



**Committee for  
Accessible  
AIDS  
Treatment**  
Toronto, Canada

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**Committee for  
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Toronto, Canada

**2013  
Annual Report**

## Mission

The Committee for Accessible AIDS Treatment (CAAT) is a coalition of affected individuals and organizations from the legal, health, settlement, social service, and HIV/AIDS sectors committed to promoting the health and wellbeing of people living with HIV (PHAs) who are facing access barriers related to their precarious status in Canada.

## Brief History

Formed in 1999 to improve treatment and service access for marginalized PHAs, CAAT has been at the forefront of education, research, service coordination, and advocacy on issues related to HIV, immigration and access. In 2001, CAAT undertook a groundbreaking collaborative community based action research project: *Improving treatment access for PHAs who are immigrants, refugees, and non-status (IRN)*. The study documented the challenges faced by vulnerable PHA groups and engaged stakeholders from various sectors to develop a joint action plan to address these barriers. As a result of the study, several innovative initiatives were developed that continue to this day.

## Vision

Our vision is a healthy urban community in which all individuals living with HIV/AIDS have the information and tools they need to access health, social and legal services that are welcoming, inclusive, and respectful regardless of their immigration status.

## Values and Guiding Principles

The highest value is put on the voices and leadership of PHAs in our work, and the view that health is a holistic and inclusive of the physical, emotional, sexual, and spiritual aspects of life.

## Equity and Social Justice

We value human rights based approach that respects individual rights for access to treatment and health care including access to sexual and reproductive health services regardless of HIV and immigration status, diversity and demonstrate respect for the voices of all stakeholders. We are committed to social justice for all. CAAT works from an anti-oppression, anti-racism, anti-homophobia/transphobia and anti-sexism framework aimed at reducing discrimination, stigma and prejudice based on culture, ethnicity, religion, age, ability, sexual orientation and above all, HIV status.

## Community Ownership / Responsiveness

We place great value on community and evidence-based advocacy and solutions as a means to effect systemic and policy change. At CAAT, we also emphasize community ownership, transparency, accountability, and meaningful collaboration with the communities we serve.

## CAAT's key program areas include:

1. Empowerment Education and Outreach
2. Community Development and Capacity Building
3. Service Coordination
4. Research & Evidence-Based Advocacy

## Program Funding Partners:

AIDS Bureau, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (Community Based Education and Support Program)

Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) (Community Based Research Operational Program): CHAMP research study

City of Toronto (APCIP Program): Newcomer PHA Sexual Health Promotion Project

Public Health Agency of Canada (AIDS Community Action Program): Legacy Project

## Special Thanks:

### Sponsoring Partner Agencies:

Ontario HIV Treatment Network  
Regent Park Community Health Centre  
Toronto People With AIDS Foundation

### Organizational Review Resources:

AIDS Bereavement and Resiliency Program of Ontario (ABRPO)  
African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario (ACCHO)  
Fife House  
Ontario HIV and Substance Use Training Program (OHSUTP)

**Our heartfelt appreciation goes to all our program participants, volunteers, and partner organizations**

*\* Names and organizations in alphabetical order*



CAAT team members



CAAT's new 'family' member for a brighter future

## CAAT Steering Committee:

Alan Li  
Bomi Daver  
Claudette Samuels (Co-Chair)  
Dora Londono  
Fatima Barry  
James Murray (ex-officio member)  
Mercedes Umana  
Valérie Pierre-Pierre  
Suzanne Paddock  
Shannon Ryan (co-chair)  
Vijaya Chikermane  
Y.Y. Brandon Chen

## CHAMP Project Advisory Committee:

Akim Adé Larcher  
Andrew Campbell  
Angie Seth  
Carly Yoshida-Butryn  
Charles Olango  
Ellen Wong  
Habeeb Ali  
Herman Astudillo  
Lobsang Tendon  
Morris Komakech  
Natalie Wood  
Paulette Senior  
Peter Lee  
Rose-Anne Bailey  
Seema Nadarajah  
Wangari Muriuki  
Zubeida Ramji

