



Appendix A
Replication Case Study Agencies

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After the first version of the **Nia** package was developed, the next step of the replication process was for the package to be tested with agencies in the community. These agencies all had experience doing HIV prevention with African American men who have sex with women and the resources and willingness necessary to implement at least one cycle of **Nia**. Most importantly, they had to be “naïve” to the intervention; this means that they could not have been involved in the original research or the earlier development of the package materials.

With the help of the Florida Department of Health, the University of Texas (UT) Southwestern Medical Center chose three community based organizations to test the **Nia** package. Each agency implemented two cycles of **Nia** and submitted data about their experiences with the intervention. UT Southwestern Medical Center provided training and proactive technical assistance to the agencies.

This appendix includes a brief description of each of the agencies and some of the major “lessons learned” during this process. All the experiences of the case study agencies informed the final version of the package materials, especially the Technical Assistance Guide. The major lessons are listed on the next two pages to emphasize their importance.

Lessons Learned from the Case Study Agencies

Agencies need to schedule a time for participants to complete the Pre-Assessment Survey that allows for sufficient time for the staff to prepare the Personal Feedback Report (PFR) forms.

One agency planned to have the clients fill in the Pre-Assessment Survey immediately prior to the first session, but the meeting room was not available at the expected time. The delay in getting into the room meant that the participants were rushed as they completed the survey. This led to a delay in having the first PFR ready, even though the agency had an extra staff person on hand to transfer data to the PFRs.

It is very important to have facilitators who are culturally competent and also acceptable to the clients.

When the facilitators from one agency met with a group of potential participants, several of the men immediately reacted negatively to the male facilitator. They assumed that he was gay and said they did not feel comfortable talking about their sexual behavior in front of a gay man. The agency recruited a different facilitator for **Nia**, who was acceptable to the group. It should be noted that a different agency used a gay male facilitator throughout and had no noticeable negative reactions from the participants.

Both a male and a female are needed to facilitate the groups.

One agency experienced a number of clients expressing negative and stereotypical assumptions about women. The presence of a strong, yet calm, female facilitator who questioned these men's ideas elicited valuable discussion and more positive comments from some group members.

The original agenda may need to be adjusted.

All of the agencies felt they could use more time for the Myths and Facts activity. On the other hand, most participants also demonstrated some boredom with the second video about men who were infected with HIV. As a result of this feedback, we developed a shorter version of "When Men Talk About HIV/AIDS" (Video #2) and moved the extra time to the Myths and Facts activity.

Some of the agencies asked to split the **Nia** content into more, shorter sessions due to the logistics of the locations where **Nia** was offered and the circumstances of the men recruited to be in the groups. UT Southwestern Medical Center created two new versions of the session agendas, so the agencies could hold two, three, or four session cycles. All the agendas still contain the six hours of intervention content.

It can make the process easier to choose a single participant to create the “imaginary situation” that leads into the discussion of trigger identification.

In one group, the facilitators let all the group members contribute to the brainstorm about the imaginary risky situation with no guidelines as to which ideas would be used. They discovered that their participants had extremely different ideas about what made a woman attractive and what made a situation risky. Giving one of the participants control of the story, so he could decide which of the suggestions coming from the group to include, not only gave him ownership of the situation but also kept contradictory circumstances out of the story.

Simple changes can be very effective.

One agency chose to make a few minor, but innovative, changes to **Nia**. The facilitators added an easel paper where the participants could post questions during the sessions that they called a “Barber Shop.” This title provided one more connection to the community for the older participants, although the younger men had to have the idea of a barber shop being a place to gain information explained to them. During the “Getting to Know You” activity, this agency also chose to pass a bowl of condoms instead of a roll of toilet paper as was done in the research study. This change reinforced the concept of using condoms from the beginning of the intervention and was so well received by the men that we made this change in the Facilitator’s Guide. Neither change was in any way contradictory to the Core Elements.

AIDS Services Association of Pinellas, Inc. (ASAP)

Location: 3050 1st Avenue South
Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713

Associated with: The Hospice of the Florida Suncoast

Mission Statement:

To provide high quality, culturally competent, compassionate services to persons infected or affected by HIV/AIDS by offering a comprehensive continuum of care, and to influence the health and human services community in the care of all people who are infected or affected by HIV/AIDS by participating on a local, regional, national, and international level.

