
CHARM's Newsletter: May Issue

From CHARM <charm@miami.edu>

Date Fri 5/8/2026 10:02 AM

To CHARM <charm@listserv.miami.edu>



CHARM

Friday, May 8, 2026 · 8 min read

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CHARM's Newsletter: May Issue



FABULOUSNESS CORNER



Dr. Tyler Bartholomew awarded the 2026 James M. Tien Early Career Award and Grant

Congratulations to Dr. Tyler Bartholomew on receiving the 2026 James M. Tien Early Career Award and Grant from the University of Miami Provost's Office. This prestigious honor recognizes faculty whose early career contributions demonstrate exceptional growth and impact. Dr. Bartholomew's research in implementation science and health systems has positioned him as an emerging national leader in improving HIV prevention, viral hepatitis care, and substance use treatment for people who use drugs and other underserved populations. Among his many contributions, Dr. Bartholomew developed an opt-out HIV and hepatitis testing program for syringe services programs that the CDC recognized as the first evidence-informed HIV testing strategy of its kind. He now leads a national 36-site implementation trial to scale-up opt-out HIV testing in syringe services programs.



EIS Implementer Researcher Symposium



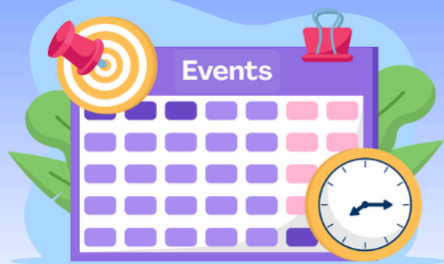
The **CHARM EIS core** hosted the **2nd Annual EIS Implementer Researcher Symposium** on April 10, 2026. This event was an in person 1-day training on implementation science research and practice that also gave attendees the opportunity to establish and strengthen implementer-researcher relationships. We extend congratulations to the EIS core for their work on this fantastic event and a thank you to all of those who attended!



Miami Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) Symposium



On April 13, 2026, the **CHARM team** held a table at the **CFAR symposium** where they shared information on CHARM's services and connected with researchers and clinicians. In addition, **CHARM affiliated** researchers presented their research as posters. Dr. Richelle Joe (pictured on the right) presented the results from her pilot study.



Upcoming Events

May 12, 2026 9-10:30 am

Grant Writing for Foundations

Join this virtual interactive workshop where experts from UM's Corporate & Foundation Relations Office and Global Proposal Solutions (GPS) will discuss strategies to identify and evaluate private and family foundations as well as refine your grant writing approach.

Please **use the QR code** in the image to register for this workshop.

Questions? Contact vprs@miami.edu

FREE WORKSHOP | VIRTUAL | OPEN TO ALL

Grant Writing for Foundations

An interactive workshop with **expert consultation** — designed to help you land foundation funding for research and projects you care about.

Monday, May 12, 2026

9:00 - 10:30 AM

VIRTUAL

REGISTER NOW



WHAT YOU'LL GAIN

Whether you're writing your first foundation proposal or looking to sharpen your approach, this workshop will give you the **frameworks, feedback, and expert guidance** to write compelling narratives that win.

Experts from **UM's Corporate & Foundation Relations Office** and **Global Proposal Solutions (GPS)** will discuss strategies to identify and evaluate private and family foundations and refine your the grant writing approach.

May 18th-21st, 2026

2026 Weeklong Training Seminar

Frost Institute for Chemistry and Molecular Science (1201 Memorial Dr, Coral Gables, FL)

Join national and local implementation science experts, UM researchers, and EIS core leadership for a week of IS training, in-person consultations & networking, implementer-researcher partnership building, and more!

Please **scan the QR code** in the image or **click the link** below to apply.

<https://redcap.link/charmeiswls2026>

Questions? Contact **Alex Porras**
(axp2629@miami.edu)

E. IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE CORE

2026 Weeklong Training Seminar

In-Person Implementation Science Training
Monday-Thursday, May 18th-21st, 2026
Frost Institute Seminar Room (UM Gables Campus)



SCAN ME



Applications now open! Scan the QR code to apply.

