPOWER team processes and fulfils all orders and offers support and referrals to service users by phone, email, text and video calls. The self-test kits are offered free of charge, although those ordering a kit are given the option to donate if they wish to do so.

In 2022, 4 people reported a reactive result to us. Three people who reported a reactive result were supported by the MPOWER outreach team and attended their local sexual health service for confirmatory testing. One person reported their result through out feedback survey but did not request support from the team for support or confirmatory testing. Of those who engaged with the MPOWER team for confirmatory testing, there were no false positives and none of these individuals were subsequently identified as previously diagnosed HIV positive. All three individuals have been successfully linked to care. It is important to note that 80% (n= 1,155) of service users who ordered an HIV self-test did not report their results and so there may be an underreporting of reactive results.

### Condom and Lube Service

HIV Ireland's MPOWER outreach team maintain a supply of condoms and lube via wall mounted dispensers in LGBT-identified venues in Dublin City Centre. Condom and lube packs are also made available to club night and event organisers throughout the year. In 2022, 189,500 condoms and 191.500 lube were distributed.

### LGBT+ VENUES AND CLUB NIGHTS SUPPLIED BY THE MPOWER TEAM Pantibar The George Outhouse The Boilerhouse Street 66 Allmyfriends GLAMworld **Basic Instincts** Mother Sweatbox **Sunday Social** Bukake Grace Strawberries NSFW **Dublin Pride** Tender Roisin Dubh

Supplies of condoms and lube are made available through the HSE National Condom Distribution Service.

### Campaigns & Events

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, 8TH MARCH

For International Women's Day 2022, we were joined by special guests for an online panel discussion to celebrate women living with HIV, and highlight the many issues women living with HIV continue to encounter. The panel chatted about the current challenges faced by women living with HIV and how they can be overcome. Through their work, research, and lived experiences, panelists shared their knowledge and thoughts on these important issues for women and what is needed to improve the quality of life for women living with HIV.

The panel included Ellie Marley PhD, HIV Stigma Researcher, Erin Nugent PhD, Community Support Co-ordinator with HIV Ireland, Nadine Ferris France BSc, MSc Global Health, Executive Director of the Irish Global Health Network and ESTHER Ireland; and co-founder and CEO of Beyond Stigma and MaryJo O'Connell, Volunteer, National Peer Support Programme, HIV Ireland.



### IRISH AIDS DAY, 15TH JUNE

To mark Irish AIDS Day 2022, and following the Government's call for expressions of interest for a National Monument for HIV and AIDS in Ireland, HIV Ireland and GCN presented a special lunchtime webinar recalling the role of communities in remembering and honouring those lost to AIDS related illness and those who are living with HIV. The lively and engaging discussion heard from noted activists, stakeholders and community leaders who have worked at the coalface of HIV and AIDS and who have witnessed first-hand the devastating impact of AIDS on communities here.

The panel of speakers included:

Tonie Walsh – leading HIV and gay rights activist, journalist, DJ and founder of Gay Community News and Irish Queer Archives; Terrie Colman Black – Co-founder of ACET Ireland and the founder of its Quilt Group which she continues to lead; Maeve Foreman – formerly Assistant Professor of Social Work in Trinity College Dublin; and Patricia Conway – formerly a registered nurse at Cherry Orchard Hospital providing care including terminal care for people with an AIDS related illness.







### LIVING: A UNIQUE PORTRAYAL OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

Launched on World AIDS Day 2021, *Living*, a joint initiative of HIV and GCN, is an innovative, first-of-its-kind, photographic exhibition of people living with HIV in Ireland.

The objectives of the project are:

- to highlight the leadership role people living with HIV contribute to the HIV response, particularly in relation to confronting and challenging stiama;
- to stand with, support, inspire and encourage other people living with HIV who may experience self-stigma and who may feel unable to share their status because of the fear of HIV-related stigma, shame, isolation and/or rejection; and
- to raise awareness and combat stigma and misbeliefs amongst the general population.

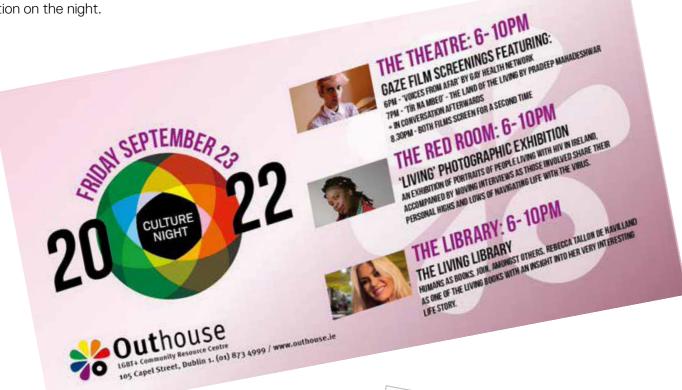
The Souvenir Booklet: A limited edition souvenir booklet showcasing the stunning portraiture by Hazel Coonagh, and featuring moving interviews with the participants, was published in January 2022.

The Exhbition On Tour: The exhibition went on tour in 2022 and was displayed in the Dublin Pride Hub in June 2022, in Outhouse LGBT Community Centre for Culture Night, and at a World AIDS Day event in Belfast hosted by The Rainbow Project. www.hivireland.ie/living

### **CULTURE NIGHT 2022**

Culture Night is a national moment celebrating culture, creativity, and the arts and took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022.

We were delighted to partner with Outhouse LGBT Community Centre to display the Living exhibition on the night.



### **EUROPEAN TESTING WEEK**

The aim of European Testing Week is to promote access to, and increase awareness of, HIV testing including promoting the benefits of earlier HIV testing.

