



Happy Easter



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Executive Director's Dinner



Hello my Atlanta family,

The Executive Director's dinner was a great success! On 02/26/08 the SAGE restaurant, located in Decatur Georgia, was filled with several key community leaders that were concerned about the future outlook of HIV/AIDS here in Atlanta and the state of Georgia. They all hold the vision of uniting ASOs, CBOs, public health departments, hospitals and churches, to bring about a change on how we serve our consumers and fellow colleagues. Events such as these are a catalyst into the networking and expounding of dialogue to create cohesiveness within the Atlanta metropolitan health service agencies. Creating a unified, vital, effectively functional institution of agencies involved in HIV/AIDS prevention, education, and outreach. Remember; united we stand, divided we fall; together we can make a change. In the words of the honorable Senator Barack Obama, "If we have the audacity to HOPE, indeed, yes we can!"

S1C would like to thank the Executive Directors, those that represented their agencies around the Atlanta metropolitan community & state and our sponsor GILEAD Sciences, Inc. We were overwhelmed with the love and support given last night at the first of many, Executive Director's dinners. You will be notified when the next dinner will be held. Thank you again.

Listed below are the agencies that were in attendance:

Sponsor: GILEAD Sciences, Inc.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| DHR | OMH / OHI |
| Positive Impact | Cobb / Douglas Board of Health |
| TEAM Survival Project | |
| KSU | |
| Dekalb Prevention Alliance | |
| Atlanta Harm Reduction Coalition | |
| Health Black Communities | |
| AIDS Survival Project | |
| My Brothaz Home | |
| GA Division of Public Health | |
| Emory Hope Clinic | |
| CDC | |
| Aid Atlanta | |
| Aniz | |
| NAESM | |
| Absolute Care | |
| Morehouse School of Medicine | |
| Saint Joseph Mercy Care Services | |
| LaGender | |
| Living Room | |
| Wholistic Stress Control Institute | |



S1C March Calendar

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

March - Club, street, park outreach done on weekends

March – Daily HIV testing 10am – 4pm

March 15 – Volunteer meeting 11am

March 3 – Cobb County community resource meeting

March 4 – PLWA workshop Common Ground 11am

March 5, 20 – PLWA workshops Jerusalem House 6pm

March - 12 PLWA workshop Edgewood House 1pm

March 13 – Cobb County Community resource meeting

March 15, 16 - African American Outreach Initiative

March 20 – Cobb County Ryan White Consortium 12noon

March 20 – Nurse Connection Dinner – Jerusalem House 6pm

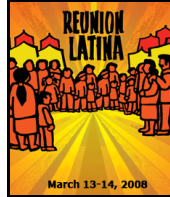
March 26 – PLWA workshops Travelers Aid 11am

March 27 – Syphilis Elimination Effort meeting

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



For your Holiday Meals



Dear Familia Unida Bienvenidos y Bienvenidas:

Our skills building institute is a response to the crisis facing our Latino/Hispanic communities. The aim is to train, educate and build our capacity to face and deal with this public health crisis. Through Reunion Latina, we unite: to voice our concerns, increase our knowledge in HIV/AIDS, equip ourselves with the skills necessary to educate and inform our communities, and strengthen our commitment to ending the spread of HIV.

Once a year, Reunion Latina provides us with the opportunity to bring all of our experiences together in one powerful forum in order to influence legislators, social and civic leaders. Institute attendees, including service providers, media representatives, elected officials, community leaders and their partners, experts in the field of HIV prevention, and people living with HIV/AIDS participate in workshops and panels that highlight critical issues and promising solutions pertinent to those who are working to break the cycle of indifference and stigma in some of our nation's most affected communities.

We must work to break this cycle: one important step is to encourage the participation of many organizations and individuals every October 15th, National Latino AIDS Awareness Day-NLAAD, and every June 27th, National HIV Testing Day. This "Reunión" annually offers the opportunity to network, set priorities and plan for actions. It will remind us of our commitments to defeat AIDS through unity, understanding, passion, action and leadership. Reunion Latina always pays a tribute to those that have passed due to AIDS and celebrate those that fight the disease every minute. This year Reunion Latina will take place 2 months after the historical National Latino/Hispanic AIDS Action Agenda is adopted to guide our national response to the public health crisis generated by HIV/AIDS.

