



## April Showers



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## Sewing Seeds of Empowerment



It's a new season! Spring has arrived, a time for new growth and revitalization of life. Someone Cares April 2008 editorial newsletter focuses on the metamorphosis which takes place in all forms of life as the process of evolution occurs in its natural daily functions, including human affairs always noted by those special activities that occur in the intervals at the suitable annual times of our lives as change happens. Ever heard this old parable? "Give a man a loaf of bread and fish & he'll be able to eat for days, teach a man to fish and he'll eat for life!" So it is with us to become proactive with our lives by sewing seeds of empowerment! Seeds that sprout forth motivating, and empowering us to become better as we evolve and change from season to season in our lives. New growth that stimulates us spiritually, mentally, physically, and financially to be self sufficient productive human beings. Here are some recommendations we encourage you to consider: Be optimistic, in keeping the faith. Focus on goals, set priorities. Discipline allows us endurance to overcome all life's obstacles. Plan, and then execute your ideas. Be a doer and not just a talker. Most importantly always remember the golden rule, "Be giving of yourself, time, talent, efforts, and energy. Love thy neighbor as thy self. In due season you shall reap your harvest. Someone Cares sincere hope that these nuggets of wisdom and information will be motivating and helpful to you as your new season begins.

*Rennie E. Bass*  
Editor / Executive Director

## Brings May Flowers



### S1C April Calendar

April 4, 11, 17, 24, 31 – Evening Chat (MSM PLWA support group) - Mondays at 6:30pm

April - Club, street, park outreach done on weekends

April – Daily HIV testing 10am – 4pm

April 3 – Take Project

April 5 – Volunteer meeting 11am

April 7 – PLWA workshop  
Jerusalem House 6pm

April 15 – PLWA workshop  
Jerusalem House 6pm

April 16 – Workshop / Dinner 6pm

April 19 – Kennesaw State University LGBTQ 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Summit 10-3

APRIL 20 – NAESM Art Auction 5pm

April 20 - HIV / HEP C Screenings  
Tabernacle Baptist Church

April 22 – PLWA workshop  
Jerusalem House 6pm

April 28 – PLWA Workshop  
Edgewood House 1pm

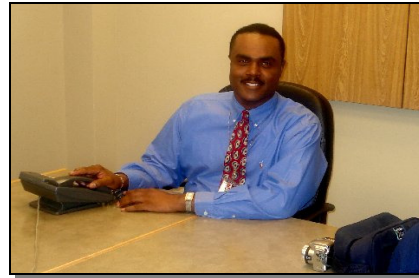
April 29 – PLWA workshops  
Travelers Aid 11am

Please call office for monthly updates – 770-226-0075



For your Holiday Meals

Georgia Medical Monitoring Project



**Ronnie E. Bass**  
**S1C Executive Director**  
**New National MMP CAB Representative**

I am very proud and honored to serve as the new National MMP CAB Representative. I am looking forward to meeting the challenges and anticipating this to be a very enlightening experience.

The Georgia Medical Monitoring Project (GA MMP) is a new study of HIV/AIDS care that is being done by the Georgia Division of Public Health. Georgia is one of 26 states and cities across the nation taking part in MMP, which is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

GA MMP is unique because the information collected will represent the experiences of people who receive care for HIV/AIDS. No project has been able to do this before. The information learned through GA MMP will help show how care is affecting the health of people with HIV in your community. If you are asked to participate, your experiences could help guide decisions that may improve the lives and the quality of care for people living with HIV/AIDS.

#### **Have questions about GA MMP?**

##### **Contact:**

Richard Dunville  
Georgia Division of Public Health  
rldunville@dhr.state.ga.us  
(800) 827-9769

### Employee of the Month



**Anthony Evans**

**Anthony Evans** is a native of Mobile, Alabama. He has resided in Atlanta since 1990. He was diagnosed in 2001 with HIV and has become an outspoken advocate in preventing the spread of the virus. Anthony came to us with the desire to educate people about the virus and prevent the growing number of cases reported in the state of Georgia. Anthony brings a wealth of knowledge on the African American MSM community and serves as Outreach Coordinator. Someone Cares thanks you for sewing good seeds with our organization.