Services:

AmeriCorps Vista Program ★ Behavior Change Classes ★ Case Management ★ Children's Program ★ Community Involvement ★ FFAN Program ★ Food and Personal Needs Pantries ★ HIV Testing and Referral Services ★ HIV Education, Outreach, and Prevention ★ HIV Resource Center ★ HIV Speakers Bureau ★ Limited Financial Assistance ★ Medical Financial Assistance ★ Mental Health Counseling ★ Mobile Testing Unit ★ Monthly Client Dinners ★ Prevention Pete (Mascot) ★ Support Groups ★ VOICES/VOCES Classes ★ Volunteer Opportunities

Target Population:

The target population for the ASAP Department of Health Prevention Program is African American men and women between the ages of 13-44 who are infected and/or affected by the HIV virus and engaging in risky behaviors.

Nia Implementation Staff:

William W. Harper
Tyrone Singletary
Bernadette L. Bass
Dartange D. Scott

ASAP First Nia Cycle (2 sessions)

Session One: October 02, 2007
of participants: 6

Session Two: October 04, 2007
of participants: 6

Participants recruited from: existing venue

Meeting location: Highpoint YMCA
6399 142 Avenue North, Suite 116
Clearwater, Florida 33760

ASAP Second Nia Cycle (2 Sessions)

Session One: October 08, 2007
of participants: 10

Session Two: October 11, 2007
of participants: 10

Participants recruited from: Tarpon Correctional Facility

Meeting location: Wildwood Recreation Center
1000 28th Street South
Saint Petersburg, Florida 33713

Agency Contact Information:

William Harper, HIV Services Director
williamharper@asapservices.org
727-328-3260

CENTAUR

Location: 741 W. Colonial Drive
Orlando, Florida 32804

Associated with: The Center for Drug-Free Living, Inc.

Mission Statement:

Promoting Healthy Responsible Lifestyles

Services:

HOPWA Housing ★ Emergency Housing ★ Transitional Housing ★ Behavioral Interventions (Healthy Relationships, Community PROMISE) ★ Target Prevention Programs ★ Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling ★ HIV Rapid Testing ★ Food Pantry ★ Clothing Assistance ★ Support Groups

Target Population:

All persons living with HIV or AIDS

Nia Implementation Staff:

Susan B. Heiskell
Dyana L. Williams
Earline Blumhagen
Michael Gibson
Cristian M. Duran

CENTAUR First Nia Cycle (4 Sessions)

Session One: November 07, 2007
of participants: 6

Session Two: November 14, 2007
of participants: 6

Session Three: December 03, 2007
of participants: 5

Session Four: December 5, 2007
of participants: 2

Recruited from: Outpatient Drug Treatment Center

Meeting location: Center for Drug-Free Living, Inc. - Ivy Lane Program
4445 Old Winter Garden Road
Orlando, Florida 32811

CENTAUR Second Nia Cycle (3 Sessions)

Session One: December 5, 2007
of participants: 9

Session Two: December 12, 2007
of participants: 8

Session Three: December 19, 2007
of participants: 9

Recruited from: Outpatient Drug Treatment Center

Meeting location: Center for Drug-Free Living, Inc. - Ivy Lane Program
4445 Old Winter Garden Road
Orlando, Florida 32811

Agency Contact Information:

CENTAUR
www.cfdfl.com
407-835-4130

Tampa Hillsborough Action Plan, Inc. (THAP)

Location: 712 West Ross Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33602

Mission Statement:

To provide meaningful programs that meet the needs of inner city residents, who historically felt powerless in accessing the mainstream social, economic and educational systems in order to gain self sufficiency, dignity, pride and self respect.

Services:

Brothas Making a Difference (BMAD)/Many Men Many Voices ★ Healthy Relationships (HR) ★ Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) ★ Targeted Outreach for Pregnant Women (TOPWA) ★ Youth Educational Services (YES)

Target Population:

African American/descent, Hispanic/descent, White/descent, men and women ages 14 and older

Nia Implementation Staff:

Dr. Lynn Knox
Mariemyrtha Alexander
Michelle N. McKinney
Maxwell (Max) J. Jones
Johnnie Hurst

THAP First Nia Cycle (2 Sessions)

Session One: November 07, 2007
of participants: 6

Session Two: November 09, 2007
of participants: 6

Participants recruited from: agency clients

Meeting location: 712 W. Ross Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33602

THAP Second Nia Cycle (3 Sessions)

Session One: January 23, 2008
of participants: 7

Session Two: January 24, 2008
of participants: 7

Session Three: January 25, 2008
of participants: 7

Participants recruited from: Youth Environmental Services (Y.E.S.)
Juvenile Correctional Facility

Meeting location: 4626 Saffold Road
Wimauma, Florida 33598

Agency Contact Information

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