For European Testing Week 2022 (21st to 28th November), we teamed up with the Union of Students in Ireland to promote the availability of free HIV self-testing and home testing services.

HIV Ireland's self-test service was launched in 2020 to break down barriers for people trying to access testing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically for gay and bisexual men, this service increased its capacity and the number of tests available during European Testing Week 2022, providing a 24/7 service with over 500 tests ordered online.



### **VIDMOB GIVES**

In 2021, HIV Ireland's US equivalency determination gave us the opportunity to partner with Vidmob Gives, the pro-bono arm of US creative intelligence agency VidMob helping NGOs and charities to build creative marketing capacity. Through this partnership HIV Ireland has been able to access technology, skills and expertise enabling us to create, measure, and optimise digital content.

In 2022, through this partnership, we created a number of online social media campaigns one of which focused on stigma and promoting HIV Ireland's National Peer Support Programme for PLWHIV. A key aim of the campaign was to increase engagement with the service, particularly outside of Dublin. The outcome of the campaign far exceeded expectations resulting in a 139% increase in programme engagement

compared to the initial project target of 42%.

We also created video content focused on discrimination faced by PLWHIV and raised awareness of equality legislation in Ireland as well as advocacy supports provided by HIV Ireland to those who have experienced discrimination in accessing services. This resulted in a 182% increase in queries to the organisation relating to discrimination as well as a 46% increase in people availing of our advocacy service in the five weeks of the campaign.

Our second campaign sought to encourage people to complete HIV Ireland's e-learning courses. Compared to 2021, there was a 116% increase in those who registered to participate in the course.

Portrait images of PLWHIV, from HIV Ireland's Living Exhibition, were utilised in both campaigns.

### **GLOW RED FOR WORLD AIDS DAY**

Our annual Glow Red for World AIDS Day campaign aims to highlight the impact of HIV-related stigma on PLWHIV and calls for the eradication of stigma and discrimination in line with global goals. Beginning on the evening of 30th November and throughout World AIDS Day 1st December, organisations and municipal authorities are invited to light up key landmark buildings in red light. People are also invited to wear red and/or buy a #GlowRed4WAD limited edition lapel pin from HIV Ireland to show solidarity with PLWHIV and the campaign to end HIV-related stigma.

In 2022, more than 50 landmark buildings were lit up in red around the country with many more people choosing to buy a pin and wear red on World AIDS Day.

We were also delighted to welcome leading HIV activist and campaigner Rebeccca Tallon de Havilland to become the face of our online and location based visual advertising campaign. Wearing an iconic red dress, Rebecca literally stopped traffic to highlight the campaign message. The ad was displayed on more than 50 digital billboards around the country.



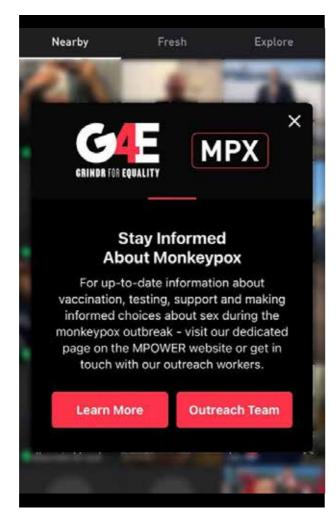
### COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL MPOX (MONKEYPOX) OUTBREAK

As part of Ireland's response to the global mpox outbreak, our MPOWER team developed a risk communication and community engagement plan in collaboration with HSE SHCPP, HSE Communications and Man2Man.ie. This was commenced on request of Ireland's Mpox National Crisis Management Team (NCMT) of which MPOWER Programme Manager, Adam Shanley is a member.

The campaign's overall aim was to prevent and reduce acquisition of mpox in communities of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) in Ireland. The campaign had a multiphase approach with messaging that was developed to be informative and avoid stigmatisation. The first phase of the campaign was 'Alert' and aimed to bring the community's attention to the outbreak and inform those at risk about symptoms, transmission and testing. The 'Empower' phase followed and focussed on understanding what 'safer sex' looks like during the outbreak and encouraging gbMSM to make informed choices about their sex and social lives. The final phase was 'Mobilise'. This phase encouraged those who would benefit from vaccination against mpox to come forward and get vaccinated. The full campaign was available in English, Spanish, and Brazilian Portuguese.

Several communication approaches were employed to ensure a broad range of gbMSM received the campaign messaging. These include posters in washrooms across a network of pubs and clubs frequented by gbMSM across Ireland; social media advertising; direct messages to users of Grindr; display advertising on Grindr and on the GCN (Gay Community News) website; full-page adverts in GCN and in the Dublin Pride Guide, a section of the our website in English, Portuguese and Spanish and 1-minute videos for social media platforms where members of Ireland's Mpox NCMT offer an update on the situation as it evolves.

In tandem with this, our MPOWER programme team with Man2Man.ie invited LGBT+ community leaders, venue managers and pride organisers to a community stakeholder meeting with



the purpose of informing key members of the community about the emerging situation and to encourage them to support awareness and prevention efforts. This was followed by online community engagement events where leaders of the response updated the community of the emerging situation and those who have had mpox shared their experience of the illness.

Additionally, we developed an outreach plan which saw 20 trained peer volunteers join the MPOWER Outreach Team to engage with gbMSM in bars and clubs in Dublin every week from the onset of the outbreak throughout 2022. The team leafleted patrons in community venues and started conversations about the symptoms of mpox, how to access testing and care if needed and encouraged uptake of vaccination. Outreach efforts intensified over the weekend







of Dublin Pride with an email sent to all 27,000 attendees of the Pride Block Party alerting them to symptoms and to avoid the event if feeling unwell. Video spots with campaign messaging were also played on the digital display big screens throughout the weekend of the Pride block party.

