



Someone Cares, Inc. of Atlanta

The R.E.A.C.H.

Reaching, Educating, Assisting in, Community, Health

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Happy New Year

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Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday

January 15, 1929

Greetings Friends:

On this day we celebrate the birth of one of the greatest civil rights leaders that has ever been born in this world. "Martin Luther King Jr." We honor his struggles to bring peace, justice, equal rights and love between the races. His dream was for everyone to live in harmony without prejudice and bigotry. His struggles of yesteryear have made it possible for us to reach goals that would not have been achievable. We must not take his efforts for granted and forget what it took to get us where we are today.

His struggles then, mirror my struggles today. I dream that one day there will be a cure for HIV/AIDS. The struggles that the African American community face today are as difficult as the ones he faced in the 60's. Yes, there is prejudice, hatred, lack of funding and ignorance in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Let us use this day to bring unity, awareness and compassion to help empower a community that has been heavily hit by the virus. We must come together as one and demand our political constituents to address an epidemic that is infecting our youth as well as adults.

Martin Luther King Jr. gave his life to give us rights. Please don't throw your rights away when it comes to HIV/AIDS. It is here to stay until you stand up and speak out.

Ronnie E. Bass / Executive Director

- National Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of HIV/AIDS

- S1C HIV Positive and Negative Partners Support Group

January Calendar

Jan 1 – Happy New Year

Jan 7, 14, 21, 28

– Evening Chat

Sundays at 6:30pm

Jan 1,8,15,22,29 – HIV State of Emergency meeting 6pm ASP

Jan 1,8,15,22,29 – ITLA meeting / Colony Square Hotel 7pm

Jan 11 – PLWA Education session Jerusalem House 6pm

Jan 14 – PLWA Education session Edgewood House 1:30pm

Jan 14 – PLWA Education session Northwest Ministries 1pm

Jan 20 – Common Ground 11am

S1C Employee of the Month



Mervin Lawson

Mervin Lawson – Well, where should I start? Mervin has been with the agency since 2000. Mervin came to us wanting to volunteer and six years later he is still with **S1C**. He is now our Outreach Coordinator. Mervin's bubbly and outgoing personality has helped to reach those that are in dire need of our services. Mervin we thank you for your devoted service to **S1C**.

FCDHW 2nd Annual World AIDS Day Community Summit a success



Ruby Lewis-Hardy – Health Program Administrator FCDHW and Staff member

Once again **Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness** hosted a successful World AIDS Day Community Summit. The community summit was held at the Lauder milk Building and over 400 participants attended. The participants were able to get updated issues surrounding HIV/AIDS, network with other providers, and learn new and innovative strategies to apply to HIV/AIDS prevention and intervention. Congratulations for a job well done!



National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

February 7, 2007



We can turn the HIV/AIDS epidemic around in the Black community: ONE voice, ONE experience and ONE conversation at a time!!!



For your Holiday Meals

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. Thank you.



Violet N. Kanonuhwa – BMS Patient/Community Affairs Manager

BMS partner with S1C to deliver PLWA Educational Workshops

Bristol Myers-Squibb is a pharmaceutical company that cares. They have made their presence known in the African American community. BMS has been very generous in funding several of **S1C** HIV/AIDS projects and educational workshops. Over the past year BMS has worked with **S1C** to keep consumers updated and educated on meds, adherence, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. **Ms. Violet Kanonuhwa** who serves as Patient/Community Affairs Manager has gone above and beyond her call of duty to ensure **S1C** and the community in which we serve are well taken care of. Thank you **BMS** for caring.

HIV Testing



S1C is now administering HIV testing with **OraQuick Advance**. This has allowed us to conduct HIV testing during street and club outreach. Our in-house testing days are on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, at the

233 Mitchell Street, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30303. 10am – 4pm

FREE HIV Testing!

Become a volunteer in the community-based HIV testing program of Someone Cares, Inc. We are in the process of recruiting new HIV testing volunteers. Wouldn't you LOVE to help make a difference in our community, while learning a valuable skill for your job resume and help save lives all at the same time? Just contact Someone Cares, Inc., for training opportunities. We can train you to use the new OraQuick Advance rapid HIV testing device, learn how to provide proper counseling and connect people to medical resources and much-needed support services. Just call 770-226-0075 for more details.

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**Someone Cares, The
question now is, Do
you?**



Happy Kwanza

NAESM Will Host its 2007 National African American MSM Leadership Conference on HIV/AIDS in Charlotte, NC



Atlanta, GA • National AIDS Education & Services for Minorities, Inc. (NAESM) announces it will host its 3rd National African American MSM Leadership Conference on HIV/AIDS in Charlotte, North Carolina from January 25 – 28, 2007. According to NAESM, this conference is the only one of its kind in that it focuses solely on African American men who have sex with men, a population whose HIV/AIDS infection rates are disproportionate when compared to those of other ethnic and risk exposure populations in the United States.

