

HIV/STD NEWS
VOLUME TWO ISSUE ONE

BRIEF FROM THE CHIEF

Michael G. Harmon, MA, Chief, HIV/STD Service



Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act

After many long months and countless hours of negotiations with Congressional representatives, we now have a reauthorized Ryan White CARE Act. Provider groups, advocates, State AIDS Directors and national organizations, such as National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD), Southern AIDS Coalition (SAC), National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) and National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) joined forces and Congress took notice.

The 109th Congress passed the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act and sent the bill to the President for his signature before adjourning. Congress also passed a continuing resolution (CR) until February 15, 2007 to ensure that funding for HIV/AIDS care continued. Since the Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations bill passed neither body, HIV/AIDS programs for FY 2007 will be funded at the FY2006 levels.

The new 110th Congress convened on January 4, 2007 with work to be done as to appropriations for this legislation.

NASTAD will be working with appropriators and authorizers to ensure that the \$70 million increase in the Title II base grant, along with other important increases are included.

NASTAD met extensively with key appropriators before passage of reauthorization legislation to make them aware of the importance of the \$70 million increase in the Title II base under a reauthorized program.

This increase should help Oklahoma and other southern states with additional funding needed for HIV/AIDS care.

With the new makeup of the 110th Congress, we hope that additional funding for HIV care and prevention will occur over time.

The HIV/STD Service extends a sincere “**thank you**” to those in our state who sent letters of support or made calls to their congressional representatives in order to move legislation for the Ryan White CARE Act forward.

HIV/STD NEWS VOLUME TWO ISSUE ONE OCPG AND OHTCC NOW OHPC



The Oklahoma HIV Treatment and Care Consortium (OHTCC) and the Oklahoma Community Planning Group (OCPG) joined forces and are now the **Oklahoma HIV Planning Council (OHPC)**.

After a year of hard work by the HIV Collaborative Planning Committee, the newly formed Oklahoma HIV Planning Council (OHPC) met January 8, 2007. The new group is comprised of 25 voting members and three co-chairs. OHPC members are representatives of HIV treatment and care, HIV prevention, members of at-risk populations, and people living with HIV disease. OHPC members work throughout the year to assist the HIV/STD Service with HIV treatment and care and HIV prevention planning.

2007 OHPC voting members are:

Jerry Boatright, Charles Cook, George Curry, Midge Elliot, David Ewing, Diana Gomez, Gerald Hall, Melissa Hill, Dana Jones, Khepra Nura Khem, Lindy Kroenert, Angela Martinez, Brandi Moerles-Campbell, Rachel Morse, Janice Nicklas, Theodore Noel, Jeff Robbins, Bob Settles, William Shanahan, Jeremy Simmons, David Smith, Leah Taylor, Lisa Toahty, Ronda Vance, and Taron Winans.

Co-Chairs for the 2007 OHPC are Sally Bouse-Pittser, Health Department Co-Chair; Dr. Mike Jackson, Community Co-Chair and Freddie Don Little, Community Co-Chair.

The OHPC meets six times a year. The remaining OHPC meetings for 2007 are:

Monday, March 12	Oklahoma City, Room 806, Oklahoma State Department of Health
Monday, May 14	Tulsa, OSU - Center for Health Sciences
Monday, July 9	Oklahoma City, Room 806, Oklahoma State Department of Health
Monday, September 10	Oklahoma City, Room 806, Oklahoma State Department of Health
Monday, November 5	Oklahoma City, Room 806, Oklahoma State Department of Health

The OHPC is an open meeting process, and welcomes attendance and input from the public. For information about the OHPC please contact Sally Bouse-Pittser at (405) 271-4636 or SallyB@health.ok.gov.

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PENDLETON BLANKET HONORS THE FIRST NATIVE HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY



Pendleton Blankets honoring the first Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, March 21st, 2007 are now available for purchase. You can pre-purchase the philanthropic limited edition for \$500 or the regular blanket for \$175. The artwork on the blanket represents the AIDS ribbon unfurled, suggesting it is time to open up the ribbon as we open up conversations about HIV/AIDS in an effort to reduce stigma and get tribal communities organized to take action. With rising methamphetamine rates, HIV continues to increase among Natives. To purchase a blanket contact Martha Burnside at Martha.Burnside@ColoState.EDU

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 10, 2007 | National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
http://www.omhrc.gov/hivaidsobservances/women/index.html |
| March 21, 2007 | National Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day http://www.nnaapc.org/ |
| April is STD Awareness Month | http://www.ashastd.org |
| May is Hepatitis Awareness Month | http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/may.htm |
| May 19, 2007 | National Asian and Pacific Islander (API) HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
http://www.omhrc.gov/hivaidsobservances/api/apievents.html |
| June 27, 2007 | National HIV Testing Day http://www.napwa.org/hivtestinfo/ |

