

# Young Adult+ Community Advisory Board (YACAB) Overview

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# The Basics

- Started in January 2013;
- Perinatally HIV-infected and HIV-exposed but uninfected young adults;
- Ages 16-25; and
- Meets monthly via conference call.



# Purpose

## **The YACAB supports the ultimate goals of PHACS by:**

- Creating an official forum for young adults in SMARTT, AMP, and AMP Up to share their perspectives about PHACS and its initiatives;
- Soliciting feedback from young adults about the AMP Up and SMARTT 18+ protocols and other health education and communication materials;
- Giving PHACS clinical and supporting staff a way to develop and refine the health information they want to communicate to the young adults in the study; and
- Offering young adults in PHACS a way to interact with and support each other.



# The Mission

*The Mission of the YACAB was developed by YACAB members.*

- Provide guidance and perspective to researchers for how to make the overall PHACS study better for young adults who are participants; and
- Offer relevant support to members of the YACAB, as well as to other young adults involved in PHACS.



# The Discussions

- Call topics vary each month and are derived from the needs of PHACS and the needs of the YACAB.
- Calls use many formats, including:
  - Story circles/storytelling;
  - Reviewing discussion questions; and
  - Guest speakers with Q & A sessions.





# The Discussions (Continued)

## Previous calls have consisted of:

- Participation in a research study;
- AMP Up (including online surveys);
- Amp This Up website;
- Community;
- Transitioning to adulthood;
- Advocacy;
- Stigma;
- HIV around the world (including China, Asian Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and Latino communities in the US);
- HIV disclosure comics; and
- Using technology and media to communicate with study participants.

# The Future

- Find new ways to recruit and engage young adult CAB members;
- Continue to welcome new members;
- Explore new ways of connecting beyond conference calls;
- Explore new and innovate ways to help young adults get involved in PHACS initiatives; and
- Provide resources and support for young adults in PHACS transitioning into adulthood.