Sincerely,

Guillermo Chacón
Conference Director

REGISTER ONLINE
www.latinoaids.org/reunion

For more information, please contact:
Bethsy Morales-Reid - 646-375-4408
Daniel Leyva - 212-675-4446



Please join the community, friends, family and co-workers for a special installation ceremony to honor the work of HIV Outreach Worker

Tony Childs
March 18, 2008
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
DeKalb County Board of Health
1st Floor, Lobby Area
Refugee Services Waiting Area
Eleanor Richardson Health Center
445 Winn Way
Decatur, GA 30031



Tune in on March 11...7 to 8pm WRFG 89.3 for our first series broadcast...

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.

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

Someone Cares, The question now is, Do you?

New Client Advocacy Group

“YOU COUNT!”

Use your VOICE, It makes a difference.

ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVES

WRFG 89.3 PRESENTS

“Faith, Politics and the LGBT: “Reclaiming and Affirming Our Truth”

Produced by Dionne Bates

Contributor to Alternative Perspectives

Statement of Purpose: **“Reclaiming and Affirming Our Truth”**

Is a quarterly discussion that aims to shed light on some of the many issues that impact the LGBT Community. Derived from a faith-based perspective, These discussions will examine, in particular, the intersection of faith and politics and the current and future state of the LGBT at this juncture.

Facilitator: Reverend Dr. Kathi Martin

Series Dates: March 11, June 10, September 9, and December 9

First Discussion: March 11 – Topic: How the LGBT have been used as political pawns over the last four years

- Panelists: Dr. Sylvia Rhue, Director of Religious Affairs and Constituency Development
(National Black Justice Coalition)
Pastor Troy Sanders, Preach2me.com
Rev. Kenneth Samuels, Pastor of Victory Church

The second annual TB Awareness Walk

Did you know that tuberculosis (TB) is the leading cause of death among those with HIV/AIDS? Did you know that TB is a leading cause of death among women from infectious disease, worldwide? In an effort to raise awareness of this deadly disease, the National TB Controllers Association (NTCA) has partnered with CDC’s Division of TB Elimination, the Fulton County Health Department, the Georgia Division of Public Health, the American Lung Association – Southeast Region, RESULTS International, The Watsonian Society (a CDC employee organization), local businesses, and others to plan and host the second annual TB Awareness Walk. The walk will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2008 in Grant Park at 9:00 a.m. (Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.) There is no registration fee.

To register online, go to www.tbwalk.org.

To volunteer to help with the walk or for more information, please contact Vic Tomlinson, TB Awareness Walk Committee Chair at 404-639-5315 or VTomlinson@cdc.gov.

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

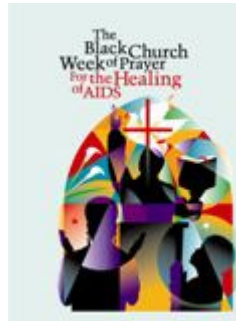


**Tibotec
Therapeutics**



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*.



The 19th Annual Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS, set for March 2-8, 2008, is a powerful week of prayer, education and action. Organized by The Balm In Gilead, this is the oldest and largest AIDS awareness program targeting the Black faith community. Thousands of faith institutions and millions of churches across the country are expected to join The Balm In Gilead and its esteemed platform of religious and political leaders once again 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.

African Americans are infected with, and die from, HIV/AIDS more than any other racial or ethnic group, though they represent only 13% of the U.S. population. African American adults and adolescents are diagnosed with AIDS at 10 times the rate of whites, and nearly 3 times the rate of Latinos. Black men who have sex with men (MSM) and African American women have been particularly hard hit by HIV/AIDS. A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study of MSM found that 46% of black MSM tested for HIV were positive, compared to 21% of the white MSM and 17% of the Hispanic MSM. HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death among African American women ages 25 to 34. The rate of AIDS cases for African American women is 25 times higher than the rate for white women. Of the estimated new AIDS cases, 61% are among African American teen girls ages 13-19.

Join the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS to champion AIDS education, testing and compassionate care in the African American community. Churches and community-based organizations can find out how to become involved by calling **(888) 225-6243** or visiting <http://www.balmingilead.org/>.



Proceed Inc. sponsored Certified Nonprofit Accounting Professionals training in Columbus, Ohio. This training focused on the sustainability of nonprofit organizations. Donna Darby was hostess of the training.

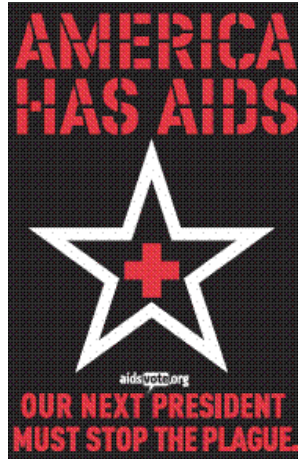


Politics

Who will be the next president?



