Catwalk4Power timeline history



April
The Catwalk4Power Toolkit goes live!

February
C4P's online toolkit is presented at a 'soft launch' event on Valentines Day evening at St Margarets; a location that has also served to offer the project, space to create.

2020

January
C4P begin archiving project artefacts and information with the Bishopsgate Institute, thus creating a searchable project archive of papers and objects related to C4P and women and HIV.

December
Three C4P members receive nOSCARS nominations. Also, the C4P project is nominated for an Innovation Award.

Ten C4P women perform at BHIVA's (29 Nov) World AIDS Day event. Each deliver challenging speeches to the HIV sector.

November
#ManchesterBeautiful Bees' Catwalk4Power event is staged at The Lowry. Manchester women have been raising public awareness on women with HIV via media interviews.

September
C4P closes the Fast Track Cities London conference programme.

The planning process of creative workshops commences at George House Trust for women with HIV in Manchester.

August
#SussexSistersofPower deliver their Catwalk4Power event assisted by local Brighton & Hove HIV community support groups and C4P sisters from London.

July
C4P opens AIDS IMPACT, the 14th annual, international conference held in the project's home city of London.

May
C4P London women workshop with women in Brighton and the #SussexSistersofPower are formed.



2017

December
The first core organising meeting for what would become 'Catwalk4Power' (C4P) kick-starts an exciting process. Focussed on the empowerment of women with HIV, this collaboration between Positively UK Women and Act Up London Women ignites a plan for creative workshops and direct action events. Act Up London provides funding.

2018

January
With an initial project plan established, the creative workshop series commences. Over the first few months of 2018, women work together building leadership and support. They sew costumes, craft and build props, fine-tune spoken word texts, and plan for a major, event: a political and jubilant catwalk led by women with HIV.

March
On the eve of International Women's Day, 'The Catwalk for Power, Resistance, and Hope' is publicly and successfully launched, in Brixton. At this point, Lambeth is reported as having the highest HIV incidence rate across Europe. The area has suffered a 100% cut to HIV services. But on this night, women with HIV are visible and heard.

April
Fundraising for AIDS2018 in Amsterdam gets underway via multiple tactics. We created a market stall to sell items we also made. From the stall, we supplied literature and conversation on key HIV-related issues affecting women. C4P start a crowd funding page too.

July
C4P delivers a panel talk and catwalk event on a main stage of the Global Village, at AIDS2018. In this international arena, C4P speakers outline the project model, the importance of peer support, fundraising and organising. They speak of plans to join up internationally and regionally to build a community of women with HIV and allies .

November
Accolades and awards signal C4P project popularity and achievements. Catwalk4Power win a 'Sexual Freedom Award' in the category of Event of the Year. A C4P member, wins 'Woman of the Year' at the nOSCARS ceremony. A PHE Innovation Fund is awarded to C4P for continuance of a 2019 programme.

2019

January
Funding from PHE enables the C4P project to launch in other UK regions, supporting months of workshop series and main events in each place. C4P members Neo Moepi and Mel Rattue are selected for official roles as project coordinators to guide C4P's vision for newly formed Brighton and Manchester chapters.

March
The 'I Am Here Festival' conference and catwalk event rolls out over two days at Royal Central School for Speech and Drama. These events bring together the largest number of C4P members so far. The gatherings mark another International Women's Day milestone for the project.

The decision to create this project can be traced back through various women's spaces. Impactful conversational threads and gatherings that preceded the Catwalk4Power launch, include: an Act Up London-facilitated 'Wise Up' workshop organised by Sophia Forum and Positively UK, in October 2015; witnessing the 'Our Needs Our Care' performance at RCSSD; an informal summer BBQ in 2016 with Positively UK Women, Act Up London Women, and women with HIV from various friendship circles; finally, more determined discussions in 2017 about how we could create "some kind of fashion show for positive women".