For more information or questions, please contact EIS Core Coordinator **Alex Porras** (axp2629@miami.edu)

May 20th, 2026 6:30pm-8:30pm

CHARMing Conversations: Tackling Homelessness and High Living Costs Together

Join us for a virtual discussion members of the **CHARM Community Advisory Board (CAB)** **Roxana Bolden, Tajma Darlington, and Patrick de Castro** and guest speaker **William King** will discuss homelessness and living costs moderated by **Dr. Candice Sternberg**.

Please [click the link](https://tinyurl.com/CC-May20) below to join.
tinyurl.com/CC-May20

Questions? Contact **Ame Leon**
(axl425@miami.edu) or **Meadgine Ilmet**
(mfi13@miami.edu).

May 27th, 2026 6pm-8pm

National ARC CAB Webinar: Where Storytelling Meets Impact in Community Engaged Research

Join us for a virtual roundtable discussion to reflect on the National ARC CAB convening, learn the value of storytelling in community-engaged research, and identify ways academics can support and uplift these efforts.

Please [click the link](https://tinyurl.com/NACWebinarMay26) below to join.
tinyurl.com/NACWebinarMay26

Questions? Contact **Ame Leon**
(axl425@miami.edu) or **Meadgine Ilmet**
(mfi13@miami.edu).



CHARMING CONVERSATIONS:
TACKLING HOMELESSNESS AND
HIGH LIVING COSTS TOGETHER
MAY 20TH, 2026 FROM 6:30 TO 8:30 PM

PANELISTS

Roxana Bolden
S.W.A.T.

Tajma Darlington
Jessie Trice Community
Health Center

Patrick De Castro
VisualAIDS

GUEST SPEAKER

William King
Broward Behavioral
Health Coalition

MODERATOR

Candice Sternberg, MD
MHD-CE Core
Assistant Director

Save The Date!

Wednesday, May 27th
6:00 - 8:00 PM EST

National ARC CAB Webinar:
Where Storytelling Meets
Impact in Community-
Engaged Research

Join us for a roundtable discussion to reflect on the convening, learn the value of storytelling in community-engaged research, and identify ways academics can support and uplift these efforts.

Featured Publications

STRUCTURES OF SURVIVAL:

Syndemic pathways to care among people with HIV involved with the criminal legal system

Felicia O. Casanova
G'Vanni Puchi
Esmeralda Ramirez
Ahzin Bahraini
Zinzi D. Bailey
Kathryn M. Nowotny

OBJECTIVE

Examine how syndemic pathways and cumulative life experiences shape HIV care trajectories among people with HIV involved with the criminal legal system (CLS).

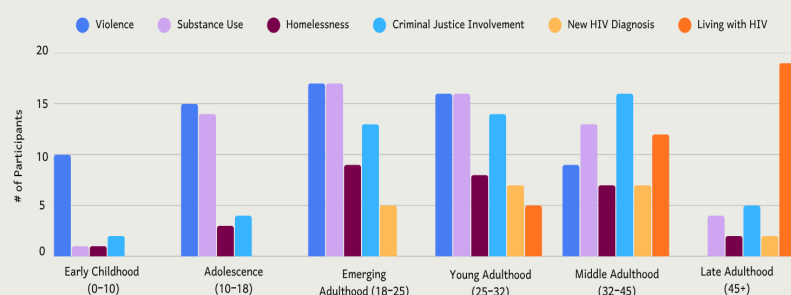
APPROACH

The Life History Calendar (LHC) approach is a well-established quantitative data collection method for constructing trajectories for domains of interest. Life history interviews are a well-established qualitative method for uncovering participants' interpretations of their experiences over a long period.

METHODOLOGY

Guided by a life-course and syndemic framework, we conducted 21 adapted Life History Calendar interviews in Miami, FL. Participants visual timelines and narratives were analyzed using rapid qualitative analysis to identify trajectories and turning points in HIV care.

