



**TRANSDIASPORA**<sup>TM</sup>  
n e t w o r k

Promoting prevention—one teen at a time: **Talk Things Out!**<sup>TM</sup>



  @Transdiasporic

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# mission

Communicating culturally oriented solutions to the next generation of leaders fighting HIV/AIDS in local communities.

Transdiaspora Network (TDN) was founded in 2007 in response to the lack of prevention activities tailored to young people in culturally diverse communities, and to the high seroprevalence rates in Brooklyn—the highest in New York City’s five boroughs, and among the highest in the United States.

## Who We Are

Transdiaspora Network is a leading human-capacity-building non-profit organization that brings culturally oriented HIV prevention and awareness activities to Brooklyn’s youth. Working with young people ages 14 to 24, TDN fosters a different dialogue about prevention and also promotes social innovation.

TDN goes beyond the biomedical tactic that currently dominates prevention efforts. By tapping into the vast reservoir of our diverse communities, we transform Brooklyn’s unique cultural flavors into assets in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Our holistic approach combines educational, recreational and therapeutic elements that empower youth to make better decisions about their health and enable them to protect their futures.

“HIV prevention to me means to have self-esteem, self-awareness, protection and courage.”

Jahmanuel, program participant

# programs

Young participants are given a different language to communicate with, as well as a venue where they can freely conceptualize and vocalize their feelings in a safe environment.



Participants during group session with TDN intern Sherill Marie Henriquez (center)

## **The RIPPLE Program:**

### **Reflective Interaction Promoting Prevention & Learning**

Our innovative curriculum implies a fundamental shift in youth empowerment and HIV prevention. We insist on the significance of educating social actors who can enhance the ripple effect of HIV prevention from their cultural reservoir and local context. This program, solely dedicated to teenagers, combines three modules:

#### **Afro-Caribbean Dance Mediation**

is a groundbreaking prevention exercise where dance and movement help participants to develop self-respect and a sense of their bodies in relationship to others.

#### **Storytelling Dynamics**

promotes active listening and allows participants to engage with traditional and new Caribbean folktales. The sessions give a voice to the participant's own narratives, even in the face of traumatizing events or challenging circumstances.

#### **The Social Photography Workshop**

fosters a process of self-expression about identity and community. The workshop helps to unravel the connection between self, relationship to others and the participant's physical surrounding.

“We bring a new social meaning to culture and tradition.” Ariel Rojas, President & Founder

## **The BOLD Initiative:**

### **Bridging Opportunity, Leadership and Development**

is an internship for young adults (18 to 24) who want to catalyze communal advancement in HIV prevention. Interns find new ways of engagement within the community by innovatively drawing attention toward social transformation and collective empowerment.

# Our solution is real.

To donate securely online, visit [www.transdiasporanetwork.org](http://www.transdiasporanetwork.org).  
For checks, use the card below and send it via mail to the address listed.

**TRANSDIASPORA**  
network

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Transdiaspora Network is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. We are a proud member of NYC Department of Health's Brooklyn Knows HIV Testing Initiative, the National Latino AIDS Awareness Day Network, the HIV Prevention Justice Alliance and the We Are All Brooklyn Coalition.

Community outreach at Conley Island



Panel discussion at Columbia University School of Social Work

Workshops for the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day at Brooklyn Public Library



“ So far, one thing that I have learned is that any topic, whether it be HIV or something else, can be talked about or performed in various ways, through plays or pieces of literature. ” Nia, program participant