

**HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PRACTITIONER INSTITUTE (HAPPI)
PHASE I**

This Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase I grant project investigated the feasibility and utility of establishing the HIV Prevention Professional Institute (HPPI), which will train HIV prevention professionals on how to apply social science research-based skills to their program development, evaluation, and sustainability efforts. HPPI will comprise eight courses—four *basic* courses on developing strong programs and four *advanced* courses on evaluating and sustaining strong programs. Recognizing the diversity of individual learning styles and the varied facilities and funding available to prevention practitioners, HPPI will be made available in convenient and low-cost CD-ROM and web-based formats. In addition, in-person workshops covering one or more courses will be taught as pre-conference and during-conference workshops at professional meetings frequented by HIV prevention practitioners. Participants will leave with a CD-ROM containing the course or courses just taught.

The Phase I project aimed to: (a) conduct research on the educational methodologies most appropriate for developing and implementing a set of multi-method courses designed both to enhance the quality of HIV prevention practitioners' interventions and to encourage them to assess (or cooperate in the assessment of) these interventions; (b) lay the groundwork for developing a course series that encourages HIV prevention practitioners to develop and/or replicate scientifically effective, culturally competent interventions for preventing and reducing HIV transmission and its co-morbidities; and (c) use state-of-the-art educational technologies to disseminate social and behavioral research-based information to HIV/AIDS practitioners at governmental and non-governmental organizations, particularly those who serve racial and ethnic minority communities, to increase their capacity to apply such research to their local needs.

To accomplish these aims, the Phase I project: (1) conducted needs assessment with the product's target audience to inform HPPI development; (2) developed the HPPI curriculum and one complete prototype course; (3) demonstrated the usability of the prototype course, through usability research conducted with the target audience; (4) demonstrated the promise of HPPI in achieving positive behavioral effects, through a brief pilot assessment conducted with the usability testers; and (5) demonstrated the feasibility of disseminating HPPI widely.

Sponsor: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
Building 31, Room 7A-50
6700B Rockledge Drive, Room 3102
Bethesda, MD 20892 (express mail: 20817)
(301) 435-3757

Grant or Contract No: 1 R43 AI058389-01

Project Officer: Monica Ruiz

Duration: 02/15/04—08/14/05

Budget: \$246,503

Staff: J. J. Card, D. Dull Akers, J. Solomon, T. Kuhn, R. Ruiz, K. Nguyen, T. Wells