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WHERE TO GET HELP FOR
PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS



918 area code:

Oklahoma State University, Center for Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine - (OSU-COM) Health Care Center, Tulsa (918) 382-5058

405 and 580 area codes:

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, College of Medicine, Infectious Disease Institute, Oklahoma City (405) 271-6434

DHS (the Department of Human Services) has AIDS Care Coordinators who help people with HIV/AIDS:

Tulsa and the eastern part of the state:
(800) 734-7516 or TTY (918) 581-2146

Oklahoma City, north central, and northwest Oklahoma:
(800) 884-1572 or TTY (405) 271-5816

Case management, applications for medications, and other services are available through Ryan White Title II and other resources.

918 area code:

Tulsa C.A.R.E.S. - (918) 834-4194 or 1-800-474-4872

405 and 580 area codes:

RAIN, Inc., Oklahoma City (405) 232-2437 or 1-800-285-CARE (2273)
RAIN, Inc., Lawton (580) 353-7900

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2-1-1 is a FREE 24-hour telephone number that connects Oklahomans with important community services.

The 2-1-1-phone number is available 24 hours, 365 days per year that helps people get in touch with health and human service agencies, including:

- **Basic Human Needs Resources** - food banks, clothing closets, shelters, rent assistance, utility assistance
- **Physical and Mental Health Resources** - health insurance programs, Medicaid and Medicare, maternal health, Children's Health Insurance Program, medical information lines, crisis intervention services, support groups, counseling, drug and alcohol intervention and rehabilitation
- **Employment Supports** - financial assistance, job training, transportation assistance, education programs
- **Support for Older Americans and Persons with Disabilities** - adult day care, congregate meals, Meals on Wheels, respite care, home health care, transportation, homemaker services
- **Support for Children, Youth and Families** – child care, after school programs, Head Start, family resource centers, summer camps and recreation programs, mentoring, tutoring, protective services

2-1-1 is operational in 58 counties with hopes of covering the remaining counties in 2007. For a map of the areas currently covered by 2-1-1, go to <http://www.211oklahoma.org/>

For more information about the 2-1-1 system go to:

Oklahoma 2-1-1 Collaborative <http://www.211oklahoma.org/>

2-1-1 Nationwide <http://www.211.org/>

Alliance of Information & Referral Systems <http://www.airs.org/>

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NEWS AT A GLANCE



HIV COUNSELORS ATTEND UNI-GOLD™ Recombigen® HIV TRAINING

One of the goals of the HIV/STD Service is to provide a variety of testing options to testing sites across the state. On January 3, 2007, the HIV/STD Service held trainings in Oklahoma City and Tulsa for approximately 50 HIV counselors to be educated on the UNI-GOLD™ Recombigen® HIV single use rapid immunoassay (rapid test).

UNI-GOLD™ Recombigen® HIV is a single-use rapid immunoassay for the qualitative detection of antibodies to HIV-1 in serum, plasma, and whole blood (venipuncture and fingerstick). The Uni-Gold(tm) Recombigen® HIV test is intended for use in point of care settings as an aid in detection of infection with HIV-1. The test provides results within 10 minutes and is suitable for use in appropriate multi-test algorithms designed for the statistical validation of rapid HIV test results.

Plans are underway for the OSDH Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) to have access to the UNI-GOLD™ test, in addition to other HIV testing methods, to enable them to provide better service to the community.

For more information please contact Maria Srouji, at (405) 271-4636 or MariaS@health.ok.gov.

**National HIV/AIDS Hotline
Replaced by CDC-INFO**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National HIV/AIDS Hotline (800) 342-2437 is now part of (800) CDC-INFO, the new one source for public health information from CDC.

This new service provides English, Spanish, and TTY service - (888) 323-6348, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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NEWS AT A GLANCE
(continued)



HIV PREVENTION CONTRACTS AWARDED

The following successful bidders were awarded contracts for fiscal year 2007.
Total HIV Prevention Awards = \$748,739

Fiscal Year 2007 HIV Prevention Contract Awards

RAIN, dba CarePoint, Inc.
600 NW 23rd St., Suite 101
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
(405) 232-2437
Anonymous/Confidential Test
Site

H.O.P.E.
2545 South Yale
Tulsa, OK 74115-8211
(918) 749-8378
Anonymous/Confidential Test
Site and Community Promise
Intervention

Guiding Right, Inc.
7901 NE 10th, Suite A-111
Midwest City, OK 73110
(405) 733-0771
Many Men Many Voices
Intervention (3MV); African
American Counseling,
Testing and Referral
Services

