



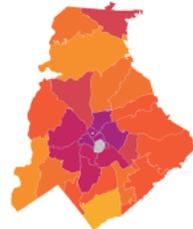
## AIDSVu & Epidemiological Data

The Mecklenburg County Health HIV Department gathers and analyzes statistical data from epidemiological reports and statistical data from AIDSVu maps. The prevention and outreach program staff uses this information, in addition to reports from local disease intervention specialists, to develop strategic plans for testing and outreach initiatives.



**Definition:** AIDSVu.org is an “interactive online map that allows users to visually explore the HIV epidemic on a national, state and local level alongside critical resources such as HIV testing centers locations.”

### Rates of Black Persons Living with an HIV or AIDS Diagnosis, by ZIP Code, Charlotte, 2012



## Features of AIDSVu:

- Interactive Maps
  - Persons living with an HIV diagnosis
  - Poverty levels
  - HIV testing locations
- State Profiles
  - HIV and other STDs
  - Links to health department HIV prevention websites
- Testing Center Locator
  - Search by zip codes or city and state

## Utilization of AIDSVu and Integration of Epidemiological Data:

- Staff enters geographic information into AIDSVu
- AIDSVu maps demonstrate “hotspots” (areas of high HIV prevalence), poverty and education levels
- Staff compares map information to epidemiological data and reports from disease intervention specialists

→ Overlapping areas are potential locations to develop testing and outreach initiatives

Based on information compiled, staff determines what educational materials are needed, how many counselors are necessary, and if the counselors should be English and/or Spanish speaking

## AMBASSADOR AT A GLANCE

Jeffery Williams-Knight, BS, received his bachelor’s degree from University of North Carolina at Charlotte and currently works as a supervisor in the HIV/STD Community Services Outreach Program at the Mecklenburg County Health Department in Charlotte, NC. Mr. Williams-Knight has worked in the field for over 15 years, and his many contributions include currently serving as the Board Chair of the NC AIDS Action Network, serving on the board of directors for Metrolina AIDS Project and Charlotte Lesbian and Gay Community Center, and serving on the State Community Planning Group of the North Carolina Communicable Disease Unit. Mr. Williams-Knight serves as an elder at Holy Covenant United Church of Christ, and in their free time he and his partner enjoy playing with their two dogs, Dahoma and Shadow. Mr. Williams-Knight is an African American male who has lived with HIV for almost 30 years in a county with one of the highest rates of HIV infection in North Carolina. His passion for and commitment to making a difference in his community and state has been the driving force behind his work.



### Successes

- Increased testing numbers by over 150 individuals this past year
- Increased HIV testing positivity rate
  - (This is presumed to be a result of targeted testing)
- New partnerships and collaborations (e.g. with community centers, service agencies, clinics, culturally specific organizations, bars, and religious institutions)
- Provision of education sessions in high risk areas
  - STD education
  - Risk reduction conversations
  - Information on health department services
  - Condom use demonstrations
- 17 condom drop locations in high risk areas in Mecklenburg County
  - Barbershops and salons
  - Gay bars
  - Apartment complexes

### Challenges in Engaging the Black Church/Community:

- Building trust in identified communities
- Reaching young AA MSM
- Limited financial resources

### CAI OFFERS FREE TRAININGS IN THIS AREA!

- HIV Screening in Key Populations- Targeting Strategically
- Enhanced Outreach Strategy
- Use of Data for Decision Making and Clinical Services

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the ambassador program, materials discussed, and capacity building offered at no cost please visit our website at [www.HIVCBACenter.org](http://www.HIVCBACenter.org)

### Works Cited

AIDSvu. (2015, August 25). Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health. Retrieved from [www.aidsvu.org](http://www.aidsvu.org)

City of Charlotte Mecklenburg County. Retrieved from [www.Charmeck.org](http://www.Charmeck.org)