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Ohio AIDS Coalition Committed to Voter Empowerment

New activities will focus on voter empowerment and engagement for 2012 Election

COLUMBUS – The MAC**AIDS**Fund awarded the Ohio AIDS Coalition (OAC), a division of AIDS Resource Center Ohio (ARC Ohio), new funding to engage Ohioans living with HIV/AIDS in the 2012 Election cycle.

In collaboration with the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, AIDS United, the Latino Commission on AIDS, and Project Inform, the HIV Med Access Campaign aims to highlight important HIV/AIDS health access issues in 2012.

The Ohio AIDS Coalition's Campaign will focus on empowering HIV-positive Ohioans with the most updated information about voter registration deadlines and provide other helpful resources, engage and educate HIV-positive Ohioans through community education and leadership forums throughout the state, and empower HIV-positive Ohioans through legislative advocacy and leadership development.

OAC will also be partnering with Equality Ohio and Stonewall Columbus on a 2012 voter registration drive. Individuals can stop by any [ARC Ohio office locations](#) throughout the state during normal business hours and fill out a registration form. We'll take them to the Board of Elections for you.

“We are thrilled to grow our capacity in engaging consumers all around Ohio in the upcoming 2012 General Election,” stated Tyler Andrew TerMeer Director of the Ohio AIDS Coalition. ***“2012 is a pivotal year for people living with HIV/AIDS, and with Ohio being a key swing state, our involvement in educating, empowering, and mobilizing consumers has never been more crucial.”***

The Ohio AIDS Coalition's vision is to provide hope, healing, and empowerment to all persons living with and affected by HIV/AIDS disease within the state of Ohio. The core objectives of OAC are to advance consumer understanding of the standard of HIV care; to increase consumer ability to self-assess their current level of care; to develop consumer capacity to self-advocate for improved healthcare; to promote wellness through empowerment, education, an advocacy; and to strengthen Ohio's community response to HIV/AIDS.

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