

**From:** HIV Modernization Movement - Indiana info@hivmodernizationmovement.org  
**Subject:** Read about Criminalization of HIV Non-disclosure in Indiana  
**Date:** October 24, 2023 at 8:02 AM  
**To:** todd@ctoddcreations.com



## October Digest

### *Change Requires Action*

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Hi Todd,

After a terrific and busy Pride season, we've increased our email list reach to almost 1,500 people! Welcome to all the new advocates to our HIV modernization email listserv and community!

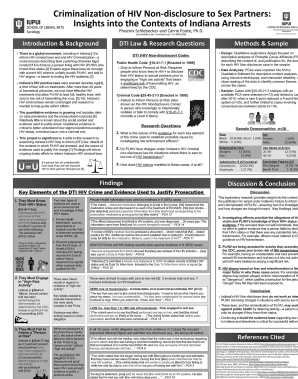
Change the Law, End the Stigma!

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## Research Project: Criminalization of HIV Non-disclosure to Sex Partners in Indiana

This summer [Phoenix Schlebecker](#) and [Carrie Foote, Ph.D.](#) presented a research poster on [Criminalization of HIV Non-disclosure to Sex Partners: Insights into the Contexts of Indiana Arrests](#).

This project examined Indiana's HIV Duty to Inform (DTI) law, details of the contexts in which people living with HIV (PLHIV) are arrested, and the nature of evidence used to justify the charge.



Click thumbnail to [download the research poster](#)

## [poster](#)

Some key findings include:

- Officers prioritize alleged victim's claims and accused's knowledge of their own HIV-positive status to establish probable cause for arrest.
- Officers use private health information (otherwise protected under [HIPPA](#)) and [Indiana Dept of Health \(IDOH\)](#) records as evidence to confirm knowledge of HIV status.
- Limited effort is made to prove actual non-disclosure or significant risk of HIV transmission.
- PLHIV are arrested for activities deemed low-risk by CDC—these arrests violate Indiana's law, which mandates disclosure *only* for high-risk activities.

This research underscores why it's so important to [BE BRAVE](#) and PROTECT YOURSELF when it comes to disclosure of your HIV status to sexual or needle-sharing partners. To learn more, [click here for resources from The Sero Project](#).

[Click here](#) to download the research poster and see the supporting details for yourself! If you have any questions, please reach out to the authors - or reply to this email and I'll get an answer! Thanks for your interest!

"Change the understanding of the law, end the stigma." 😊

**"HIV stigma based on fear and misinformation is likely a major factor in why these [HIV criminalization] cases occur."**

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## HMM Across the State

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

- Nov 12-17 - HIV Awareness Week, Purdue LGBTQ Center (Key Note Panel Nov 16 and Tabling)
  - Nov 15 - Non-Medical Case Manager Training with IDOH (presentation)
  - Nov 21 - Indiana HMMWatch & Organization Day at the Statehouse
  - Dec 1 - Urban League World AIDS Day Event (Tabling)
  - Dec 3 - Community Christian Church (Presentation)
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## Member Spotlight

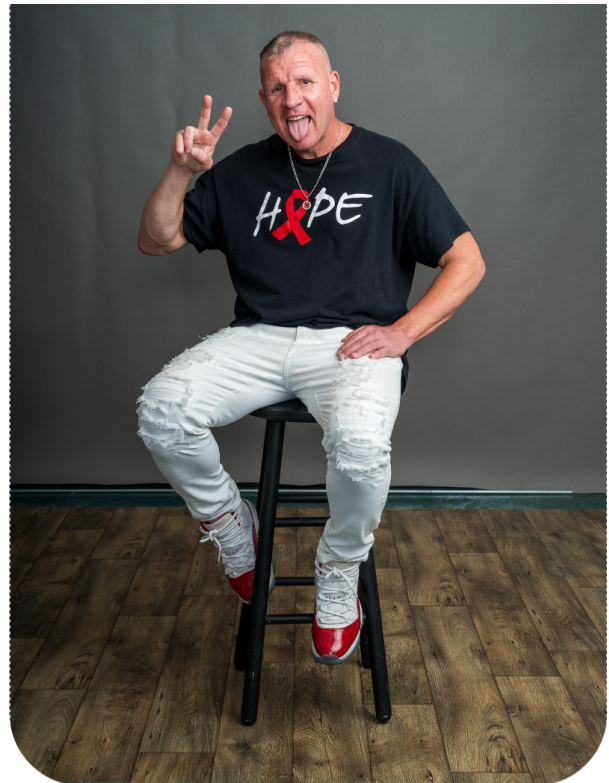
Join us in celebrating Tony Pastrick. As he likes to say, *"HIV has been living with me since March 18, 2015 behind the biggest,*



*fueled IV drug HIV epidemic in the history of the United States."*

Tony is now a person in long-term recovery. HIV gave him a purpose in life. He is doing peer-led outreach in the community as a part of Shalom Healthcare.

On his purpose, Tony adds, *"I love showing people that this is no longer a death sentence and we live healthy full lives and have children that are HIV negative. I'm an avid runner and have a 4 year old beautiful daughter."*



## Where has HMM been this month so far?

We closed out the summer with our final pride events: We were at Scott County, Columbus, Westfield and Spencer Prides.





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## Hoosier Advocate? You are!

One of the presentations at the Sept. UNITY Conference was on navigating policy advocacy in our field. There is a lot of confusion about what government employees or staff at non-profit HIV service organizations can or can not say when it comes to policy. [Rachel Deitch](#), Director of Federal Policy at [the National Coalition of STD Directors](#), gave an excellent presentation on the how, why and what of "Education, Advocacy and Lobbying," with real world examples. [Click here for her presentation.](#)

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## Free At Home HIV Test Kits

The only way to know your status is by getting an HIV test. Self-testing can be done anytime, anywhere.

- In Marion County, free at home tests are available at [testindy.org](http://testindy.org)
  - All others in the US, free at home tests are available at [together.takemehome.org](http://together.takemehome.org)
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## DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Voter registration is now closed for this year's local (municipal) elections. Go to [indianavoters.com](http://indianavoters.com) to preview your ballot, find your polling place, etc.

The 2023 elections are municipal elections, which occur every 4 years. This is when local government officials are elected - like mayor, clerk, treasurer, clerk-treasurer, city or town council, and city or town judge. The specifics will depend on the size of the city or town in which you live.

**VOTE  
2023**

VOTE EARLY  
STARTING

WED OCT 11

ABSENTEE  
APPLICATIONS DUE

MON OCT 26  
11:59PM



ABSENTEE  
BALLOTS DUE

ELECTION DAY

TUE NOV 7  
6PM

TUE NOV 7  
6AM-6PM

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