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***Even Me* Sheds Light on HIV/AIDS Crisis among Older Adults of Color:  
Film Screening and Discussion at USC on Feb. 25**

LOS ANGELES— USC will host a free public screening of *Even Me*, an award-winning documentary that highlights the rise of HIV/AIDS among older adults in communities of color, at the Ray Stark Family Theatre at the USC School of Cinematic Arts in Los Angeles on Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people aged 55 and older account for one-quarter of all Americans living with HIV. Yet, older adults are less likely to be tested than people of other age groups because they are not perceived to be at risk.

CDC statistics also show that HIV diagnoses among people aged 50 to 54 are significantly higher among African Americans/blacks and Hispanics/Latinos than whites.

“Currently, African Americans over 50 years old have a rate of HIV that is nearly 11 times greater than whites and three times greater than Latinos. HIV is now the fourth leading cause of death among African-American women over 49 years old. These rates are alarming, yet little attention is given to this segment of our population. We hope that the film will highlight this epidemic and raise awareness of the significance of this issue for our communities,” said Karen D. Lincoln, associate professor at the USC School of Social Work and organizer of the USC Visions and Voices event.

In the film, HIV-positive people of color in Los Angeles share their brutally honest stories of living and aging with the disease. *Even Me* dispels the myths that HIV/AIDS is a gay or young person’s disease, highlighting the fact that age is no vaccine and exploring the truth of how HIV/AIDS is affecting elders of color in our communities.

*Even Me* was produced by Megan Ebor, doctoral student at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, who has worked in the field of aging as a senior advocate, care manager and long-term-care ombudsman for over 15 years.

“*Even Me* is more than a documentary; it is a tool designed to bring awareness of the HIV crisis among an invisible population,” Ebor said.

After the film screening, Lincoln will moderate a panel discussion with Ebor, cast members and activist/community organizer Carrie Broadus.

The event is one of many that is funded and supported through USC Visions and Voices: The Arts and Humanities Initiative. Visions and Voices is a university-wide effort that brings together artists and scholars from multiple fields—offering innovative, interdisciplinary programming.

The event is co-sponsored by the USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging, the USC Hartford Center of Excellence in Geriatric Social Work, Advocates for African American Elders and the USC School of Cinematic Arts.

Admission is free. Reservations are required.

For more information and to RSVP, please visit: <http://visionsandvoices.usc.edu/even-me>

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