## CHAMP Research Team:

Alan Li  
Amanuel Tesfamichael  
Constantine Cabarios  
Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale  
Fanta Ongoiba  
Jack Kapac  
James Murray  
Jason Luoma  
Josephine Wong  
Kenneth Fung  
Mateusz Zurowski  
Omer Abdulghani  
Rene Lopez  
Richard Utama  
Shannon Ryan

## ETSN Advisory Committee:

Rose Njeri  
Andrew Miao  
Shazia Islam  
Claudette Samuels  
Emmanuel Ndyanabo  
Gladys Kwaramba  
Mary Ndungu  
Omer Abdulghani  
Rene Lopez  
Samuel Lopez

## ETSN Trainers / Peer Facilitators (2013):

Alan Li  
Alex Ciro Bisignano  
Christian Hui  
Claudette Samuels  
Derek Yee  
Emmanuel Ndyanabo  
Fatima Barry  
Henry Luyombya  
Josephine Wong  
Keith Wong  
Lena Soje  
Marvelous Muchenje  
Medys Kihembo  
Omer Abdulghani  
Paulina Tshuma  
Tim McCaskell  
Yvette Perreault

## Immigration and Policy Working Group:

Alan Li  
Darrell Tan  
Jennifer Tran  
John Norquay  
Michael Battista  
Sandra Chu

## Legacy Project Advisory Committee/Volunteers:

Alan Li  
Alex Ciro Bisignano  
Anna Demetrakopoulou  
Bridget Young  
Christian Hui  
Claudette Samuels  
Ed Argo  
Eric Peters  
Keith Wong  
Mark Fisher  
Ted Kloosterman

## Newcomer Sexual Health Promotion Advisory Committee

Anda Li  
Andre Ceranto  
Atiba Lopez  
Christian Hui  
Mary Gikundi  
Tsitsi Watt  
Rene Lopez  
Sandra Chu

## PHA Service Provider Research Project Team:

Alan Li  
Andrew Miao  
Charlie Guiang  
Claudette Samuels  
Devica Hintzen  
Joshua Wales  
Lena Soje  
Maureen Owino  
Precious Maseko  
Yvette Perreault

## Staff List:

*Program Director*  
Maureen Owino

*Legacy Project Coordinator*  
Gorata Komane (until Aug 2013)

*Newcomer Sexual Health Promotion Project Coordinator*  
Godelive Ndayikengurukiye

*Newcomer Sexual Health Promotion Project Program Assistants*  
Alex Ciro Bisignano  
Aruna Hewapathirane  
Christian Hui  
Dale Maitland  
Lucy Kagotho  
Raj Jagwani

*CHAMP Research Project Coordinator*  
Henry Luyombya

*CHAMP Peer Research Associates*  
Alex Ciro Bisignano  
Amanuel Tesfamichael  
Christian Hui  
Dale Maitland  
Kenneth Poon

*CHAMP Student Research Assistants*  
Chandni Chandrashekar  
Jennifer Ho

*CAAT Organizational Review Consultant:*  
Carolyn Acker

## November 2012

- CAAT Annual General Members meeting
- Legacy PHA worker Training: Facilitator Skills and Group Dynamics: Engaging the Theory
- OHTN research conference – special session, abstracts and posters

## December 2012

- Radio Interview for World AIDS Day-G798fm by HIV champions from CHAMP

## January 2013

- Presentation to the ACCHO Council on the Impact of Canada's new refugee laws on PHAs
- Presentation at The AIDS Network, Hamilton on HIV and Immigration
- Presentation at HIV 101 workshop for Toronto Public Health
- Legacy PHA worker Training: Presence: Self-awareness and the Emotional Dimension, ABRPO
- Presentation at Faith in the City Conference, Toronto City Hall
- Abstract writing training workshop

