

Guidelines for Participating in the *Many Men, Many Voices* Training

Many Men, Many Voices (3MV) is a group-level, HIV and STD prevention intervention for black men who have sex with men. Individuals are trained to implement this group-level intervention by attending a four-day training designed to build facilitators' understanding of 3MV and how to facilitate and evaluate the intervention. Persons interested in attending the training should have a basic understanding of the intervention and preferably some experience facilitating small groups. They may need to take a Group Facilitation Skills training (see below) prior to attending this training.

Target Audience for the Training

This training is designed for facilitators in public health and community-based organizations (CBOs) who want to learn to use a science-based, small group intervention for HIV and STD prevention for black men who have sex with men and who are planning to implement 3MV in their communities. In general, at least two persons should be trained from any given agency. It is suggested that at least one of the 3MV facilitators should be a peer, that is, a black gay man. At the program level, having a peer facilitator for a small group intervention increases effectiveness. Evaluators, program managers and other staff who will not be involved in the direct facilitation will be accepted into the training if space is available.

Adaptation for Other Racial/Ethnic Groups

The 3MV intervention is designed for use with black gay men. In this context, "black gay men" is meant to include men who have emotional, relational, sexual, and affiliative bonds and connections to other men as well as men who have sex with other men but do not self identify as gay. Non-gay identified men who are **not** comfortable discussing sexual and relationship dynamics in a group setting with other men are **not** appropriate participants for 3MV.

CDC frequently receives questions regarding the appropriate use of 3MV with gay men of other racial/ethnic groups. In those instances, implementers are asked to engage in a significant and meaningful adaptation process for their local target population. The social, cultural, and contextual factors addressed in the intervention are specific to the lives and experiences of black gay men. To the extent that those factors are central to the intervention, their appropriateness needs to be considered (and likely adapted) for gay men of other racial/ethnic groups. Implementers who seek to conduct 3MV with other racial and ethnic minority groups should consult the recently released CDC publication, *The Adaptation Guide: Adapting HIV Behavior Change Interventions for Gay and Bisexual Latino and Black Men*. After a review of the adaptation process, if 3MV seems to be a good fit for the target population, then attendance and participation in the 3MV training is appropriate.

Group Facilitation Course

The 3MV training will not provide participants with basic group facilitation skills. It is each program's responsibility to ensure that all staff intending to deliver the 3MV intervention are adequately trained in group facilitation skills. Therefore, if there is any question about a participant's preparedness to successfully facilitate small group interventions, CDC

recommends that he also attend a Group Facilitation course. You can find the link to the course on the National Network of STD/HIV Prevention Training Centers Web site at: www.nnptc.org.

Pre-Training Webinar on STDs and HIV

An important topic covered during the 3MV TOF and during implementation of the intervention is the interrelation between sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV. All participants attending a 3MV TOF should listen to the 25-minute STD webinar prior to their attendance of the training. The Webinar can be found at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oFwz7Ejh5t0&feature=youtu.be> or on the 3MV

Resources and Tools page of the Effective Interventions Web site at:

<http://effectiveinterventions.org/en/HighImpactPrevention/Interventions/3MV/ResourcesTools.aspx>.