

**From:** HIV Modernization Movement - Indiana info@hivmodernizationmovement.org  
**Subject:** HMM Digest: August Update - Harm Reduction Support, Hoosier HIV+E and more  
**Date:** August 22, 2023 at 8:00 AM  
**To:** todd@ctoddcreations.com



## **August Digest**

### ***Change Requires Action***

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Hi Todd,

We met recently with our lobbying team to map out our legislative strategy for the 2024 session. We will introduce a limited HIV crime reform bill this year, focusing our efforts on engaging state Senators on our issue. This past year, our bill passed the House but failed to get a hearing in the Senate. We're excited and cautiously optimistic.

This year for Organization Day on November 21 at the Statehouse, we'll be doing something new - we're calling it "HMM Watch." We'll be setting up a general table, and in addition to that, arranging one-on-one meetings between our HMM-trained advocates and their legislators. Additionally, throughout November, we'll be running a general letter campaign to make sure our legislators are aware of the issue of HIV modernization. We'll need your help for the letter campaign, so stay tuned!

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## **Support Team HMM for the Indiana AIDS Walk**

The 2023 Indiana AIDS Walk is Sunday, Sept 17 at the Eugene & Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center (450 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis) 11a-2p. Registration opens at 11:30 a.m. Walk Step-Off at 1:00 p.m.

Every dollar donated goes to the Gregory



Every dollar donated goes to the Gregory Powers Direct Emergency Financial Assistance program that helps Hoosiers living with HIV pay for medication, medical appointment transportation, rent and utility bills, and even food and clothing in emergencies. [Click here to support Team HMM!](#)



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## HMM Across the State

If you know of events in your area where we should be, please [contact us](#).

- Aug 24 - [IUPUI Health Fair](#) (Tabling)
- Aug 27 - [Bloomington Pridefest](#) (Tabling)
- Sep 2 - [Muncie Pride](#) (Tabling)
- Sep 16 - [Terrehaute Pride](#) (Tabling)
- Sep 17 - [Indiana AIDS Walk](#) (Join our team! And Tabling)
- Sep 18-19 - Unity HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis Indiana Conference (Tabling)
- Sep 23 - [Latin Expo](#) (Tabling)
- Sep 30 - [Columbus Pride](#) (Tabling)
- Sep 30 - [Westfield Pride](#) (Tabling)
- Oct 7 - [Spencer Pride](#) (Tabling)
- Oct 10 - IU Adolescent Medicine (Presentation)
- Oct 18 - [Quarterly HMM update](#)

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## Member Spotlight

Please join us in celebrating Brenton McQueary. Brenton has been living with HIV for 9 years and represents HMM in Bloomington. Brenton spent the first years of his journey navigating living HIV "in the closet" but has recently discovered the personal and societal power of visibility. He lives openly as a person living with HIV and a person in long-term recovery from substance use disorder. Brenton has worked in healthcare for almost his entire life and has spent the last 5 years working with people recovering from substance use disorder. HMM Indiana introduced Brenton to



disorder. HMM Indiana introduced Brenton to the regressive and stigmatizing applications of the law that target people living with HIV rather than provide any public health benefit. Brenton recently made a big life/career change in order to allow him to spend his time and apply his passion to combating the HIV epidemic.



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## Where has HMM been this month so far?

Pride events continue into the Fall. We were recently at Ft. Wayne Pride as well as Lafayette's Outfest.



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## Stuck In The 80's National Billboard Campaign







The [Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation](#) (ETAF) is rolling out a national "stuck in the 80s" HIV criminal law reform billboard and poster campaign in different states. Because of our efforts to modernize Indiana's HIV criminal laws, ETAF is including Indiana their national campaign! ETAF is a major sponsor of HMM-Indiana.

These physical and digital billboards are up now in the greater Indianapolis area through September. If you see one, please take a picture or video and share on social media. Tag us @hmmindiana and use the hashtags #HIVIsNotACrime #HMMIndiana #Stuckinthe80s. If you do, we will also enroll in our campaign \$50 gift card lottery! Thank you!

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## HMM Action Alert - Do Not Cut HIV Funding! - Email NOW!



**We need your help** if you haven't already signed on to our current letter campaign!

**We need your help, if you haven't already signed on to our current letter campaign:**

Funding for HIV is currently facing a serious threat, endangering some of our most effective HIV programs.

**Take action NOW** and email Congress to tell them not to cut or flat fund these critical HIV programs. We cannot end the HIV epidemic in the US without this funding.

**Click here for our easy to use form** to send an email to Congress. Our system will locate your senators and representative for you. Super easy!