## February 2013

- Guest lecture for Sociology class U of Toronto on HIV & Immigration
- CAAT/ETSN peer facilitators retreat
- Legacy PHA worker training: Peer learning, meeting the challenges of a peer facilitator
- N-vivo software and qualitative data training at OHTN

## March 2013

- CAAT staff and Steering Committee retreat
- ETSN Level 1 training
- HIV & Immigration Service Access training at Peel HIV/AIDS Network (PHAN), Mississauga
- Presentation at Opening Doors Conference Toronto
- CIHR-funded CHAMP Café Scientifique research forum

## April 2013

- Presentations at CAHR Conference Vancouver, BC
- Presentation at HIV 101 workshop for Toronto Public Health

- ETSN Level 1 training
- Legacy PHA worker training: Peer Facilitators debriefing session
- CHAMP final data collection / focus groups & post-intervention surveys

## May 2013

- CHAMP presentation at the Diversity and Equity in Mental Health and Addiction conference
- 2nd annual Interdisciplinary HIV pregnancy Research Group (IHPREG) conference
- Peel HIV/AIDS Network (PHAN) Legacy Orientation session
- Legacy PHA worker training: Peer facilitators debriefing session
- KTE Video Project – episode 1: Experiences from CHAMP

## June 2013

- CHAMP presentation at 35th Guelph Sexuality Conference, Guelph, ON
- Forum on new immigration & refugee laws & their impact on newcomers living with HIV
- Legacy Orientation session
- Newcomer Sexual Health Promotion forum on Sexual Health, Toronto

## July 2013

- Guest lecture for Sociology class, U of Toronto on HIV & Immigration
- Guest lecture for graduate nursing class at Ryerson University on CBR
- Critical Community Campus Writing Circle – CAAT, Ryerson University & York University

## August 2013

- Presentations at 21st IUHPE World conference on health promotion, Thailand
- CHAMP final individual interviews, activity log collection and data analysis preparation

## September 2013

- Presentation at International AIDS Impact conference, Barcelona, Spain

# Message from the CAAT Co-chairs

As outgoing Co-Chairs, we are especially pleased to report on significant accomplishments over the past year. It is clear that CAAT's model is one of excellence and innovation. We are an organization with a history of promoting effective service delivery models, responsiveness to the needs of diverse communities, and honouring IRN PHA lived experiences.

Early in 2013, the AIDS Bureau offered CAAT increased funding to expand its model and deliver capacity building programming in communities across Ontario. The expectation of the funding was that CAAT would position itself as a resource to ASOs and their partners and to strengthen the capacity of organizations to serve IRN PHAs.

These discussions led to two significant new goals for CAAT. First was an organizational review to determine if our existing organizational model was still appropriate in the context of our future growth. Second was to develop the new province-wide Capacity Building Program.

The goal of our organizational review was to align our trustee relationships and to develop an appropriate management structure that ensured accountability, good governance, the stabilization of CAAT to ensure our sustainability and to position us for expanded Province-wide work. The review included a facilitated process to determine our organizational strengths and opportunities for development and resulted in two significant operational changes: a change in our primary trustee relationship; and the creation of a new Director position.



Claudette Samuels  
CAAT co-chair



Shannon Ryan  
CAAT co-chair

Next, we focused on the early development of the new province-wide Capacity Building Program to be launched later this year. Thanks to new funding from the AIDS Bureau, we will work to increase the capacity of ASOs serving IRN-PHAs. This work will result in the opportunity to develop new partnerships with ASOs and their partners in the Province with the mutual goal of building capacity to engage and serve IRN PHA communities to address the many complex issues related to their health, social support, migration, and settlement needs.