In addition to communication and community engagement efforts, funding was secured to establish a free counselling service made available to anyone affected by mpox. 10 free counselling sessions were offered to discuss the impact of a mpox diagnosis and/or the impact the outbreak is having on mental, sexual, or social health.

The risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) plan was recognised by colleagues across Europe leading to the MPOWER Programme Manager being invited to present on the campaign to the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC) and also a meeting of the European Commission Health Directorate General. The campaign is considered a best practice example for RCCE on mpox by ECDC and the World Health Organisation (WHO) and was included in guidance documents for WHO members states during the height of the outbreak



### LAUNCH OF THE EMERGE SURVEY REPORT

The EMERGE study (Effect of COVID-19 and government restriction on the sexual health and well-being of gay and bisexual men), was commissioned by HIV Ireland as part of its MPOWER programme with funding from the HSE Sexual Health & Crisis Pregnancy Programme and run by Sigma Research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. EMERGE aimed to investigate the effect that COVID-19 and associated government restrictions had on the sexual behaviour, health and well-being of abMSM in Ireland. The anonymous online survey recruited 942 gbMSM resident in the Republic of Ireland through social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter), dating apps (Grindr), and the LGBT press.

On the 9th of March, HIV Ireland's MPOWER team held a hybrid community event, inperson and online, to present the results and recommendations of the nationwide EMERGE survey and to discuss the impact of the pandemic on gay and bisexual men's sexual health. The event took place in-person at MOTHER club in Lost Lane, Grafton Street and was streamed live by GCN on their Facebook page and YouTube channel. Dr Charles Witzel, Senior Research Fellow at University College London, presented the results and recommendations of the survey report. This was followed by 'How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted our sexual health and wellbeing' panel discussion. Panellists included Prof. Fiona Lyons (Clinical Lead of HSE Sexual Health), Dr. John Gilmore (UCD Asst. Prof in Nursing and LGBT+ Health Activist and Academic), Erik Agudelo (community representative) and was moderated by Brian O'Flynn (Freelance Journalist).

Results, including recommendations and a community report are available to download from the MPOWER section of our website.

### SAFER HOOKING-UP GUIDE.

On April 13, news broke that two men were murdered in Sligo after the killer had arranged to meet them through a popular gay dating app. In response, the MPOWER team developed a guide to staying safe when using hook-up apps. The guide was made available on social media and on the MPOWER website as well as being carried in GCN.









### GIVE HIV THE FINGER BEERMATS.

During 2022, the MPOWER team ran the 'Give HIV the finger' campaign. The campaign, which had creative on beermats in the bar and club venues that our rapid HIV testing takes place, highlighted the ease of getting a rapid HIV test and linked people to more information on the MPOWER section of our website.

### **EUROPEAN HIV TESTING WEEK**

To mark European HIV Testing Week and World AIDS Day, HIV Ireland ran a number of campaigns including a social media campaign encouraging gay and bisexual men across Ireland to order an HIV self-test. Our MPOWER team delivered over 500 HIV self-test kits to gbMSM across Ireland over the two-week period Support, if required, was led by Davy Quinlivan, MPOWER Project Coodinator and was available to all before, during and after using the test kit.

### **IRISH AIDS DAY**

On the 15th of June to mark Irish AIDS Day, our MPOWER team collaborated with Dublin Pride to offer a pop-up 'click and collect' desk for HIV self-tests at the Dublin Pride Hub on South Anne Street.

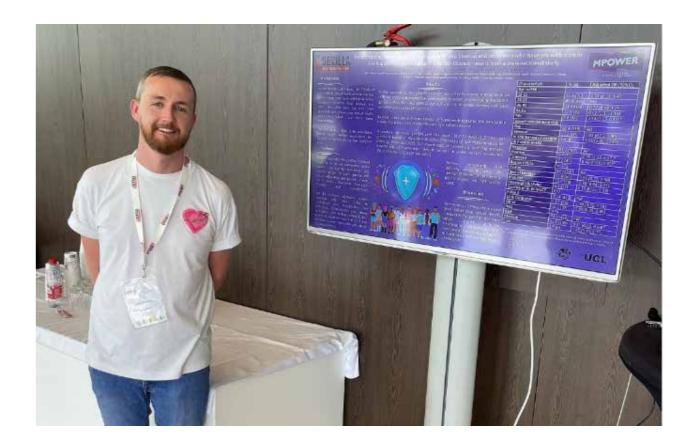


### LGBT COMMUNITY ORGANISATION OPEN DAY AT OUTHOUSE

Our MPOWER team joined a host of LGBT+ community organisations at the LGBT Open Day that took place in Outhouse LGBT Community Centre in June ahead of Dublin Pride. Our team was available to drop by for a chat and learn about our work and the work of community organisations supporting the LGBT+ community across Ireland.

### AIDS 2022, MONTREAL CANADA

The 24th International AIDS Conference took place in Montreal, Canada in July 2022. Adam Shanley, MPOWER Programme Manager presented 'MPOWER yourself: an online HIV self-test service to increase testing among gbMSM during COVID-19 restrictions.' An oral presentation of Ireland's first HIV self-test service, how it was devised and it's success. The presentation got a 'special mention' during judges comments at the end of the conference proceedings.



### FAST TRACK CITIES, SEVILLE

The Fast Track Cities Conference took place in Seville, Spain in October 2022, HIV Ireland attended the conference and Mark Doyle, MPOWER Outreach Worker presented a paper on the benefits of Grindr as an outreach tool to engage rural-based and 'not-out' gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men. Adam Shanley, MPOWER Programme Manager presented findings from the EMERGE study which focussed on using the EMERGE data to understand sexual health service access for gbMSM in Ireland during the COVID-19 crisis.