**Volunteers Needed**

S1C welcome all volunteers. We encourage you to volunteer with S1c which will give you an insight into how we serve the community here in Metro Atlanta. Your in-kind service help us keep the doors open.

**Our Mission**

Our mission is to empower the African American and Latino MSM community, through HIV education and prevention methods, assisting them to take control of their lives in making sound sexual decisions. To broaden people living with AIDS knowledge base to help them make conscientious choices about available health care options, and enhance their skills to live a healthy and fulfilling life.



**Please Donate**

S1C is able to carry out our vital mission through your generous financial contributions. We are a 501(c) 3 agency. Your donations are tax deductible. Please give to help us, help others that are in need. Go to our website and make a donation through PayPal. Thank you.  
[www.someonecaresatl.org](http://www.someonecaresatl.org)



**Morehouse School of Medicine Prevention Research Center HIV-RAAP**

*HIV/AIDS Risk Reduction among Heterosexually Active African American Men and Women: A Risk Reduction Prevention Intervention*

**HIV – RAAP** is a HIV risk reduction project for **heterosexual African American men and women**. It involves **seven weekly group sessions**, and is designed to create an environment where you can express your opinion and ideas about health issues related to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Your participation may lead to better ways of protecting African American men and women from STDs, including HIV/AIDS. **In appreciation of your time, you will be offered a gift card for each session attended.**

The **goal** of the project is to:

- **Get men and women to “RAP” or talk to each other about HIV/AIDS prevention**
- **Learn more about healthy ways to prevent the spread of HIV and other STDs**

You are **eligible** to participate if you are:

- **Heterosexual;**
- **An African American man or woman;**
- **Age 18 to 44; and**
- **Live in one of the following zip codes**

<b>30310</b>	<b>30315</b>	<b>30312</b>	<b>30311</b>	<b>30344</b>	<b>30318</b>	<b>30034</b>
<b>30314</b>	<b>30316</b>	<b>30317</b>	<b>30331</b>	<b>30349</b>	<b>30032</b>	<b>30083</b>

**Interventions** will begin at:

- **Villages at Carver YMCA, 1600 Pryor Rd, Atlanta, GA 30315**
  - **Monday, at 6:00pm**
- **John Birdine Neighborhood Center, 215 Lakewood Way, Atlanta, GA 30315**
  - **Tuesday, at 6:00pm**
  - **Thursday, at 6:00pm**
  - **Saturday, at 10:30am**

**For more information or to register contact:** Jamillah Berry, PhD, 404-752-1901 or [jberry@msm.edu](mailto:jberry@msm.edu).

**Take Part Today!!**

**April Donor Corner**  
**\$1000-\$5000 Level**

**Boehringer Ingelheim**



**FREE HIV TEST**



**FREE HIV testing** to all African American MSM. Please call the office to make an appointment.

**770-226-0075**



**Kennesaw State's 6th annual LGBT Summit**

The Summit is scheduled for April 19, 2008 from 10am-3:00pm in the KSU Student Center. Our Keynote speaker this year will be Shane L. Windmeyer, M.S., Ed. Shane is a leading author on gay campus issues, national leader in gay and lesbian civil rights and a champion for LGBT issues on college campuses. He is cofounder and executive director of Campus Pride, the only national organization for student leaders and campus organizations working to create a safer college environment for LGBT students. Released Fall 2006 by Alyson Books, Windmeyer is the author of *The Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students*, the first-ever college guide profiling the "100 Best LGBT-Friendly Campuses." He is also the editor of *Brotherhood: Gay Life in College Fraternities* and co-editor of the books *Inspiration for LGBT Students & Allies*, *Out on Fraternity Row: Personal Accounts of Being Gay in a College Fraternity* and *Secret Sisters: Stories of Being Lesbian & Bisexual in a College Sorority*.