We would like to offer our thanks to those who provided leadership in this work, including the Steering Committee, Maureen Owino, and the rest of the CAAT staff, and consultant Carolyn Acker. We would also like to offer a special thanks to the Toronto People with AIDS Foundation (PWA) for their excellent support of CAAT as Trustee. While Regent Park Community Health Centre is our new trustee we look forward to many years of collaboration with PWA.

The Steering Committee is proud of the work we did over the last year towards building an even stronger CAAT, and we are excited about the work CAAT will accomplish over the coming year.



Legacy orientation session attended by mentors and mentees



Faith leader,  
AbdurRashid Taylor,  
shares his HIV  
championship work

## 2013 NSHPP Highlights:

- Conducted 19 workshops in Toronto city attended by 553 participants
- Conducted 2 community forums on criminalization of HIV non-disclosure & sexual health promotion attended by 43 participants, facilitated by peer assistants and knowledge experts
- Outreached to 130 agencies including ASOs and non-ASO newcomer agencies

## The Legacy 2 Project: “Walk with Us”

Maureen Owino, Program Director and  
Gorata Komane, Project Coordinator

Legacy 2 Project is a follow up of the Legacy project. It is a PHAC funded project of CAAT in partnership with ABRPO, ACCHO, ETSN, OHTN, PHAN, and PWA. The goal of Legacy 2 is to engage diverse PHA and community partners in individual and group mentoring

activities and knowledge exchange initiatives to promote capacity building, professional and civic engagement, reduced social isolation and HIV stigma, improve access to services and determinants of health.

## 2013 Legacy Project 2 Highlights

- Revised Legacy Orientation curriculum from a two-full day session to one full day
- Piloted PHA worker training in partnership with ABRPO aimed at supporting PHAs in employment. 19 participants attended with 17 graduated. 3 monthly debriefs followed
- Successfully replicated Legacy project at PHAN, Mississauga, orientation session took place in May 2013 with 18 participants
- Conducted Legacy 2 orientation session in Toronto in June 2013 attended by 30 participants
- Legacy program model published in mentorship reference book by Open University Press



## Knowledge Transfer and Exchange

CAAT showcased its work at many regional, national, and international conferences and forums:

- CHAMP: Abstracts and poster presentations at OHTN Conference (2012), CAHR 2013, Diversity and Equity in Mental Health & Addictions Conference (Toronto); International AIDS Impact conference (Spain 2013). Workshops at Guelph Sexuality Conference(2013) and IUHPE World conference on health promotion (Thailand 2013)
- PHASP: poster presented at CAHR 2013; 1 journal article submitted to AIDS Care

- Evaluation Best Practice study results presented at 2012 OHTN research conference
- Legacy Mentorship poster presented at CAHR 2013 in Vancouver BC
- Newcomer Sexual Health Promotion Project model presented at CAHR 2013 Vancouver BC
- Oral presentation at Faith in the City conference, Toronto
- Community-Based Research (CBR) presentations at Ryerson University
- Guest lectures at Nursing, Social Work & Sociology at Ryerson University & University of Toronto

## EMPOWERMENT EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

### Newcomer PHA Sexual Health Promotion Project (NPSHP)

*Godelive Ndayikengurukiye,  
Project Coordinator*

Funded by the City of Toronto through its AIDS Prevention Community Investment Program (APCIP), the Newcomer Sexual Health Promotion Project aims to improve the health of newcomer PHAs and reduce their vulnerability to HIV/STIs and criminalization of HIV non-disclosure through peer based outreach and educational workshops and forums at health, social and newcomer settlement agencies.

The workshop topics include: sexual health and STIS/HIV; healthy sexual relationships;

dealing with HIV-related stigma and discrimination; criminalization of HIV non-disclosure and disclosure strategies; HIV and Immigration & service access, and addressing newcomer PHA-specifics.