### SSSTDI ANNUAL AUTUMN CONFERENCE

The MPOWER team attended the SSSTDI Annual Autumn Conference and had two abstracts accepted for oral presentation. Mark Doyle, MPOWER Outreach Worker presented on the use of dating apps as an outreach tool and Adam Shanley, MPOWER Programme Manager presented on our response to the mpox outbreak in Ireland.

### **GAY HEALTH FORUM**

The MPOWER team attended the Gay Health Forum at the Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission building in November 2022. Adam Shanley, MPOWER Programme Manager presented on MPOWER's year in review.

### DARREN LACKEN BENEFIT BALL

Our friend and rapid HIV testing volunteer, Darren Lacken, passed away suddenly in November 2021. Darren's partner Mark organised the 'Darren Lacken Benefit Ball' with proceeds donated to HIV Ireland. The donation has allowed for us to create the 'Darren Lacken Fund' which will go towards creating new resources to support the community of gay and bisexual men in 2023.

### The 3rd Annual Red Ball (3)











In 2022, HIV Ireland was delighted to be able to once again host the Red Ball which took place on World AIDS Day and coincided with our annual Glow Red campaign.

We were thrilled to have as our MC and musical entertainment for the evening - singer, actress and star of RTÉ's The Heart of Saturday Night, Loah.

Our very special guest for the evening was international HIV and AIDS activist, founder of Trans Project Bootcamp and TV presenter Rebecca Tallon de Havilland.

The event helped us to raise vital funds to respond to rising cases of HIV in Ireland, assist newly arrived refugees from Ukraine, and continue our work to end HIV-related stigma and support those impacted by HIV.





































# the RED

### Thank You.

We would like to thank the following organisations who so kindly sponsored the Red Ball in 2022, raising vital funds for HIV Ireland's work to prevent new HIV infections, combat HIV stigma and support people living with HIV.

### **HEADLINE SPONSORS**



**Deloitte.** 



GSK × ViiV

indeed



**SPONSORS** 

**ARUP** 

Bank of Ireland (變)

Linked <mark>in</mark>

PRID

STATE STREET.



**DIAGEO** 

### **SUPPORTERS**

A heartfelt thank you to all our supporters, without whom the Red Ball would not have been possible.

Abbey Theatre
Annie West
Blasket Ferry
Brown Sugar
Chupi
Dita

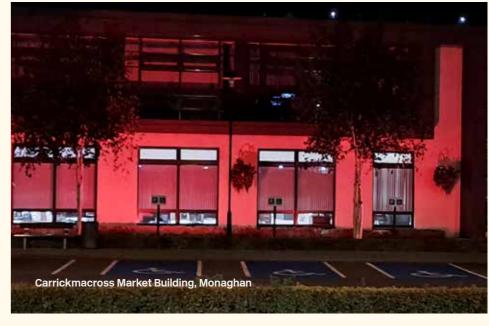
Dundrum Cinema Esker Hills Golf Club Flower Factory
Gate Theatre
Hazel Coonagh
Ireland's Blue Book
James Crombie
Kingdom Falconry
M.A.C.

**MacBees Boutique** 

McGillicuddy's Toyshop
Milltown House Dingle
Other Voices
Powerscourt Golf Club
Press Up Hospitality Group
Skelligs Chocolate
Tropical Popical









For the third year in a row, landmark monuments and buildings around Ireland lit up in red to mark World AIDS Day, 1st December. As part of HIV Ireland's Glow Red for World AIDS Day campaign over 40 buildings and monuments around Ireland agreed to light up in red as part of the campaign to shine a light on HIVrelated stigma. Iconic landmarks included the US Embassy building at Ballsbridge, the Rock of Cashel, Kilkenny Castle, the National **Convention Centre and the Browne** Doorway in Galway. These were also joined by a host of city and county council buildings, The Office of Public Works and high-profile companies including Google, Deloitte, Indeed, State Street, PWC and Bank of Ireland.