**MUJERES EN FE is a program of the the LATINO COMMISSION ON AIDS**

Mujeres en Fe es un programa de la **Comisión Latina sobre el SIDA** que tiene como objetivo principal el de crear y mejorar sistemas funcionales de **prevención del VIH** para apoyar a **Mujeres Latinas**, a sus parejas y familias. Este programa se desarrolla en **comunidades de fe** en la ciudad de **Nueva York**.

Con esta conferencia, Mujeres en Fe quiere continuar con la tarea de educar, hacer prevención del VIH, desarrollar liderazgo y crear consciencia sobre asuntos que afectan a las Latinas diariamente a nivel personal y colectivo. La conferencia se enfocara principalmente en la salud de la mujer tanto física como mental. Lo hacemos entendiendo que la mujer Latina desea aprender mas y que al aprender ella, también aprende su familia.

Mujeres en Fe es un programa de la **Comisión Latina sobre el SIDA** que tiene como objetivo crear y promover programas de **prevención, educación y concientización del VIH/SIDA y otros temas de salud** dirigidos a **Mujeres Latinas**, sus parejas y sus familias. Este programa se desarrolla en **comunidades de fe** en la ciudad de **Nueva York** y esta patrocinado por el Instituto del SIDA perteneciente al Departamento de Salud del Estado de Nueva York.

**Para Registrarse:**

Lorena Morales, [lmorales@latinoaids.org](mailto:lmorales@latinoaids.org)

Llámenos: 212-675-3288

Visítenos:

**March 7, 2008**

**NYC gets more than \$100 Million in Ryan White AIDS Funding**

New York City has been awarded more than \$102 million in Ryan White AIDS funds—federal money used to fight HIV/AIDS—the city's [NY1](http://ny1.com) cable news network reports ([ny1.com](http://ny1.com), 3/4).

In the report, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (NY) says the money is desperately needed to tackle the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the city, where an increasing number of people are living longer with the virus.

The funds will provide for a variety of health services, including medical care for HIV-positive New Yorkers and drug treatments.



ELECTIONS '08



Democrats Are Tied in New Poll with McCain

Prolonged Contest Is Starting to Wear On Clinton, Obama By JACKIE CALMES March 27, 2008; Page A8

WASHINGTON -- The racially charged debate over Barack Obama's relationship with his longtime pastor hasn't much changed his close contest against Hillary Clinton, or hurt him against Republican nominee-in-waiting John McCain, according to a new Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll.

Democratic pollster Peter Hart, who conducts the Journal/NBC polls with Republican pollster Bill McInturff, called the latest poll a "myth-buster" that showed the pastor controversy is "not the beginning of the end for the Obama campaign."

POLL FINDINGS

- Myth-Buster: A new poll says the controversy over Sen. Barack Obama's former pastor hasn't hurt his prospects.
• Bruising Fight: The battle for the nomination is wounding both Sen. Obama and Sen. Hillary Clinton.
• Ominous Sign: Sen. Clinton is losing ground among women.

But both Democrats, and especially New York's Sen. Clinton, are showing wounds from their prolonged and increasingly bitter nomination contest, which could weaken the ultimate nominee for the general-election showdown against Sen. McCain of Arizona. Even among women, who are the base of Sen. Clinton's support, she now is viewed negatively by more voters than positively for the first time in a Journal/NBC poll.

The latest survey has the Democratic rivals in a dead heat, each with 45% support from registered Democratic voters. That is a slight improvement for Sen. Obama, though a statistically insignificant one, from the last Journal/NBC poll, two weeks ago, which had Sen. Clinton leading among Democratic voters, 47% to 43%.

While Sen. Clinton still leads among white Democrats, her edge shrank to eight points (49% to 41%) from 12 points in early March (51% to 39%). That seems to refute widespread speculation -- and fears among Sen. Obama's backers -- that he would lose white support for his bid to be the nation's first African-American president over the controversy surrounding his former pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright Jr. of Chicago.