Currently, NAESM is accepting abstracts, sponsorship, registration, and scholarships. For more information, visit www.naesmonline.org.

Mobilizing against the HIV/AIDS Crisis among African Americans



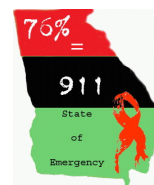
On Thursday, November 16, 2006, the Centers for Disease Control presented a live nationwide satellite broadcast titled "Mobilizing against the HIV/AIDS Crisis among African Americans." The goal of the 2-hour forum was: 1) to raise awareness about the impact of HIV/AIDS on African American communities and 2) to encourage organizations to mobilize against the crisis of HIV/AIDS among African Americans. This webcast was recorded and archived for viewing. In case you missed the webcast, but you would like to view the recorded information which is archived and available online for free access, you should please visit the following web site:

<http://www.cdcnpin-broadcast.org/>

State of Emergency

- **African Americans are 76% of AIDS Cases in Georgia**

African Americans are 29% of the AIDS cases. Working with a community activists, and the Georgia Fighting for an Emergency, our goal is to declare a state of emergency in the state of Georgia in the African American Community.



the population and 76% of group of concerned newly formed Citizens of HIV/AIDS State of

76% = 911

The 2000 Census states that African American's make up 29% of Georgia's population. According to the 2004 AIDS Incidence Report for Georgia, a staggering 76% of all reported AIDS cases are in the African American community. Not only is that a disproportionate rate but its grounds for a State of Emergency.

Ryan White Town Hall Meeting



Community Leaders: Ronnie E. Bass – ED/S1C, Rudy Carns – ED/NAESM, Dr. Earl Joyner , Charlie Grant – Founder/Absolute Wellness

As you know Georgia was facing concerns about the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act. **Charlie Grant of Absolute Wellness** called together community leaders to address Ryan White funding issues. On the panel were local, state and national representatives. (update) The Senate has passed its reauthorization legislation; now it heads to the White House, where the President has already indicated he will sign it. **Rudy Carns of NAESM**, expressed his concerns on the need to increase funding to Ryan White CARE Act instead of allocation issues. This would give much needed funding to agencies that were not awarded.

Blacks' HIV Risk Dramatically Higher Than Whites

Blacks' HIV Risk Dramatically Higher Than Whites Despite Safer Sex Lives Due to Higher rate of STDs Among Young African-American Adults, Study Reports

The survey of 8,706 participants found that young African-American adults generally engage less in risky behavior that could result in the transmission of STDs. Additionally, condom use among blacks is above 50 percent, while it's only one-third for young whites.

However, because the prevalence of STDs is so much higher among young African-American adults, the risk of coming in contact with someone with an STD is exponentially greater, according to study author Denise Hallfors, Ph.D., a senior research scientist at PIRE Chapel Hill Center.



"Evening Chat" Christmas Party was a blast!

It was our first support group Christmas Party. Plenty of Music, Food and Fun. We all had a splendid time. We all are looking forward to next year.

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.

National Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of HIV/AIDS



It's never too early to begin making plans for the **National Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of HIV/AIDS**. The event is every year, and is organized by www.balmingilead.org and is a large nationwide event. Perhaps your church could participate in 2007? It will take place March 4 through March 10, 2007. The Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is a week of prayer, education, and action. This national AIDS awareness campaign engages Black congregations to support, encourage, and empower African Americans, Africans, and all people of the Diaspora to take action toward stopping the spread of HIV/AIDS in Black communities worldwide. Each year, a growing number of Black congregations are supporting and caring for persons living with HIV/AIDS, developing AIDS prevention outreach programs, setting up HIV/AIDS ministries in the church and in the community, and establishing HIV testing facilities complete with staff and counselors knowledgeable about HIV/AIDS. The 2007 national week of prayer calls upon Black faith communities worldwide to command accessible services and resources for people who are infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS.



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 (the STEP study). The purpose of this study is to see if the investigational HIV vaccine is safe and may lower the chance of getting HIV. We hope to learn more about HIV vaccines and prevention of HIV infection. This study is being performed by Dr. Frances Priddy at the **Emory Hope Clinic**, 603 Church Street, Decatur, GA 30030. Study volunteers are compensated for time and travel expenses and will receive confidential HIV counseling and testing.

Get info: www.hopeclinic.emory.edu or vaccine@emory.edu



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

EMORY

[Visit us at www.someonecaresatl.org](http://www.someonecaresatl.org)