Addressing the harms of non-consensual HIV status disclosure

DID YOU KNOW?

These experiences increase the likelihood of women experiencing HIV stigma through verbal and/or physical violence:

1. Being unhoused/living on the street
2. Non-consensual HIV status disclosure

47% of women in SHAWNA have had their HIV status disclosed without their consent

34% of women in SHAWNA have experienced HIV stigma through verbal and/or physical violence

Calls to Action!

01 Improve education & training about HIV for media personnel & law enforcement

02 Eradicate overly broad use of criminal law against people with HIV with respect to HIV disclosure

03 Educate health care providers on the importance of safe HIV status disclosure practices

04 Increase access to programs that address gender-based violence

05 Use trauma-informed & culturally safe principles in health care, including HIV services

06 Establish programs & policies in health care that foster inclusivity & privacy

Note: The SHAWNA Project’s recruits participants who self-identify as women. However, recognizing gender fluidity, including over time, some participants have other or more gender identities. In addition to trans & cis women, ~2% of the cohort comprises of non-binary participants. Of Indigenous participants, ~13% are Two-Spirit.