Voter Guide for 2008 Presidential Election



GMHC recently unveiled a 94-page voter education guide summarizing the positions of all the major Democratic and Republican candidates in the 2008 race for the White House, with a primary focus on issues related to fighting HIV.

The report summarizes each candidate's views on issues such as comprehensive sex education, the Early Treatment for HIV Act, prison HIV prevention programs, syringe exchange programs and funding for the Ryan White CARE Act in addition to several other key issues.

You can download the report at AIDSVote.org or you can access a condensed, 4-page version at gmhc.org.

For more information about voter registration requirements or to learn about absentee voting, visit www.EsLaHora.com - a project of the Georgia Latino Vote campaign.

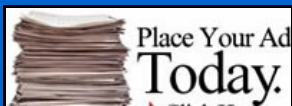


LISTEN TO ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVES THE VOICE OF THE GLBTQ COMMUNITY AND OUR ALLIES ON WRFG 89.3FM TUESDAY 7PM TO 8PM

## HEPATITIS C Screening



**S1C is now partnering with ROCHE Laboratories to conduct Hepatitis C screening to High-at-Risk populations.**



770-226-0075

**S1C now has a Partner of Positive Support Group (PPSG).** It is designed to meet the growing need to educate HIV negative partners on the difficult challenges faced in maintaining a healthy lifestyle and relationship.



**My time. Your time.  
It's about time.**

JOIN OUR HIV VACCINE STUDY

Seeking HIV negative men who have sex with men, ages 18 to 45 to participate in an HIV vaccine clinical trial (NCT00120753). The purpose of this study is to test the most effective HIV vaccine in use and may lower the chance of getting HIV. You have to have more than 100 partners and completed at least 1000 sex acts. This study is being performed by Dr. Francis Price at the Emory Hope Clinic, 602 Peach Street, Decatur, GA 30030. Study volunteers are compensated for time and travel expenses and will receive confidential HIV counseling and testing.

Contact: [www.hopclinic.emory.edu](http://www.hopclinic.emory.edu) or [vaccine@emory.edu](mailto:vaccine@emory.edu)



Call us: 877-424-HOPE (4673 x15)

EMORY



## Medical News

### Treatment of Patients with HIV/HCV Coinfection

By Ronald Baker, PhD

Approximately 30% of individuals living with HIV in the U.S. and Europe are also infected with hepatitis C virus (HCV). Seventeen years after the introduction of highly effective antiretroviral therapy (HAART), liver disease has emerged as an important cause of morbidity and mortality in HIV positive patients.

As survival time has increased, hepatitis C-related liver disease has become a leading cause of hospitalization and death in these patients. As a result, researchers have increasingly focused on HCV-related liver disease and treatment-associated issues in HIV-HCV coinfected individuals.

**S1C is now partnering with ROCHE Laboratories to conduct Hepatitis C screening to High-at-Risk populations.**

### AIDS Vaccine Testing at Crossroads

After Little Progress in 25 Years, Scientists Urge Return to Basic Research

By [David Brown](#)

Washington Post Staff Writer

Wednesday, March 26, 2008; Page A04

The leaders of the federal government's effort to develop an AIDS vaccine said yesterday that more of their budget needs to be spent on basic lab research and less on testing the current crop of vaccines, none of which has proved useful in human trials.

The declaration made at a "summit meeting" is tantamount to an admission that almost no progress has been made in the search for an AIDS vaccine in the past 25 years and that something close to new start is necessary.

### Anal Cancer Risk Remains High among HIV Positive Men and Women on HAART: SUN Study

By Liz Highleyman

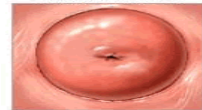
People with HIV/AIDS are at higher risk for precancerous cell changes due to "high risk" types of human papillomavirus (HPV) infection. While invasive cervical cancer is uncommon in developed countries due to routine Pap smears, such screening is not yet recommended for anal cancer (though many experts believe it should be).