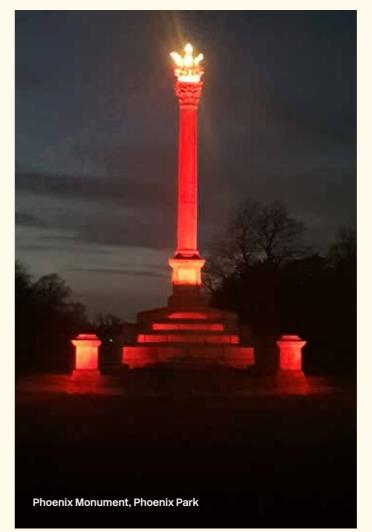
GLOW RED 2022





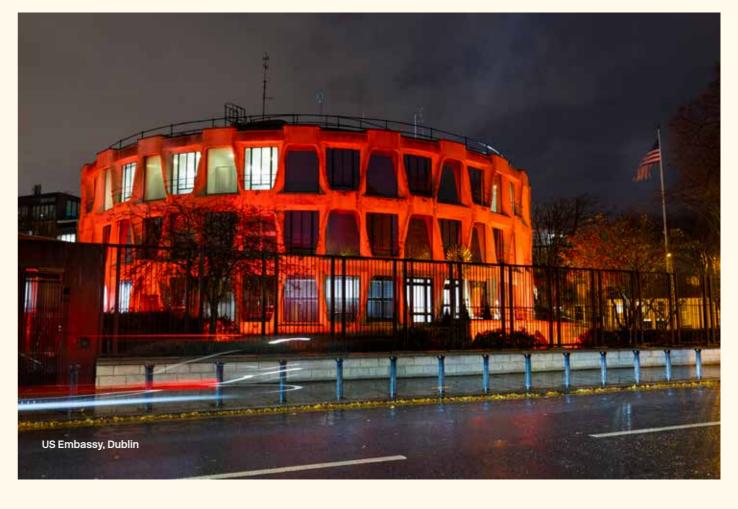






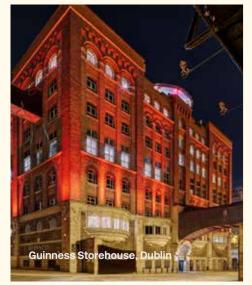










































## Committee Representation & Policy Work

### Mpox National Crisis Management Team (NCMT) and related sub-groups

Following reports of cases of mpox infection in gbMSM in Europe, a multisectoral, Public Health led National Incident Management Team (IMT) was established to prepare for cases being identified in Ireland. This was the first time chains of transmission were reported in Europe without known epidemiological links to endemic countries in Africa. In July, and following a rise in diagnoses of the virus in Ireland, the global outbreak of MPXV infection was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) by the World Health Organisation.

Adam Shanley, MPOWER Programme manager was invited to join the IMT and NCMT as the gbMSM community representative to monitor the situation and prepare appropriate responses. He also sat on NCMT sub-groups including; Communications, Vaccination, Research and Guideline Development, Clinical Advisory and Case Control. Adam also sits on the ECDC Mpox Community Working Group and the WHO Mpox Community Working Group.

### **HSE gbMSM Health Committee**

The MPOWER Programme Manager represents HIV Ireland and the interests of the community of gbMSM at this multisectoral, multidisciplinary, sexual health committee chaired by the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme. The purpose of the gbMSM Health Committee is to maintain a focus on sexual health in gbMSM on an on-going basis, offer strategic advice on planning and resourcing for gbMSM sexual health, monitor trends related to the sexual health of gbMSM and to monitor progress in the implementation of actions related to gbMSM contained in the national sexual health strategy.

### **HSE Chemsex Working Group**

In 2022, the MPOWER Programme Manager was joined by Andrew Shannon, MPOWER Chemsex Project Coordinator to represent HIV Ireland on the HSE Chemsex Working Group, a sub-committee of the HSE gbMSM Health Committee. The Chemsex Working Group Ireland was established in 2015, in response to an increase in the reported use of chemsex among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM). The group meets to discuss work ongoing in the area, share information on trends and identify gaps for research or service provision.

### HSE EMI Guideline Development Group

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre's Research and Guideline Development section commenced a review and update of the EMI Guidelines for the provision of HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP). Adam Shanley, MPOWER Programme Manager was invited to the group as a patient representative. The work is ongoing and is expected to be complete in 2023 with new guidelines being published.

### Expert Advisory Group on Blood Donor Criteria

Following a number of years of engagement with the Irish Blood Transfusion Service, HIV Ireland nominated MPOWER Programme Manager to join the Social Behaviours Review group which was tasked with reviewing the evidence base for donor selection, deferral and exclusion in Ireland. Based on the evidence presented, including presentations from the MPOWER Programme Manager Adam Shanley and Executive Director of HIV Ireland Stephen O'Hare, recommendations were made to the board of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service which were accepted by the IBTS board and the Minister for Health.

Changes include the reduction in the deferral period for blood donations from men who have sex with men from 12 months to four months beginning in March 2022. Subsequent changes, following the introduction of new technology and assessment procedures, saw the deferral period for men who have sex with men replaced with individualised risk-based assessments in December. The deferral period for people taking PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) was also reduced from 12 months to four months.

### **Fundraising**

### In 2022, HIV Ireland was delighted to receive project funding from the following funds and organisations.

### Bank of Ireland - Begin Together

Funding received under the Begin Together Fund continues to support the ongoing development and rollout of our counselling and psychotherapeutic supports for people living with HIV. Funding is used to provide dedicated counselling hours and to support clinical supervision for new counsellors. Funding also facilitates ongoing training for peer volunteers and the development of robust psychosocial supports under the National Peer Support Programme.

### **National Lottery Fund**

In 2021, we received funding from the Hospital Saturday Fund to clear and replant our backyard space and construct a bespoke cabin to provide counselling for people living with HIV.

The funding from the National Lottery Fund supported us to fully fit out the cabin with furniture, electrics, heating and IT equipment. The cabin will be launched in early 2023.

### Gilead Sciences — Mobile Testing

HIV/STI testing service in the Leinster region, with primary funding provided by the Gilead Sciences Zeroing In Fund. The primary aim of this project is to expand community-based HIV/ STI screening and information services through a mobile testing service, in order to tackle continuing rising rates of new HIV/STI infections in Ireland; to link gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) and people from migrant communities who are particularly vulnerable to HIV/STIs, to testing, prevention and treatment; and to provide culturally competent information and services. The aim of the project is also to provide testing and information outside main urban areas, where dedicated sexual health services are often lacking. We will partner

with AIDS Care Education and Training Ireland (ACET) to help us reach people from a migrant background. The mobile unit will be available for use by both organisations to reach out to the communities they work with.

### **GSK-ViiV**

In 2022, we were delighted to also receive further support for the mobile testings service from GSK-Viiv. Funding received will enable us to retrofit the mobile testing unit, ensuring it is fully equipped for the provision of rapid HIV and STI testing.

### **Certified Proud**

In 2022, HIV Ireland received dedicated funding from Certified Proud to advertise, market and create information relating to the mobile testing service, outlined above, to ensure a wide reach across the Leinster region. Through the Certified Proud Fund we will be in a position to run an advertising and information campaign to promote and bolster the testing service for gbMSM both in Dublin and regionally. We will develop In 2023 HIV Ireland will establish a peer-led mobile information leaflets and posters and disseminate these to LGBTQ+ organisations, social venues, community organisations and develop and run social media adverts.

