

HOPE'S VOICE FEATURED ON THE COVER AND IN THE JULY ISSUE OF POZ MAGAZINE

New York, NY – Hope's Voice is featured in the July issue of POZ Magazine. Todd Murray, Executive Director is featured on the cover and the photos of Hope's Voice speakers Christina Rock, Josh Lunior, David Corbitt and Nina Martinez are featured throughout the issue. Included in the issue is a survey from 1,000 HIV positive readers on how having HIV has affected their sex life. The revealing and intimate survey responses show that 66% said that their diagnosis has made them feel less confident sexually.

"When hearing the startling statistics of those who did not feel confident I knew that this was a project that I wanted to be involved in. This opportunity was not about glamorizing HIV, but showing the world that those that are HIV positive can have confidence, feel sexy and be sexual. We are proud to educate the general public and validate those living with HIV and AIDS. It is my belief that in order for us to educate we need to stop using fear and start making people realize that HIV can look like me. My hope is that this photo shoot will show the world that we are living, loving and will not live in shame," says Murray.

The photos were taken by the talented photographers Reena and Adam. The POZ issue covers the topic of confidence and communication about sex. Hope's Voice peer-to-peer program encourages young people to talk with their partners about sex, protection, HIV and AIDS. With half of HIV infections under the age of 25 this important issue of POZ is creating open dialogue that is needed by the general public and those living with this disease and in line with the mission statement of Hope's Voice. "I'm hoping that this issue will impact those living with HIV by showing them that a positive diagnosis does not mean that you can't still be sexy. We shouldn't let HIV come between us and our self confidence and body image. Yes HIV is in the bedroom, but the shame should be left outside," says Rock.

For more information on Hope's Voice contact Rashaad Newsome, Director of Media and Marketing at 212.459.1599. To view the July issue of POZ Magazine visit <http://www.hopesvoice.org/featuredin.php>.

About Hope's Voice

Hope's Voice is a national HIV and AIDS organization committed to promoting the education and prevention of HIV and AIDS to young adults. Hope's Voice uses open dialogue and peer-to-peer education, through both speaker appearances of young adults living with HIV and AIDS and progressive programs to send this crucial message: HIV and AIDS does not discriminate. At Hope's Voice we aim to raise awareness and help young adults create the social change that is needed to end this epidemic. Please visit www.hopesvoice.org for more information on our speakers, tours and programs.

About POZ Magazine

Working with photographers, writers, designers and doctors, our team chronicles the HIV epidemic, both in the States and overseas. We publish *POZ* magazine eleven times a year, *POZ.com*, *Real Health* magazine, Combocards, and a variety of other health care resources. *POZ* is published by Smart + Strong, a division of CDM Publishing, LLC. For more information visit <http://www.poz.com>.