The elevated risk of precancerous changes - known variously as dysplasia, intraepithelial neoplasia, and squamous intraepithelial lesions (SIL) -- in HIV positive people appears linked to immune suppression. However, several studies have shown that rates of anogenital cancer have not fallen, and in fact have risen, since the advent of HAART -- likely because effective anti-HIV therapy keeps patients alive long enough to develop progressive malignancies.

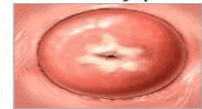
At the 15th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI 2008) last month in Boston, researchers looked at rates of and risk factors for anal cancer in the SUN Study, an ongoing prospective natural history study of HIV positive outpatients seen at clinics in Denver, Minneapolis, Providence, and St. Louis.

At baseline, and annually thereafter, all patients complete a behavioral risk questionnaire and provided anorectal specimen for cytological examination and HPV detection and genotyping. Complete data at both baseline and 1-year follow-up visits were available for 371 participants.

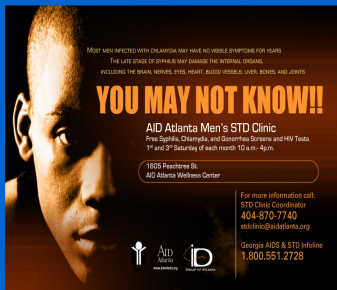
Normal cervix



Cervical dysplasia



**Key Snapshot of the U.S. HIV/AIDS Epidemic Today**  
 40,000 new infections each year.  
 1,200,000 people live with HIV,  
 400,000 with AIDS. 25% of people  
 infected with HIV do not know it.  
 (Source: HIV/AIDS Policy Fact  
 Sheet, November 2006) If you don't  
 like something, change it; if you  
 can't change it, change the way you  
 think about it.  
 Mary Engelbreit



**Tibotec and FDA Warn of Liver Toxicity Linked to Ritonavir-boosted Darunavir (Prezista)**

On March 11, Tibotec Therapeutics issued a letter to healthcare providers informing them of previously unrecognized drug-associated hepatotoxicity in patients taking ritonavir-boosted darunavir (Prezista).



This liver toxicity has primarily been observed among patients with advanced HIV disease taking multiple medications, some of whom had other conditions such as chronic hepatitis B or C, or who developed immune reconstitution syndrome after starting darunavir.

Based on these observations, the company, in cooperation with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), revised the darunavir prescribing information to reflect the new findings.



**Sound Off: Half of Black Teen Girls Has an STD???**

Posted Mar 18th 2008 3:15PM by Angela Bronner  
 Filed under: BlackSpin, Lifestyle, health By Angela Bronner, BlackVoices.com

Last Tuesday, the Centers for Disease Control released a study that found that one in four young women or **3.2 million teenage girls** is infected with a sexually transmitted disease.

The kicker is, according to the study, nearly half of African American girls (or 48%) in this age group has least one of the following: the human papillomavirus (HPV), chlamydia, herpes, or trichomoniasis, with HPV leading the charge.

**Yes, that's right, according to the CDC -- one out of every two African American girls ages 14-19 has an STD.**

The report, sponsored by the CDC and conducted by the NCHS (**National Center for Health Statistics**), took a national sample of 838 young women. The study did not include the STDs syphilis, HIV or gonorrhea.

In a word, this is alarming.

***Does this mean that if there are 20 tenth graders at a bus stop, say, the cheerleading squad at an all black high school -- that 10 of them has HPV?***

In a word, no, or not necessarily, according to Dr. Stuart Berman, Chief of Epidemiology and Surveillances, STDs at the Centers for Disease Control.

"Put in context, you take a sample, but a sample done in a smart way, so you can extrapolate the data," Dr. Berman explains. "What this study says, is that this is a problem for the country. It's your kid, my kid, the neighbor across the street."

Berman further cautions not to take these results and stigmatize teens, young black women, or by default, young black men, who are most likely their sexual partners.

"These things can be stigmatizing but [loose sexual behavior] is not the reason [for the higher rates]," he says. "Once the community risk is higher, even if your behavior is not higher, the chances are greater."

The doctor says social and economic factors such as access to care, low or no health insurance, incarceration, and racism, all add up.

