

KNOW YOUR STATUS



HIV Testing Initiative with African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) Women

WHAT:

Know Your Status was launched to increase understanding of factors that influence HIV testing among ACB women and to develop a pilot intervention to bring HIV-testing services into local settings where ACB women congregate.

The study also increased capacity of community-based organizations to offer HIV testing within their locales.

WHY: ?

Despite the importance of HIV testing as an HIV prevention strategy and its role in linkage to care for those diagnosed with HIV, testing continues to be a challenge among ACB women.

Studies show that ACB women at risk may not perceive themselves at risk of acquiring HIV, have limited awareness of and access to existing HIV prevention and testing services.

HOW: ⚙️

We recruited women to host gatherings with their social network, with whom we provided informal educational sessions with available testing services and pre/post test counseling. Formal sessions were conducted with preexisting groups at community centres and clinics.

We also modeled "The Girlfriends Project" with community organizations and faith groups to host sessions.

IMPACT:



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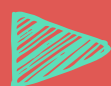
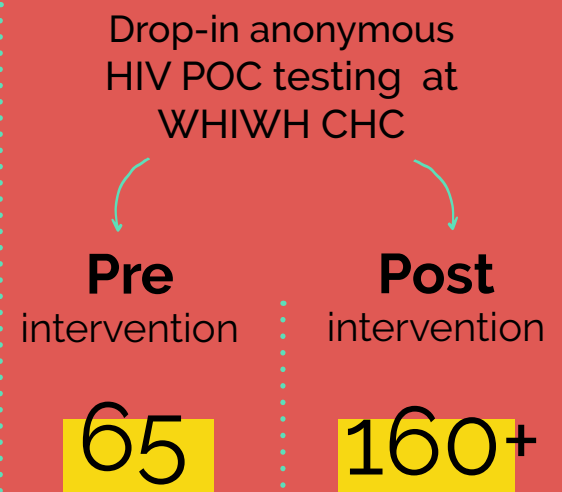
participants completed pre & post intervention surveys.

26% had never been tested before

97% strongly agreed and agreed that they felt their confidentiality was protected

96% strongly agreed and agreed that they were satisfied with their testing experience

97% strongly agreed and agreed that they would get tested again



Resource Developed:
Know Your Status HIV Testing Promotional Video



I feel much more empowered now that I know my status



WHO: Denese Frans, Wangari Tharao, Carmen Logie, Winston Husbands, Wesley Oakes, Shannon Thomas Ryan | [Community Advisory Committee](#): Sean Rourke, Michelle Sumner-Williams, Helen Seifu, Tumaini Lyaruu, Bridget Quammie, Stella Osagi, Leonie Tchatat | CIHR Emerging Research Team

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