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



Announcing the 9th Annual

African American Outreach Initiative

Through Leadership, Community, & Innovation

We will conquer HIV/AIDS

Saturday, March 15, 2008

Sunday, March 16, 2008

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**The Loudermilk Center
40 Courtland Street
Atlanta, GA 30303**



Gene discovered that blocks HIV Virus

February 28, 2008 - Edmonton

A team of researchers at the University of Alberta has discovered a gene that is able to block HIV, and in turn prevent the onset of AIDS.

Stephen Barr, a molecular virologist in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology, says his team has identified a gene called TRIM22 that can block HIV infection in a cell culture by preventing the assembly of the virus.

"When we put this gene in cells, it prevents the assembly of the HIV virus," said Barr, a postdoctoral fellow. "This means the virus cannot get out of the cells to infect other cells, thereby blocking the spread of the virus."

Barr and his team also prevented cells from turning on the TRIM22 gene - provoking an interesting phenomenon: the normal response of interferon, a protein that co-ordinates attacks by genes like TRIM22 against viral infections, became useless at blocking HIV infection.

"This means that TRIM22 is an essential part of our body's ability to fight off HIV. The results are very exciting because they show that our bodies have a gene that is capable of stopping the spread of HIV."

One of the greatest challenges in battling HIV is the virus' ability to mutate and evade medications. Antiretroviral drugs introduced during the late 1990s interfere with HIV's ability to produce new copies of itself - and though beneficial, the drugs are unable to eradicate the virus. Barr and his team have discovered a gene that could potentially do the job naturally.

"There are always newly emerging drug-resistant strains of HIV so the push has been to develop more natural means of blocking the virus. The discovery of this gene, which is natural in our cells, might provide a different avenue," said Barr. "The gene prevents the assembly of the virus so in the future the idea would be to develop drugs or vaccines that can mimic the effects of this gene."

"We are currently trying to figure out why this gene does not work in people infected with HIV and if there is a way to turn this gene on in those individuals," he added. "We hope that our research will lead to the design of new drugs, or vaccines that can halt the person-to- person transmission of HIV and the spread of the virus in the body, thereby blocking the onset of AIDS."

The researchers are now investigating the gene's ability to battle other viruses. Barr's research is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. The findings are published in the Public Library of Science Pathogens.



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.

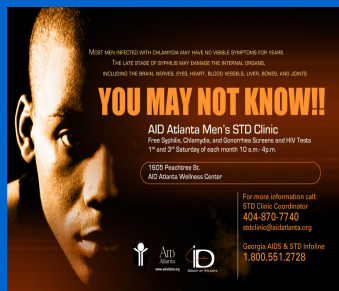
My time. Your time. It's about time.

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 (V27A001). The purpose of this study is to test if the new, experimental HIV vaccine is safe and may lower the chance of getting HIV. We hope to learn more about HIV vaccines and prevention in the future. This study is being performed by Dr. Francis Barron at the Emory Hope Clinic, 400 Spruill Street, Decatur, GA 30030. Study volunteers are compensated for their time and travel expenses and will receive confidential HIV counseling and testing. Get info: www.hopclinic.emory.edu or vaccine@emory.edu

Call us: 877-424-HOPE (4673 4151) EMORY

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



CDC Underscores Current Recommendation for Preventing HIV Transmission

An article recently published by Switzerland's Federal Commission for HIV/AIDS states that HIV-positive individuals on effective antiretroviral therapy are not at risk for transmitting HIV to their sexual partners under certain circumstances. The Commission acknowledges that there are no scientific data that the risk of transmission in these circumstances is zero. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) underscores its recommendation that people living with HIV who are sexually active use condoms consistently and correctly with all sex partners.

Scientists Find New Receptor for H.I.V.

By LAWRENCE K. ALTMAN

Published: February 11, 2008

SAN FRANCISCO — Government scientists have discovered a new way that H.I.V. attacks human cells, an advance that could provide fresh avenues for the development of additional therapies to stop AIDS, they reported on Sunday.

The discovery is the identification of a new human receptor for H.I.V. The receptor helps guide the virus to the gut after it gains entry to the body, where it begins its relentless attack on the immune system.

The findings were reported online Sunday in the journal *Nature Immunology* by a team headed by Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. For years, scientists have known that H.I.V. rapidly invades the lymph nodes and lymph tissues that are abundant throughout the gut, or intestines. The gut becomes the prime site for replication of H.I.V., and the virus then goes on to deplete the lymph tissue of the key CD4 H.I.V.-fighting immune cells. That situation occurs in all H.I.V.-infected individuals, whether they acquired the virus through sexual intercourse, blood transfusions, blood contamination of needles and syringes, or in passage through the birth canal or drinking breast milk. The findings appear to provide some, if not the main, answers to how and why that situation occurs. Dr. Warner C. Greene, an AIDS expert and the director of the Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology here who was not involved in the research, said the findings were "an important advance in the field."