"There's an aggregate of a whole bunch of community factors, each doing a little bit, making it a little more prevalent," says Dr. Berman.



The key to making any inroads into this problem, says the good doctor, is to have frank, and honest discussions with our kids.

"A lot of kids think, 'He she looks healthy,' 'I'm in love' 'He or she doesn't have any symptoms' and therefore are not at risk. Who is talking to them?"

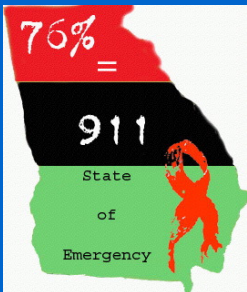
## U.Q.H.H.C.



Unique Quality Home Health  
Care, Inc.

"Caring for your love ones with  
the respect and dignity they  
deserve."

P.O. Box 191493  
Atlanta, GA 31119  
Office: 404-822-9396  
Email: jon51069@aol.com  
Website: www.uqhhc.com  
Contact: Jonathan English



### New Client Advocacy Group

"YOU COUNT!"

Use your VOICE, It makes a  
difference.

The two most common STDs in the study -- HPV, and chlamydia -- may not show any symptoms.

The most contagious of these infections, the human papillomavirus, HPV, or genital warts, is responsible for 70% of all cervical cancers. Black women are at least 50% more likely to die from cervical cancer than white women.

***HPV and chlamydia are in fact treatable; also, that there is now an HPV vaccine against the virus.***

The CDC also reported on results from pilot programs in New York City and California, where the agency found that if you test for STDs where young women get care for other gynecological issues such as pregnancy tests, emergency contraceptives (and I would add abortions) – all of which assume unprotected intercourse -- we can begin to stem the tide.

The agency recommends annual chlamydia screenings for sexually active women under age 25 and vaccination against HPV for young women and girls between the ages of 11 and 26.

"It's like that show 'Hill Street Blues,'" says Dr. Berman, who laughs as he says he is dating himself with that reference. "We have to tell our kids, *you have to be careful out there.*" Sound off.

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## **EVENTS!**

### **Registration Opens for the XVII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2008) in Mexico City, August 3-8, 2008**

Registration for attendance and participation in the *17th International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2008)* in Mexico City, Mexico is now open. Late-breaker abstract submissions will be accepted May 20 - June 16, 2008. HIV and Hepatitis.com will provide comprehensive coverage of the conference, including several CME/CE programs. Following is an introduction to the Home Page of the conference:

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the International AIDS Society (IAS) and our Mexican and international partners, we would like to invite you to join us for the XVII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2008), to be held in México City, México from 3-8 August 2008. AIDS 2008 will be the first International AIDS Conference ever held in Latin America, and international planning committees are already hard at work developing an exciting programme. Read more here.

Learn more about the AIDS 2008 theme, Universal Action Now, here



### **NAESM 12<sup>TH</sup> Annual Art Auction Fundraiser**

Theme: "Artistically your, **South Africa**"

**FREE ADMISSION**

**6:00 PM**

**VIP Reception: 5:00 PM-7:00 PM**

**National AIDS Education & Services for Minorities, Inc. (NAESM), an HIV/AIDS prevention organization is hosting its 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Auction Fundraiser Event. This year NAESM will feature artistic talents from South Africa. There will be African Sculptures, Figurines, Angels, Mask, and much more available to satisfy the palate of all.**

**When:** Saturday, April 19, 2008, **Time:** 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM **Where:** Hands on Atlanta, 60 Means Street, Atlanta

## Contact Us

Someone Cares, Inc. of Atlanta  
P.O. Box 881  
Smyrna, GA 30081-9998  
Office: 770-226-0075  
Fax: 770-226-0075  
someonecaresatl@aol.com  
www.someonecaresatl.org



## Da C.R.I.B.B.'s First Anniversary Celebration

### NAESM

503 Boulevard SE

Atlanta, GA 30312

Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 5pm

Someone Cares, The question now is, Do you?

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