*Staff / Steering Committee retreat*

It has been a busy and productive year for CAAT with many new challenges but also opportunities. As we witnessed increased needs from immigrant, refugee and non-status PHAs (IRN-PHAs) as a result of cutbacks on federal interim health benefits and the changes in the refugee claim and appeal processes; we worked hard to engage diverse communities to facilitate service coordination, public education, PHA and service provider capacity building and evidence-based advocacy to enable our communities to effectively respond to these challenges.

CAAT went through two major milestones this year: the growth in our roles and partnerships across Ontario; and our organizational restructuring to strengthen operation and accountability.

Last year the AIDS Bureau - Ontario's Ministry of Health and Long Term Care awarded CAAT additional funding to strengthen our work in engaging AIDS Service Organizations across Ontario to build our collective capacities to serve newcomer PHAs. This initiative gave us a valuable opportunity to increase our partnerships across the province while consolidating the ones with our local allies.

For our organizational restructuring planning, we carried out extensive consultation with our community members, program participants, staff, and volunteers. Taking into consideration issues related to CAAT's growth, our changing need for program, financial and human resource management, and funders' accountability requirement, we made three key changes in our structure: (1) Regent Park Community Health Centre was selected to be the financial trustee and host

agency for CAAT; (2) the Program Coordinator position was restructured to be Program Director; and (3) A new position of Capacity Building Coordinator was created to coordinate both PHA and AIDS Service Organization partners' capacity building activities.



*Maureen Owino  
Program Director*

On behalf of the CAAT family, with profound gratitude, I wish to thank the management and staff of Toronto People with AIDS Foundation (PWA) for their work as CAAT's financial trustee for the past seven years. Your belief in CAAT's work and your dedicated support are deeply and greatly appreciated.

I want to thank everyone for supporting CAAT through this transition. Special thanks to all our funders, the CAAT Steering Committee, our Staff, our peer facilitators, our partners at ABRPO, ACCHO, FIFE House, OHSTUP, PWA, RPCHC and all our volunteers for their unwavering support. Lastly, my heartfelt appreciation goes to our organizational consultant Carolyn Acker, and retreat facilitators Yvette Perreault and Chris Leonard for their support and wonderful skills to help us throughout this process.

As I take on the new role of CAAT Program Director, I would like to renew my commitment to work with all of you to further CAAT's important work to support PHA empowerment and to build a stigma free society for all.

## RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE-BASED ADVOCACY

Alan Li, Chair, CAAT Research Committee  
Henry Luyombya, CHAMP Research Project Coordinator

CAAT has another exciting year with many innovative and dynamic research projects:

### Mobilizing and Supporting Ethno-racial HIV Champions: CHAMP

Our *CIHR-funded Community Champions HIV/AIDS Advocates Mobilization Project (CHAMP)* study mobilized community members to address HIV stigma by collectively engaging both people living with HIV (PHAs) and non-PHA community leaders from faith, media, and social justice sectors in three ethno-racial communities Asian (East, South East & South Asian), Black (African & Caribbean); and Latin American/Hispanic (Spanish speaking).

CHAMP piloted and evaluated two HIV stigma reduction interventions: Acceptance Commitment Training (ACT), which aims to increase psychological flexibility in dealing with stigma and life challenges; and Social Justice Capacity Building (SJC) that promotes knowledge and skills in community mobilization and collective action. Over the past year we have completed all its training and follow up data collection activities. Our preliminary findings have shown significant decrease in internalized stigma among PHAs

and enacted stigma among non-PHAs. Readiness to take positive action to address stigma and discrimination was also increased in all participants. Qualitative data from focus groups and the activity logs collected over 9 months from the participants documented over 1800 activities related to challenging HIV stigma and discrimination, promoting HIV prevention and support, and advancing social injustices. PHA participants reported increased personal and community disclosure, participation in community engagement, capacity building, and advocacy activities. Non-PHA participants reported increased integration of HIV issues in their work in other sectors, volunteerism at AIDS service organizations and organizing HIV education activities in their respective communities.

