



# SPECIAL PRIDE MONTH EDITION



## **Dates for SYNChronicity 2019 Announced!**

Following an extremely successful 2018 conference with over 1,800 participants, the Coalition is excited to announce that the 2019 SYNC conference will be held April 14th to April 16th, 2019 in Washington, DC. More details to be announced soon!

## **Call for Advisory Committee Applicants**

Comprised of senior executives and thought leaders in HIV, HCV, and LGBT health, the SYNC 2019 Planning Committee will provide high-level input on program

topics to create relevant and powerful sessions for SYNC 2019. Planning Committee participation involves a minimal time commitment, requiring only one meeting in Washington, DC (which you can join by phone) and 2-4 conference calls. We are looking for people with expertise in any area of LGBT health.

Submit your application to join the SYNC 2019 Planning Committee by [clicking here](#); applications are due by July 2, 2018.

Applicants will be notified by **July 9, 2019**.

If you have questions, please contact Terrence Calhoun at [terrence@healthHIV.org](mailto:terrence@healthHIV.org) or 202-507-4723.

**The Advisory Committee will hold its first meeting on July 11, 2018, from 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM, in Washington, DC.**



## **#CopaysCount Campaign - Share Your Story**

The National Coalition for LGBT Health is concerned about co-pay assistance not counting towards your deductible and is advocating to make #CoPaysCount. Visit our [#CopaysCount website](#) to get involved. If you

are experiencing co-pay issues, share your story [here](#).  
Here is more background on the issue:

Pharmaceutical manufacturers have offered coupons, also known as “co-pay cards,” to help offset the cost of many prescriptions. These coupons are often used for essential medicines that prevent HIV and treat HIV. Since there are no generic alternatives in many cases, these co-pay cards have helped many people pay for their medicines. Insurers have traditionally counted these coupons towards a patient’s deductible. For those who have a lower deductible, these co-pay cards can help a person reach their health plan’s deductible.

Now, some insurers have changed these policies, no longer counting these coupons toward a person’s deductible. Some plans are refusing to accept co-pay cards at all. This shifts costs directly onto patients and is going to affect patients’ access and adherence to their medications.



## Upcoming Event: The State of LGBT People of Color in America

The NAACP will hold its [109th Annual Convention](#), July 14-18, 2018 at the Henry B Gonzales Convention Center, San Antonio, TX. The NAACP LGBTQ Task Force is hosting a workshop, **The State of LGBTQ People of Color in America, on Tuesday, July 17th (2:30pm-4:30pm) during the NAACP's Convention.**

The workshop will explore: Effective Strategies for LGBTQ Activism; Acceptance & Inclusion; Representation in the Workplace, Congress and Media; and the LGBTQ power around Voting Rights. **To attend, only a day pass is required!**

Following the workshop, a **networking reception (5:30pm-7:30pm)** is scheduled for NAACP executive leadership, partners and grassroots entities to come together identifying ways to prevent stigma and discrimination through an inclusive intersectional approach.



## **National LGBT Health Awareness Week Will Be March 25-29, 2019**

The Coalition announces that March 25th to March 29th will be the official dates for National LGBT Health Awareness Week 2019! If you or your organization are interested in becoming involved, you can check for updates at [healthlgbt.org](http://healthlgbt.org)



## **Advocacy**

### **Section 1557: Health Protection for Transgender Americans**

Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, and disability in health programs and activities that receive federal funding. It also protects transgender individuals from being denied medical care based on their gender identity. The current administration is planning to propose a rollback on this policy that would open the door for discrimination against trans patients. The Coalition will continue to advocate for protections for all LGBT individuals, especially those most vulnerable to mistreatment within the health care system.

The Coalition will be monitoring the situation closely, and will notify our membership when more information is available.