LIFE COURSE TRAJECTORIES OF HIV WITH OVERLAPPING EXPERIENCES OF VIOLENCE, DRUG USE, HOMELESSNESS, AND CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM-INVOLVEMENT



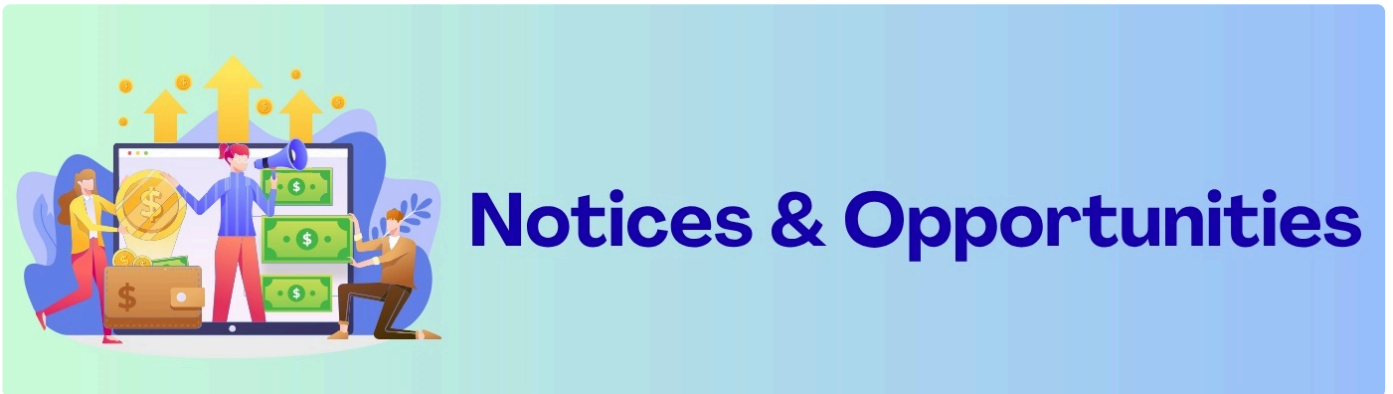
"Just an everyday struggle, trying to make sure I could make a dollar. I was not even worried about my health. It was kind of rough, sleeping on the street and I just didn't want to deal with the medication."— Nelson, describing a 10-year gap in HIV care while homeless

"I realized that I love myself and I didn't want to die ... I have people to talk to and I love myself today. I'm undetectable. I've come a long way."
— Jasmin, on re-engagement in care through recovery and social support

KEY FINDINGS

- ① Syndemic conditions were developmentally sequenced, not merely co-occurring. Substance use typically followed early trauma, preceded incarceration, and re-engagement in care coincided with later recovery or stable housing.
- ② Incarceration functioned as both a disruptor and an occasional turning point. While most correctional settings disrupted HIV care continuity, some participants first received treatment while incarcerated.
- ③ Stigma and misinformation created years-long gaps in care initiation. Participants described going 2-10 years without engaging HIV treatment, with stigma — not access alone — as the primary driver.
- ④ Resilience emerged through faith, recovery, and social bonds, including relationships formed while homeless. These protective factors could redirect care trajectories even after decades of disruption.
- ⑤ Racialized structural systems shaped every trajectory. In Miami, where Black residents are 16% of the population but 46% of those incarcerated, syndemic pathways reflect systemic inequities, not individual choices.

Casanova, F. O., Puchi, G., Ramirez, E., Bahraini, A., Bailey, Z. D., & Nowotny, K. M. (2026). Structures of survival: Syndemic pathways to care among people with HIV involved with the criminal legal system. *Social science & medicine* (1982), 400, 119259. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2026.119259>



Notices & Opportunities

- **Dr. Audrey Harkness** and the **REACH Equity Team** are **currently hiring a Postdoctoral Associate!** This position is full-time and in-person at the School of Nursing and Health Studies at the Coral Gables campus of UM. This position will support multiple funded research projects that apply implementation and behavioral science approaches to improve the reach of HIV and mental health services for populations affected by HIV-related disparities, with a particular focus on Latino men who have sex with men (MSM).
 - The Postdoctoral Associate will contribute across a range of activities, initially including quantitative and qualitative data cleaning, data analysis, and manuscript preparation. As new projects launch, responsibilities may expand to include project management and other collaborative research tasks.
 - The position also offers robust opportunities for implementation science mentorship, training, and professional development, including through our Engaged Implementation Science Core via the Center for HIV and Research in Mental Health (CHARM).
 - Interested candidates can use this link to apply through UM Workday: <https://careers.miami.edu/us/en/job/R100096163/Post-Doctoral-Associate>
 - Click [here](#) to learn more about the **REACH Equity Team**.
 - **Questions?** Contact **Audrey Harkness** (aharkness@miami.edu) and **Jorge Limia** (jml843@miami.edu).
- **OVPRS Virtual Office Hours: NIH Common Forms in SciENCv**
 - The UM Office of the Vice Provost for Research & Scholarship is hosting virtual office hours to help faculty and research administrators navigate the NIH Common Forms for Biographical Sketches and Current and Pending (Other) Support. As of May 8, 2026, use of these forms is required for all NIH application submissions, JIT, RPPR, and Prior Approval requests.
 - Virtual sessions are available throughout May — [register for a session](#) that works for your schedule.
- The **National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) HIV Research Program (HRP)** is informing you of an opportunity to request administrative supplements (to existing HIV research grants) that focus on implementation science research involving people who use drugs who are at risk for HIV or living with HIV.
 - **PA-26-001: Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements** (Parent Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional).