February 27, 2008

Positive Canadians Dying Without Treatment

Forty percent of people in the Canadian province of British Columbia who died of AIDS-related illness between 1997 and 2005 were not on antiretroviral treatment, The Vancouver Province/Canada.com reports (canada.com, 2/23).

According to the article, many in risk groups did not access free antiretroviral medications.

A study conducted by the British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS found that of the 1,436 Canadians who died of AIDS between 1997 and 2005, 567 did not access HIV care because they were facing such barriers as poverty and homelessness.

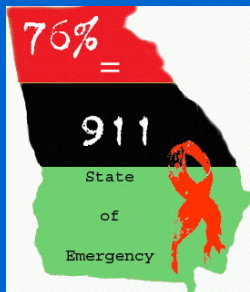
U.Q.H.H.C.



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



In Memory of

Memorial Services
For
Ms. Gloria Jean Lamar

When: Thursday, March 6, 2008

Time: 11:00am
Where: Amazing Grace Christian Church
605 Kennedy Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Visitation will be Wednesday,
March 5, 2008
At
Lincoln Funeral
2321 Candler Road
Decatur, Georgia

Flowers & Expressions of Sympathy can be sent directly to the
Funeral Home noted above.

Dr. Marvin Ghourm's mother

Our prayers go out to him and his family.

Popular Dancer/Model K-Rock Dies

Serapis Kephra would have been 34-years-old on March 7 2008 and that will be the day of his funeral. Services are scheduled for Friday, March 7 2008 at 1:00pm at Tabernacle Baptist Church 475 Boulevard NE. Atlanta.GA.30308 404-876-3777

EVENTS!

On behalf of the House of Blahnik, I am extremely excited to announce **Year II** of the House Blahnik Scholarship Fund 08-09. Our mission is... "to positively affect the overall development, health and wellness of our members, the larger lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities of color and their allies; while providing nurturing safe spaces for self-expression and continued growth.." We are proud to forge a national agenda that includes the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people of color within the ballroom/house community. We are honored to advance our people through supporting individual aspirations, upholding education and promoting pride. We are glad to be pioneers in the ballroom community.

The House Blahnik Scholarship Fund is granted to LGBT individuals of color, who participate in Balls, and are enrolled in an accredited institution of higher learning and/or individuals who are graduating seniors who have been accepted to an accredited institution of higher learning.

ELIGIBILITY

African Americans, Asian Pacific Islanders, Hispanics and other racial/ethnic minority persons who participate in the "ballroom/house" community who are enrolled at an accredited college; graduate or professional/ technical school, or who are accepted to an accredited college, university or technical school.

Members of the House of Blahnik are **not** eligible to apply. Former 'House of Blahnik' Scholars are not eligible to apply.

AWARDS DESCRIPTION

The House of Blahnik will issue a one time award in the amount of \$1,000 to \$5,000 to each student selected.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications are due April 30, 2008. Recipients will be announced on or before June 1, 2008. Award checks will be sent directly to the school or institution of the award recipients by August 31, 2008.

HOW TO APPLY

The House of Blahnik is pleased to announce the online scholarship application processes for 2008-09. For scholarship applications and guidelines, please e-mail info@houseofblahnik.com or go to www.houseofblahnik.org.



NAESM's Youth Center "Da C.R.I.B.B" (which stands for Creating Rich Intelligent Black Brothas) will be hosting an Open House Luncheon for Social Service Providers in the Atlanta Metro Area.

Da C.R.I.B.B is a youth drop in center that works with African American MSM (17-25) and offers Mental Health Counseling, CRCS, Rapid HIV Testing, Safer Sex Discussion Groups as well as a gym, dance room, and many other amenities.

WHY: The purpose of this luncheon is to connect "Da C.R.I.B.B" to other social services agencies in the Atlanta metro area.

WHEN: March 5th, 2008 @ 1:00 P.M-3:00 P.M

WHAT: Service Providers will be given a tour of the space, a lite lunch, along with an opportunity to ask questions about services & connect referrals.

WHERE: 503 Boulevard SE Atlanta GA 30310

TO ATTEND: Please R.S.V.P to Marcus Bolton at (404) 622-9355 or email Mbolton@naesmonline.org by March 3rd, 2007, 6:00 P.M

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