
Vanity Reid Deterville

AIDS United: AIDSWatch Conference Washington, D.C.

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OVERVIEW

My name is Vanity Reid Deterville and I am a junior Political Science major concentrating in Public Policy here at the College of Charleston. As a member of the LGBTQ community and a woman of color I have seen how the HIV/ AIDS epidemic has swept rampantly through both of the communities that represent the multiplicities of my identity. After having hosted and facilitated events, as the lead intern for the “Social Justice Coffee Hour” at the Office of Sustainability, with the collaboration of the Roper St. Francis Ryan White Wellness Center, I am ever so passionate about the continued education of citizens and communities at risk for the disease and even more vigilant in studying how public policy concerning the virus can be reformed. My studies would include attending the AIDS United “AIDSWatch” annual conference in Washington, D.C. March 31 -April 2, 2019. The AIDSWatch conference is largest constituent-based HIV/AIDS advocacy event in the nation. The impetus of this conference is to connect healthcare professionals, concerned citizens, and congressional leaders in a common space to discuss the intricacies of the virus and the circumstances surrounding it. With these connections I can study how Senator Scott Wiener of California managed to lesson the punishments in the HIV statutes from a felony to a misdemeanor.

GOALS

1. To connect with healthcare stakeholders and collect information to continue education around medicinal advancements and the meaning of CDC research.
2. To be exposed to and learn more about the AIDS United Public Policy council and the work that comes from it.

SPECIFICATIONS

The registration for the AIDSWatch conference is \$70 (I will cover that cost). The cost of the nearest hotel (Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel) is \$179 per/ night= \$358. The flight cost round way trip from here to Washington, D.C. Reagan airport is approximately \$250.

If awarded this travel stipend I fully commit myself to continue to further the social justice initiatives across cultures and throughout at risk communities, whether that be on campus or beyond the college walls.

Most Humbly,

Vanity Reid Deterville

College of Charleston '20