Another highlight for CHAMP this year was our Café Scientifique – a research forum funded by CIHR to share our project's knowledge and experience with the broader general public. The Café was attended by almost 40 participants from

- Level 1: “Helping ourselves” focuses on treatment literacy and communication skills with health care providers
- Level 2: “Helping Each Other” focuses on peer counseling support skills and;
- Level 3: Facilitators Training & mentored practices for peer graduates to become facilitators

After 10 years of ETSN, the program has had 160 participants and 125 graduates.

### 2013 ETSN Highlights:

- Conducted level 1 training with 19 peers, and 12 graduates
- 12 ETSN graduates were deployed as peer trainer/facilitators for the 2013 training series.
- 30 ETSN graduates, advisory members, peer facilitators and training consultants

participated in the CAAT peer visioning retreat to provide input in the CAAT organizational review process.

### Research Capacity Building:

Continuing our vision to advance meaningful engagement of affected communities especially PHAs in research, we have organized many capacity building and mentorship activities:

- Research skill training on N-Vivo software for data management
- Collaborative qualitative data coding and analysis skills training
- Individual interviewing techniques
- Knowledge translation tools development and public presentation skills
- Academic writing skills development for conference abstracts and peer reviewed publications

# Be a CHAMP!



ETSN Graduation Ceremony

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING

### HIV & Immigration Service Access Training

Maureen Owino, Program Director

CAAT's HIV & Immigration Service Access Training enhances both service providers and IRN-PHAs awareness of issues affecting immigrant/refugees living with HIV/AIDS and information on available services and resources.

In 2012, CAAT was awarded additional funding from the AIDS Bureau to strengthen our work in building collective capacity for ASOs in Ontario that serve newcomer PHAs. This initiative provided us with an opportunity to build newer coalitions and strengthen existing partnerships.

In 2013, to prepare for our new provincial capacity building roles, we

- Conducted two retreats (peers & staff/steering committee) to review CAAT mission, vision, values, strategic plan and core programs to inform our organizational review process
- Conducted a needs assessment of AIDS Service Organizations across Ontario to identify their needs/priorities in serving IRN-PHAs
- Updated our training manual on HIV & Immigration and our ETSN peer treatment counselor and facilitator training.

- In partnership with HALCO, we conducted HIV and Immigration Service Access Training workshops at African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario (ACCHO), The AIDS Network (Hamilton), Peel HIV AIDS Network (PHAN), AIDS Committee of Durham and Canadian Treatment Action Council (CTAC)



Newcomer sexual health promotion workshop

### Ethno-racial Treatment Support Network (ETSN)

Godelive Ndayikengurukiye,  
ETSN Coordinator

Ethno-racial Treatment Support Network is an HIV treatment literacy and peer counseling training for ethno-racial PHAs and service providers working in support positions in ASOs. ETSN uses an empowerment education model, which integrates GIPA/MIPA and shared leadership to establish community succession. ETSN provides training in three levels:



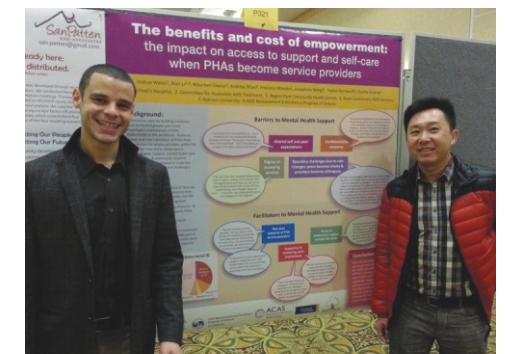
Art community leader Gloria Kim speaks at the CHAMP Café Scientifique research forum

diverse sectors of community services and academic institutions. Using story-telling and experiential learning activities, the forum provided participants a snap shot of the CHAMP's intervention training and personal experiences from our HIV champions. Participant evaluation showed that they gained a better understanding of HIV stigma, social inclusion and exclusion and how it affects individuals/communities. Participants also expressed increased level of interest to engage in collaborative dialogue to address HIV in our communities.

