

April 29th, 2019

Dear friends and colleagues,

I'm beyond thrilled to announce that Murray Penner has joined Prevention Access Campaign (PAC) as Executive Director, North America. Murray's personal announcement is here. Few people have been as instrumental in the launch and growth of the U=U movement as Murray has. He embodies the bold, decisive, and compassionate leadership we need in the HIV/AIDS response.

In September 2016, as Executive Director of NASTAD, Murray made an executive decision to sign on NASTAD as the first U.S. U=U nonprofit organization and to put NASTAD's weight and credibility behind the campaign. Understanding the urgency and controversy of the U=U campaign at the time, Murray acted decisively and with conviction, despite the risk to his personal and professional reputation.

Murray's leadership at NASTAD paved the way for others in the US to follow. Murray fostered critical relationships with U.S. public health departments that are now leading the country with their commitments to the U=U message. He was deeply involved in our year-long advocacy with the Department of Health and Human Services to change the "risk" assessment messaging across federal agencies which ultimately succeeded in forever redefining what it means to live with HIV.

Murray will oversee over two hundred U=U community, medical and public health partnerships in the U.S. and Canada. He'll grow our North American operations with a commitment to build a diverse and thriving team until we have accomplished our mission to ensure all people with HIV know about U=U and have the treatment and care to benefit from it.

I was honored to sit next to Murray at USCA 2017 when flanked by two large screens declaring U=U, Dr. Anthony S. Fauci said, "the science really does verify and validate U=U." We both remember that historic moment with tremendous pride in our community and federal partners for a unique collaboration that has engaged over 850 organizations from nearly 100 countries in the U=U campaign.

Murray Penner has never been about "business as usual," and neither has the U=U campaign. "Business as usual" won't get us to the end of the epidemic. Leaders with conviction and compassion like Murray will.

I could not be happier to welcome Murray officially to the PAC team.

Sincerely,

Bruce Richman

Undetectable = Untransmittable

Prevention Access Campaign

Pronouns: he, him, his

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