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## New Harm Reduction Support Group in Indianapolis

**BU FIT  
HARM  
REDUCTION  
WORKS  
SUPPORT  
GROUP**

Creating & navigating change together

**1st Tuesday** - Open  
**3rd Tuesday** - Focused

5:30-6:30pm  
Broadway UMC Church  
in the Parlor  
609 E. 29th St. Indy 46205

**Benefit:**  
Gain support & empowerment to help yourself and your loved ones through the challenges of chaotic substance use

**Join us!**  
sponsored by  
BU Wellness BU Fit

Accessibility note: enter on Fall Creek side of church

A new in-person support group has started for people who are using or have used drugs or alcohol and are looking for support on their journey of harm reduction. Modeled after [Harm Reduction Works](#), the group is open to all types of recovery. All in the community are welcome.

There are two types of meetings:

- **Focused** (*only for people who used drugs or alcohol in the past or currently use drugs or alcohol*)
- **Open** (*family, friends, peer recovery coaches, healthcare workers, etc. are welcome too*).

The group meets in-person on **1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 5:30-6:30 pm ET at [Broadway UMC Church](#) (Indianapolis) in the Parlor. Sponsored by [BU Wellness Network](#).**

[Click thumbnail or here for flyer](#)

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## Indiana Statewide Online Peer-Led HIV Support Group

The **Hoosier HIV+E** is an online support group for people living with HIV. This is a peer-led group open to anyone living with HIV in Indiana.



The Hoosier HIV+E meets via Zoom on the **2nd and 4th Tuesday from 6:30-7:30pm ET / 5:30-6:30pm CT.**

Zoom Information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7442355125>

Meeting ID: 744 235 5125

This support group is sponsored by [Foundations Family Medicine](#), [Continuud](#), and [AIDS Assist of Northern Indiana](#).

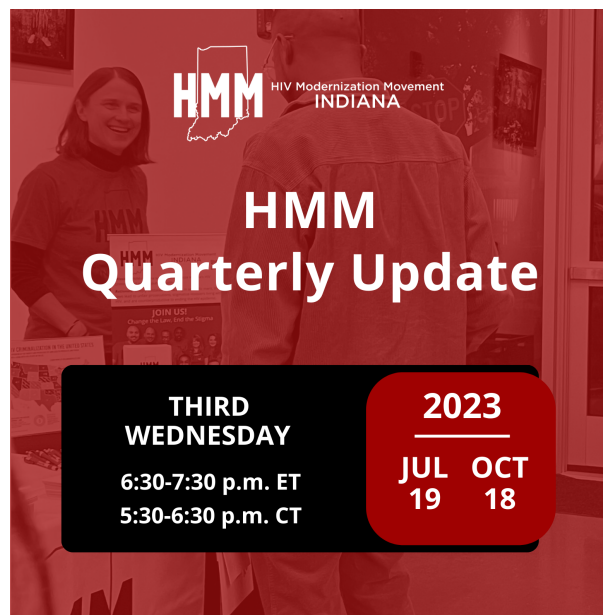
[Click thumbnail or here for flyer.](#)



## 2023 HMM Quarterly Updates

For the remainder of 2023, we will move to quarterly advocacy meetings instead of bi-monthly. **Please note the new dates.**

- When? Quarterly 3rd Wed of the Month: 6:30-7:30p ET/5:30-6:30p CT
- Remaining 2023 Dates: Jul 19, Oct 18
- Where? Zoom: <https://iu.zoom.us/j/85825317208> | no passcode required.



**JOIN US!**

Change the Law, End the Stigma

Zoom: <https://iu.zoom.us/j/85825317208>



## What action can you take to help?

- Join our quarterly [HMM Advocacy Meetings](#)
- Inform others about HMM by placing our brochure at your organization, place of

worship, or favorite coffee spot! [Click here to print copies and/or request paper copies](#) for distribution (English and español available).

- Provide us with more information *including your full street address*. This information will help us identify which State Legislative districts HMM members live in, which will allow us to target our emails to residents in key districts around the State. **Click the button below** to [take action](#) now if you haven't already! 😊

Take Action

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## Online Learning about HIV Criminalization Reform

- [HIV Modernization Movement Indiana](#) - hosted by the Indiana State Bar Association. This is an approved Continuing Legal Education (CLE) course.
- [The HIV Criminalization Online Course](#) - hosted by the HIV Justice Academy

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## Other Opportunities & Resources

- [Read past HMM digests](#) under Newsletter tab.
- For larger discussions on national news related to HIV criminalization, join email lists from [The Sero Project](#) and the [Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation](#).
- For extensive resources on the topic, visit the [Center for HIV Law and Policy](#).
- [Find your Indiana state and federal legislators here](#)
- [Register to vote or check your voting status!](#)

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## Thank you!

HIV Modernization Movement is a grassroots advocacy organization. Our work is made possible by contributions from many donors, including major support from the [Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation](#).

We are now able to accept charitable contributions. [Please click here to donate!](#)

We have [HIV Modernization Movement merchandise for sale](#) on our website. Proceeds are invested back into our grassroots advocacy efforts.

Donate



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## Connect with Us!



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Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](https://ActionNetwork.org). To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from HIV Modernization Movement - Indiana, please [click here](#).