- The NIDA-specific guidance and receipt dates as in here: [IC funding considerations](#).
- The **University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Heersink School of Medicine (HSOM)** is launching a major strategic initiative in implementation science to build upon a robust extramural research portfolio across disease areas.
 - Recruitment is for tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-earning faculty at all ranks and includes academic appointment in one or more of 27 academic departments across the HSOM, many of which rank in the top 10 nationally in NIH funding for public institutions.
 - **Please click this link for more information:** <https://uab.peopleadmin.com/postings/26969>
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health Equity Research for Action**
 - LOI Deadline: May 15, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. ET | Up to \$500,000 over 24–36 months |
 - 15% IDC
 - RWJF seeks community-rooted, action-oriented health equity research that identifies root causes of structural discrimination and drives systems change. Projects must include an established community partnership (2+ years) with a community leader serving as Co-PI, and must evaluate specific structural barriers to health equity with findings applicable to policy or institutional change. The LOI (3 pages max) should cover the research challenge, aims, and community partnership structure.
 - Please click [HERE](#) for more information.
 - Interested? Contact the **Office of Foundation Relations** at foundationrelations@miami.edu.



Highlighted Core Services

- **Peer Review:** CHARM organizes mock review meetings of grant proposals prior to NIH grant submissions. Each review consists of a one-hour Zoom meeting with up to three reviewers, who provide structured, constructive feedback to strengthen the proposal before submission. CHARM also provides Specific Aims Reviews for investigators who would like to receive feedback on an aims page under development to evaluate the key aspects of significance and innovation in early stages of the grant proposal process. Please contact **Yanexy Rivera** at ydc9@miami.edu for more information on dates.

- **Grant Ready with CHARM:** A comprehensive pre-submission support program designed to prepare investigators for NIH grant submission. The program includes Specific Aims review, Methods consultation as needed, and a full mock peer review. Editorial services are provided upon completion of the full program to ensure clarity, coherence, and compliance prior to submission. Please contact **Yanexy Rivera** at yc9@miami.edu for questions or to participate in the program.
- **CLARO Measures Library:** The El Centro/CHARM measures library houses a multitude of measures translated into Spanish and other languages and can be used to identify and access measures for research studies.
- **Consultations:** Consultations can be requested via the **Research Navigation Portal** (see the [CHARM website](#) for more information).
 - The **Methods Core** supports researchers and community members via consultations regarding quantitative and/or qualitative research methods, designing a study, power analysis, data management, and more.
 - **EIS Core** leadership and co-investigators are available for 1-on-1 consultations to advise on Implementation Science Guidance, grant development, match-making with community stakeholders and implementers, finding a partner for specific implementation science work, and more.
 - The **MHD-CE Core** provides consultations on psychosocial assessment, community-engaged research methods, intervention development, IRB and human-subjects considerations, identifying community partners or stakeholders, engaging with the Community Advisory Board, recruitment support, and grant development related to mental health disparities or community engagement.
- **Implementer Consent-to-Contact Database:** One-time survey for South Florida implementers involved in implementing HIV and Mental Health services at various community organizations. Respondents answer questions about their needs, priorities, and interest in participating in implementation research.

To see more information on our services, please visit our website: charm.miami.edu



Need a Consultation?



Use the **CHARM Research Navigation Portal** to easily request consultations from our 5 Cores and take your research to the next level!

Visit the [Navigation Portal Page](#) on our website for more information.



The CHARM team wishes you a Happy Mother's Day!



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