### Gilead Sciences Medical Fellowship

In 2022, we received funding from the Gilead Sciences Medical Fellowship to specifically address the issue of stigma and discrimination in access to dental care for PLWHIV, which continues to be an issue in Ireland.

The funding will allow us to work collaboratively with dental practitioners and representative organisations as well as PLWHIV, to overcome stigma and discrimination in access to dental care, in order to improve health outcome and quality of life for PLWHIV.

Project activities will include the development of an e-learning course for dental practitioners; focus groups with dental practitioners and PLWHIV; information provision; and collaboration with Schools of Dentistry in Third Level Institutions.

### Gilead Sciences — Monday Night Testing

The primary objective of this project is to expand community-based outreach and HIV/STI services to link migrant and sub-Saharan African communities to testing, prevention and treatment services and to provide culturally competent information and education. Funding will be used to provide a dedicated evening (Monday) testing service. Funding will also be used to raise awareness among these communities about the benefits of HIV/STI screening services and for the provision of information and education to encourage people to attend. Those accessing the service who need additional care, including referral for treatment, will be linked directly to the Mater STI clinic and those seeking support will be linked with HIV Ireland services including counselling as well as our HIV Peer Support Network, which provides community-led support to people who need it.

### The Community Foundation for Ireland-Ireland for Ukraine Fund

Ukraine has one of the world's highest HIV incidence rates, with over 13,000 new yearly infections, and the second highest prevalence in Europe/Central Asia, with over 250,000

This funding will support us in providing access to HIV testing, information, treatment and support services for refugees from Ukraine. It will also enable the provision of interpretation and translation supports as well as the provision of information to healthcare providers on HIV indicators.

Project activities include outreach with Ukrainian refugees to promote information on sexual health and HIV testing; development and dissemination of information to healthcare providers on HIV indicators; training rapid testing volunteers; facilitating rapid HIV testing; facilitating appropriate referrals for PLWHIV; access to community support services at HIV Ireland, supporting PLWHIV; providing access to interpretation and translation services, through community-based interpreters/translators.

### Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth- LGBTI+ Fund

We were thrilled to receive funding from DCEDIY to establish a dedicated outreach and HIV testing service for trans and non-binary people, on a pilot basis. No such service currently exists in Ireland.

A key aim of this project is to make community HIV-testing services more widely available to trans and non-binary people, who often face particular barriers in accessing services and are particularly marginalised. This will be achieved through on-site rapid HIV testing sessions delivered by peer volunteers, production of trans and non-binary specific information, as well as a dedicated self-test postal service, delivered as part of this project.

Learnings from this pilot project will be used to inform our policy and advocacy work, drawing particular attention to the needs of trans and non-binary people in the context of HIV prevention, treatment and care and broader sexual health needs. We will contribute this information to national policy processes such as the development of a new National Sexual Health Strategy (currently under review).

### Digital & Social Media

Our primary social media platforms are our website, Facebook and Twitter pages, and a You Tube channel. Used to provide information about available services and to promote specific campaigns, we also highlight our policy and research work and publish harm reduction information about HIV and related topics.

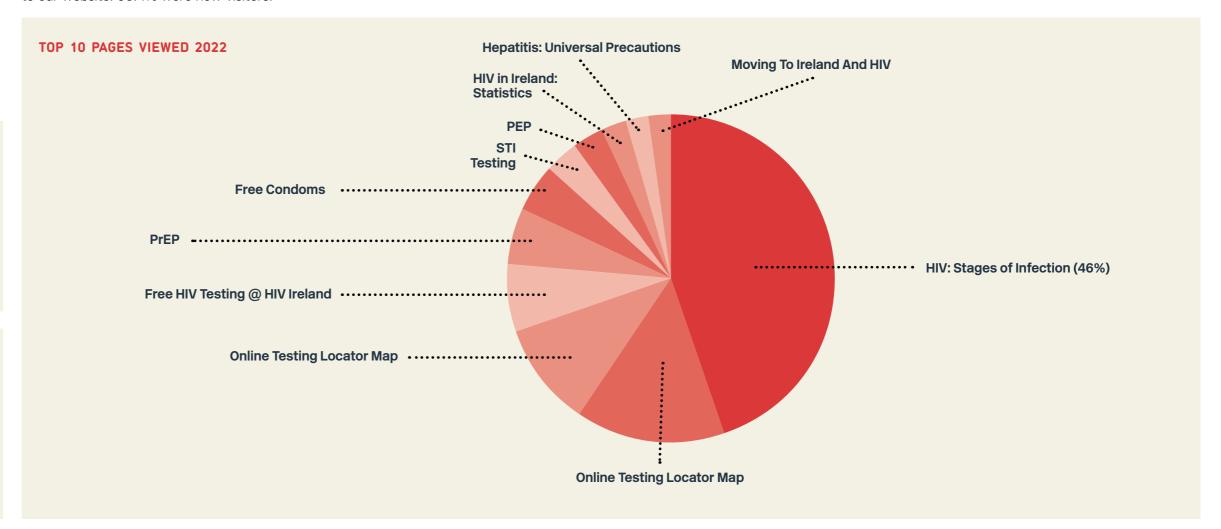
Our Facebook and Twitter platforms have a cumulative following of just over 13,000.





### **WEBSITE (WWW.HIVIRELAND.IE)**

In 2022 there were a total of 171,428 visitors to our website. 90.4% were new visitors.



### THE NEWSDESK @ HIV IRELAND

The NewsDesk @ HIV Ireland publishes a monthly e-newsletter with a round-up of HIV-related news from a variety of online national and international sources, including new research and publications, upcoming conferences and events, and service updates. This is a free service for subscribers. 10 editions of the newsletter were published in 2022, and the number of subscribers increased by 7%.



