

Dear H-NIP Partners and Colleagues;

Good Afternoon! We hope this email message finds you well, all things considering. Our work of insuring a knowledgeable HIV workforce remains as critical as ever. For while scientist do not know how COVID-19 will affect people with HIV, they worry that they will be at heightened risk -- **World Health Organization (WHO)**.

One of the benefits of being in the field of academic health care for decades lies in the various perspectives developed over time. We have experienced numerous challenges and together, with partners like you, have learned that tough times call for innovation, sound judgment and perseverance. As we, along with the rest of the world adjust and plan for the COVID-19 pandemic, our business continuity plan continues to adjust similarly to accommodate the reality and uncertainty of our times. Our university has adopted new tools to ensure our community can work effectively from any location and in so doing ensure everyone's safety.

Our H-NIP team, through our decades-old **Telehealth Training Center** will continue to provide you with the technical assistance you expect and deserve. We have taken the following steps:

- As of Monday March 23 our entire team will be working remotely.
- We will respond to messages within a 2-hour window during normal business hours (8:00 AM- 4:30 PM [EST]).
- For emergencies only, please contact our Project Manager, Ms. Denise Bailey at 202.330.9734. Otherwise, please contact the office at 202.865.8146.
- To assist you, we will provide you with your individual site's workplan status update. This will allow you to identify what, if anything needs to be changed and allow for those changes to be documented in your final reports.

These are challenging times and we will get through it together. Kindly let us know if you plan to adopt any practices that will require support or accommodation from us. If you have any concerns, do share those too.

Be well and stay safe.

*Goulda A. Downer, PhD, FAND, RD, LN, CNS
Principal Investigator/Associate Professor
AETC Capitol Region Telehealth Center
Project Director, H-NIP
Howard University College of Medicine
1840 7th Street NW
Second Floor
Washington DC 20001
202-865-8146 (tele)
202-667-1382 (fax)
gdowner@howard.edu
<http://capitolregiontelehealth.org/>*