Fiscal Year 2007 Interagency Agreements

OSU – COM IDI Clinic
635 West 11th St
Tulsa, OK 74127
(918) 382-3507
Comprehensive Risk Counseling and Services;
Peer-to-peer Inreach/Outreach & CTRS

OUHSC – IDI Clinic
1200 Everett Dr., Room 6E-238
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
(405) 271-6434
Comprehensive Risk Counseling and Services

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The Courage to Say KNOW SEXUAL HEALTH CURRICULUM



The Courage to Say KNOW is an asset-building sexual health curriculum for the prevention and early intervention of STDs/HIV/AIDS and unintended pregnancy in adolescent populations. Its mission is to protect as many adolescents as possible from risk behaviors with the belief that all youth deserve scientifically accurate education, along with critical asset-building skills to stay healthy and risk-free.

The Courage to Say KNOW was developed in concert with adolescent focus groups and through needs assessment from various target audiences, including public and private schools, at-risk youth in group homes, juvenile justice, and after-school programs. It is easily adaptable to various target audiences, capitalizing on a body of knowledge that is essential for any and all youth.

This curriculum is now available in a 3-CD set and is divided into twelve lesson plans, which may be completed in its entirety, or presented as individual lessons. Each lesson plan incorporates various experiential, hands-on activities to make education a REAL-life learning experience for participants. The twelve lesson plans are as follows:

1. Understanding Adolescence: A Time of Change
2. The Amazing Immune System
3. HIV/AIDS: Risk or Responsibility
4. Real Talk About STDs
5. Abstinence: Just Chillin' for Now
6. Condoms: Protection Check
7. Substance Abuse: A Real "Downer"
8. Balancing Power for Healthy Relationships
9. Effective Communication: What I Have to Say is Important
10. The Power to Choose: Decision-Making/Refusal Skills/Delay Tactics
11. Setting Healthy Boundaries
12. Self-Esteem: I've Got the Power to Love the Skin I'm In

The Courage to Say KNOW curriculum is in compliance with State Statute 70 O.S. 11-103 (OSCN 2001), School Code 1971. It has been reviewed by the Oklahoma State Department of Health and approved as a medically accurate adolescent health curriculum. In September 2005, the curriculum was approved by the Oklahoma State Department of Education for use in middle and high schools.

The Courage to Say KNOW was developed by the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Department of Medicine, Section of Infectious Diseases and the Department of Pediatrics, Section of Adolescent Medicine through the generosity of funding from a Ryan White Title IV grant. For more information please contact Jana Knol, M.Ed., Instructional Coordinator or Robert Settles, LCSW, Program Coordinator at (405) 271-6235.

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INFORMATION CORNER



Looking for statistics? Information about Oklahoma's statistics for HIV/AIDS/STDs is available from the HIV/STD Service on a quarterly basis. Go to <http://www.health.state.ok.us/program/hivstd/epi/Stats.htm>

Free live and archived coverage of events on various subjects, such as [Medicare](#), [Medicaid](#), [prescription drugs](#), [health information technology](#), [HIV/AIDS](#), [minority health](#) and more are available from Kaisernetwork.org HealthCast. Go to <http://www.kaisernetwork.org/>

For information about HIV/AIDS go to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/>

For information about STDs go to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/std/>

The OSDH, HIV/STD Service offices will be closed May 28 for a state recognized holiday.

HIV/STD Service Staff Changes

Retirements:

December 31, 2006 – **Brady Parsons**, Manager, Field Operations

January 5, 2007 -- **Kay Holladay, MPH**, Director, Division of Surveillance & Care Delivery

New Assignments:

Mark Turner, MPH, named Manager, Field Operations.

Jeff Hunter, MEd, named Program Consultant for Disease Interventions.

Sally Bouse-Pittser, MPH, CHES, named Manager, HIV Prevention & Training.

Jan Fox, MPH, RN, named Interim Director, Division of Surveillance & Care.

Aaron Racz is the new Disease Intervention Specialist located in El Reno, Canadian County.

Other staff changes:

Shirley Jackson, Administrative Assistant for Viral Hepatitis and STD Care Services moved to Missouri to join her husband with his new job.

Christy McDonald, Epidemiologist, accepted a position with Acute Disease, OSDH.

Lynn Davis is now the Administrative Assistant for Viral Hepatitis and STD Care Services.

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HIV/STD Service Chief
Interim Director, Division of Surveillance and Care Delivery
Director, Division of Prevention and Intervention
Editor/Public Information and Awareness

Michael G. Harmon, MA
Jan Fox, MPH, RN
Chang K. Lee (CDC)
Pat Kelly, MEd

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