### **MPOWER WEBSITE**

In 2022, the MPOWER section of our website (mpower.hivireland.ie), had 80,895 page views and 42,570 users, of which 99% were first-time visitors. Our MPOWER Programme also has a presence on Facebook (633 followers) and Instagram (3,318 followers).

### **Our Work in Numbers 2022**

APPROXIMATELY

850

PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV WHO RECEIVED ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT SERVICES

INTERVENTIONS WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHO RECEIVED INFORMATION ON SEXUAL HEALTH SCREENING, HIV AND STI SYMPTOMS. PrEP, PEP, AND TRANSMISSION RISKS

952 17,000

FOLLOWERS ACROSS ALL HIV IRELAND SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

HIV SELF-TESTS DELIVERED ACROSS IRELAND

INTERVENTIONS FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

102

PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV WHO RECEIVED INDIVIDUAL PEER SUPPORT

42,408

UNIQUE VISITORS TO THE MPOWER WEBSITE

**750** 

RAPID HIV TESTS PERFORMED FOR gbMSM

COMMUNITY OUTREACH SESSIONS CONDUCTED ON THE STREET AND IN MIGRANT BUSINESSES AND SOCIAL SPACES REACHING 600+ PEOPLE VULNERABLE TO HIV

6,000

FREE CONDOMS AND LUBE PACKS PROVIDED TO ORGANISATIONS

2,553

ONLINE OUTREACH ENGAGEMENTS WITH gbMSM

MPOX OUTREACH BLASTS IN COMMUNITY VENUES

189,500

CONDOMS AND 191,500 LUBE PACKS PROVIDED TO gbMSM BARS, CLUBS AND EVENTS

### **Financial Report**

### **DUBLIN AIDS ALLIANCE LIMITED TRADING AS HIV IRELAND**

(A Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital) Summarised Financial Statement extracted from the Director's report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022		2021	
	€	€	€	€
Income				
Donations & Fundraising	93,963		14,221	
HSE Dublin North City Social Inclusion	332,862		319,735	
HSE National Social Inclusion	12,000		12,000	
HSE North East	10,000		20,000	
D.S.P.	-		71,480	
HSE (NICDAFT)	68,400		68,400	
HSE MPOWER Programme (SHCCP)	269,882		269,390	
HSE (SHCPP)	22,678		-	
Department of Health	13,403		-	
Other Grants	190,349		207,381	
Other Income	46,000		50,150	
		1,059,537		1,032,757
Expenditure				
Salaries incl. Employer's PRSI	664,426		660,875	
Training & Consultancy	2,060		1,413	
Rent payable	52,677		52,304	
Project costs	288,351		174,227	
Combined Overheads	57,048		63,097	
		1,064,562		951,916

### **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	2022		2021	
	€	€	€	€
Current Assets				
Debtors	94,181		76,660	
Cash at bank and in hand	757,763		392,789	
	851,944		469,449	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(655,300)		(267,780)	
Net current assets		196,644		201,669
Total assets less current liabilities		196,644		201,669
Funds				
General Fund (Unrestricted)		196,644		201,669
Total Funds		196,644		201,669

### Acknowledgements

HIV Ireland would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all who worked with and supported our organisation throughout 2022.

The Directors holding office during the year comprised Bernard Condon SC (Chairperson), Tim Lee (Treasurer) (resigned July 2022), Fergal O'Sullivan, Claire Power, Gerry Kennedy BL (Secretary), Prof. Paddy Mallon, Hugh Nolan, Christina Kenny and Stephen Lynam.

Executive Director: Stephen O' Hare

Policy and Development Manager: Pia Janning

**Operations Staff Team:** Marie Hamilton (Manager), Patricia Dillon-Killeen, Tara Sinclair, Aideen Healy-Brady, Valerie Beklesov.

**Community Support Staff Team:** Dr Erin Nugent (Manager), Anthony Newsome, Evonne Mushonga, and Richard Boyle.

**Volunteers:** Joel Biongo, Martha Mutanda, Guylaine Ndonga Mbaki, Gerald Browne, and Luiz Gasparelli.

**Volunteer Counsellors:** Arran Whelan, Leo Cruz, James O'Donnell.

The 24 Peer Support Volunteers in the National HIV Peer Support Programme.

Education & Training Programme staff team: Susan Donlon (Manager), Sue Carter.

MPOWER Team: Adam Shanley (Manager), Davy Quinlivan, Andrew Shannon (started September) Diego Caixeta and Mark Doyle

### **MPOWER Volunteers:**

Alan Power, Aleksander Krstic, Alessandro Raymondo, Andy Kelly, Arran Whelan, Barry Mulcahy, Bill Foley, Billy Flynn, Brendan Molloy, Brian O Flynn, Cleitom Miranda, Connor O'Donoghue, Conor Flynn, Damien Kelly, David Lee, David Long, David Wallace, Drew Flood, Eoin Flanagan, Erik Agudelo, Evan Farrell, Ewerton Dias, Felipe Dias, Ian O'Reilly, Jamie Aylward, Jason Doyle, John Byrne, Jon Weir, Jordi Moya Roset, Joseph McNeela, Karl Hayden, Karol Jakubowski, Kevin Morrisey, Lukasz Waziak, Luke Walsh, Luke Wang, Mark McNamara, Mark O'Neill, Matthew Downey, Michael O'Higgins, Niall Fagan, Rob Keegan, Se McCabe, Senja Trinh, Sergio Augusto, Tom Armstrong, Willier Nery.

