



**Michael Ruppal**  
**Executive Director, The AIDS Institute**

**Michael Ruppal** is the Executive Director of The AIDS Institute (TAI), a national HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and related disease organization with a mission to promote action for social change through, public policy, advocacy, research and education. TAI was founded in 1985 in Florida. He is responsible for overseeing all of the agency's day to day operations of its highly skilled team and programs including state and federal policy, patient advocacy, research, education, capacity building, communications, community planning, and convening. TAI's program and administrative offices are in Tampa, FL at the University of South Florida, College of Medicine, where Michael is the Director of Policy and Ethics for the College of Medicine as part of the collaboration. TAI's state policy office is in Tallahassee, FL and the national policy office in Washington, DC.

Since 1996, he has functioned in senior management for the non-profit sector developing, managing and providing HIV/AIDS housing and support services in various capacities including, grant management, case management, site based homeless program, supportive housing services, rental assistance, food pantry, financial management and job placement.

Prior to his experience in the non-profit field he worked as a real estate/construction lender for Barnett Banks of Florida. He founded and owned a real estate brokerage firm as well as a real estate development/construction company that built over 50 low-income affordable homes for the Department of Agriculture as well as custom homes throughout the west coast of Florida including an award-winning model home center, office buildings, and remodels. As a licensed real estate broker, mortgage broker and building contractor, Michael has an extensive background in financial and business management and program and project development.