We are now developing exciting knowledge translation exchange activities to share our findings, support projects being developed by our project participants-turned-HIV Champions, and engage in partnership talks with different groups to replicate our training interventions.

### Supporting PHA Service Providers

In response to the growing concerns about barriers to accessing mental health support when PHAs move from service user into service provider roles, we developed the study *"When PHAs become Service Providers"* (PHASP). This study engaged 27 culturally diverse PHAs and identified important insights on the access barriers as well as evolving strategies to address these concerns. Our work has already inspired two exciting follow up initiatives: (a) Our research team is looking at adapting our Legacy PHA worker training program (in partnership with AIDS Bereavement & Resiliency Program of Ontario, ABRPO) into a research intervention for further evaluation and sector-wide replication planning. (b) CAAT and the CIHR REACH research network have formed a team to organize a national forum to share knowledge and identify priority research agenda to support PHA engagement as service providers.



Presenting poster on PHA service provider study at CAHR conference 2013



CAAT/ETSN retreat

### Identifying Best Practices in Evaluating Program Impact

In collaboration with Black CAP and Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples, CAAT completed the *“Identifying best practices in evaluating impact of HIV interventions in culturally diverse communities.”* This study enabled project partners to gain important insights on the impact of our program interventions from the participants' perspectives, and provided a helpful framework for us to develop meaningful evaluation tools to track these changes. We have also identified gaps in existing tools that can capture the complexity of our communities' experiences and provide focus for future tool development. The results

of this project have been shared with the OHTN MSM research working group who has picked up the agenda to do follow up work on this area about evaluating MSM interventions.

### Major Research Collaboration:

In addition to the above projects led by CAAT, we also play active leadership or collaborator roles in many other research studies that are of interest to our communities:

#### **ECHO: Employment Change Health Outcome in HIV/AIDS**

This multi-year CIHR funded large population research study that CAAT co-leads with

OHTN, PWA and ACT provides important data on how employment status and conditions affect PHAs' health. The project has completed all its data collection. We are now in the final stage of data analysis and expect to generate useful insight and recommendations to support PHAs' engagement in the work force.

#### **AMP2R: Asian MSM Pathways to Resiliency**

*Asian MSM Pathways to Resiliency (AMP2R)* study is led by ACAS (Asian Community AIDS Services). The study identifies key life events that affect Asian MSM's sexual health and explores their resiliency responses to these challenges. Lessons learnt from this study will enable wider racialized communities to explore cultural specific as well as cross cutting strength-based strategies to inform services and future research intervention development.



CHAMP team members at the Diversity & Equity in Mental Health & Addictions conference

#### **YEPS: Youth Engagement to Prevent HIV/STI and Promote Sexual Health Study**

The Youth Engagement to Prevent HIV/STI and Promote Sexual Health study (YEPS) is a CAAT partnership project with Ryerson University. The objective of this project is to engage racial minority and marginalized youths to explore cultural and age-appropriate strategies in HIV/STI prevention and sexual health promotion activities.

#### **Additional Research Partnerships:**

- Facilitators and Barriers to HIV Research Study (OHTN)
- HIV Disclosure Intervention Integration Project (Women's Health in Women's Hands-WHIWH)
- Interdisciplinary HIV Pregnancy Research Group (IHPREG) (Women's College Hospital)
- Neurological outcomes of pre- and perinatal exposure to anti-retroviral treatment in HIV uninfected children research study (Hospital for Sick Children)
- Positive Parenting Pilot Project (McMaster University)
- Trauma-informed mental health interventions for IRN-PHAs (WHIWH)
- Youth Peer Sexual Education: How can we improve evaluation? (U of Toronto)
- 3rd Ontario African, Caribbean & Black Research Think Tank: Setting research priorities for HIV research among ACB (ACCHO-Dec 2012)