### Our Express thanks to our principal funders...

Health Service Executive North Eastern Area (CHO8), Health Service Executive Dublin North City & County (CHO9), Health Service Executive Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme; North Inner-City Drugs and Alcohol Task Force; Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth; HSE National Lottery Fund; Dept of Health Mpox National Crisis Management Team; Tusla; Health Service Executive National Office for Suicide Prevention (HIV Ireland & National University of Ireland Maynooth).

### **Additional Funding**

MAC AIDS Fund; Open Society Foundation; The Community Foundation for Ireland, GSK Ireland, Gilead Ireland, Google, Dublin Pride, Hospital Saturday Fund, Certified Proud

... We wish to thank the individuals and companies who supported our Red Ball for World AIDS Day 1st December 2022

Gilead, GSK, MSD, Deloitte, Indeed, Certified Proud, Barefoot Wines, Diageo, LinkedIn, State Street, Google, Bank of Ireland, Arup Abbey Theatre, Annie West, Blasket Ferry, Brown Sugar, Chupi, Dita, Dundrum Cinema, Esker Hills Golf Club, Flower Factory, Gate Theatre, Hazel Coonagh, Ireland's Blue Book, James Crombie, Kingdom Falconry, M.A.C., MacBees Boutique, McGillicuddy's Toyshop, Milltown House Dingle, Other Voices, Powerscourt Golf Club, Press Up Hospitality Group, Skelligs Chocolate, Tropical Popical, and a special thank you to our volunteers on the night, Clarence Soliman, Eddie McGuinness, Karl Hayden, Mikey O'Connor, Seán McGillicuddy

### ... We wish to thank the companies and organisations who supported GLOW Red for World AIDS Day 1st December 2022

Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly TD, Dublin City Council, The Office of Public Works (OPW), Cavan County Council, Cork City Council, Fianna Fáil, Galway County Council, Kerry County Council, Louth County Council, Meath County Council, Mayo County Council, Monaghan County Council, Tipperary County Council, Waterford County Council, Bank of Ireland, Cork University Hospital, The Convention Centre, Deloitte, Gilead Sciences, Google, Guinness Storehouse, Indeed, LinkedIn, Microsoft Limited, Outhouse LGBT Centre, PWC, RTE, State Street, US Embassy.

### ... We wish to thank the individuals and companies who donated or fundraised for us in 2022, including

Accenture, State Street, CPL, Gilead, MSD, Rainbow Project, Belfast, Darren Lacken Benefit Ball and all those who created a birthday fundraiser through Facebook.

### ... and additional organisations and individuals for their support in 2022

The Social Work teams at the Guide Clinic, St.

James's Hospital, Mater Hospital, Beaumont Hospital, and St. Vincent's Hospital; Gillian Farrell, GUIDE Clinic; Clarence Soliman, Siobhan O'Dea, St. Vincent's Hospital; José De Souza, Mater Hospital; Jeanne Byrne, James Madden, Beaumont Hospital; Aileen Dooley, HSE HIV and Drugs Helpline; PJ Boyle and the medical and social work teams at Balseskin Reception Centre; Gavin Armstrong and Jacquie Richardson, Positive Life. Belfast: Richard Carson, and Yvon Luky, ACET; Ann Piercy, GOSHH; Catherine Kennedy, Phil Corcoran, Muire O'Farrell, Sexual Health Centre, Cork; Nicole McGuigan, Sexual Health West; Karen Sutton, Seán Beatty, Law Dept., Griffith College Dublin; Lysander Preston, Legal Executive; Maureen Gourley, Sinead Lucey, and the team at FLAC, Áine Bhreathnach, and the team at the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission; Paul Neale and the staff at Capital Financial Planning; Graham Ryall, Rialto Community Drug Team; all the shops and businesses on Dorset St., Moore St., Parnell St., Henry St., and Frederick St. who support our outreach programme; Bill Hughes, Mind the Gap Films; Aidan Murphy, Diceman Living Visuals; Dublin City Council; Declan and Plus Friends, and Positive Now and the All-Ireland Network of People Living with HIV, The staff of Pantibar; The George; The Boilerhouse; Street66; Pennylane; Allmyfriends; Mother; Sweatbox; Bukkake; NSFW; Grace; Strawberries; Dublin Pride; Grindr4Equality; members of the mpox National Crisis Management Team; Teymur Noori and all at the European Centre for Disease Control; Leonardo Palumbo and all at the World Health Organisation; Gay Health Network; Man2Man.ie; members of the HSE Chemsex Working Group; HSE National Condom Distribution Service; the team at Gay Community News (GCN); Geraldine Greene and all at the Diversity & Inclusion Unit of An Garda Síochana; Jane McGovern Diagnostics; Tricia Frame and all at Pasante; Ian & Aga at PrintSave; Aoife Drury; Peter Weatherburn; Arran Whelan; Francisco Figueroa; Dr Charles Witzel; Dr John

Gilmore; Dr Chris Noone; David Comer; Fintan Wall; Pradeep Mahadeshwar; Brian O'Flynn; Erik Agudelo; Stevie Faherty; Harun Tulunay.

### ... projects, events, & education and training Gerald Browne, Colin O'Leary, Leo Lardie and the team in The Rainbow Project Belfast;

Oisin O'Reilly and the team at Outhouse LGBT Community Centre; Eddie McGuinness and the Dublin Pride Team; Lisa Connell, Michael Brett and the team at GCN;

Coleen Finlay, Henrique Caliento, Philip Isard and the team at Quality Matters;

Ellie Marley, MaryJo O'Connell, Nadine Ferris France and the team at Beyond Stigma; Tonie Walsh, Terrie Colman Black, Maeve Foreman, Patricia Conway, Rebecca Casey

Sarah Behan and the team at the Union of Students in Ireland; Rebecca Tallon de Havilland, Burr Purnell and the team at VidMob Gives; lan Jackson (NHS London).

All our service users in 2022.



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