



HIV/STD NEWS

VOLUME THREE ISSUE THREE
SEPTEMBER 2008



BRIEF FROM THE CHIEF

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NEW REPORT HIGHLIGHTS THOSE AFFECTED MOST BY HIV

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CDC has announced that there are significantly higher numbers of new HIV infections in our country each year than was previously thought. Rather than the 40,000 estimated new infections, CDC now believes the number is 25% higher at approximately 56,000. This new information should serve as a wake up and take notice call for those of us who work in the field. It tells us that the HIV epidemic is worse now and always has been worse than we thought.

According to the Center for Disease Control's September 12, 2008 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), the distribution of new HIV infections in 2006 demonstrates that more than 25 years after the first report of AIDS, the disease continues to affect men who have sex with men (MSM) more than any other group in the United States. The study reflected that 46% of the infections in men, occurred in blacks, 41% among whites and 19% were Hispanic. The next group with disproportionately high rates of new infection was black females ages 13-49. HIV incidence for black females was 14.7 times the rate of their white counterpart. Furthermore, Hispanic female infectivity was 3.8 times the rate of white females.

Initial results showed that 73% of all new infections

were in males; However, the age distribution of persons newly infected suggest important differences by race and ethnicity. For example, among black and Hispanic MSM, most new infections were in persons aged 13-29, whereas, among white MSM, the ages were 30-39 years.

The new incidence data will help guide local, state and national intervention measures tailored to those populations at greatest risk for HIV infection.

Information on HIV incidence was taken from data gathered from 22 states with confidential, name-based, HIV surveillance with adequate data to calculate incidence estimates. Oklahoma is one of the states whose data contributed to this report. The 22 states accounted for approximately 73% of AIDS cases in the U.S. (excluding territories) diagnosed in 2006.

It also shows us that prevention programs work. Overall, the numbers of new HIV infection have been stable since the early 2000s. However, despite overall successes many disparities remain. Our prevention efforts must be stepped up for gay and bisexual men, blacks and Hispanics as these groups continue to be most heavily impacted by the epidemic.



AWARENESS

HIV/STD Service health educators have been visiting local community organizations to foster valuable partnerships and to increase HIV/STD awareness in high-risk populations. The greater goal is to confront myths about transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases, and to offer appropriate prevention messages. Hopefully, the information will empower individuals to protect themselves from acquiring and/or transmitting disease and infection.

The partnerships include the following organizations: Healing Hands Medical Clinic, Norman Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Center, Oklahoma County Juvenile Detention Center, Guthrie Job Corps, The Urban League of Greater OKC, and The City Rescue Mission. The presentations are comprehensive, realistic and enlightening. The audiences range from adolescent-aged children to seniors who may not consider themselves at risk, including those suffering from mental illness, poverty, homelessness, and drug abuse.



National Latino AIDS Awareness Day

**Unidos Podemos:
HIV/AIDS Stops Here.**



Prevention Starts With us

Latinos make up approximately 14 percent of the U.S. population, but account for approximately 19 percent of new cases. October 15, 2008, is National Latino AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD). Every year, this day is set aside to recognize the impact of this disease on the Latino community. It also marks an opportunity to increase awareness of the devastating and disproportionate effects of HIV/AIDS on the populations at highest risk.

Two Oklahoma organizations plan to recognize the day. The Latino Community Development Agency (LCDA), in Oklahoma City, will observe NLAAD and Latino HIV Testing Week during October 12-17. On Sunday, October 12th, they will be talking face to face with the Latino community at Crossroads Mall (South I-240 and I-35) and the El Mariachi grocery store (Walker & S.W. 59th Street).

Wednesday, October 15, Latino media will air public service announcements and HIV testing and counseling will be provided. For additional information call (405) 236-0701.

Sunday, October 12, Health Outreach Prevention Education (H.O.P.E.) of Tulsa will provide HIV Testing and sponsor an informational booth from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the First Annual Health Fair at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church. On Saturday, October 18, H.O.P.E. will be at the Plaza Santa Cecilia sponsoring a booth and possible HIV testing from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

NLAAD is also a time to push for crucial support from public officials and religious leaders. Ongoing efforts to reverse this troubling trend are in place. To learn more about this national event, go to <http://www.hhs.gov/aidsawarenessdays/days/latino>.

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Highlights from Pride 2008

It's Pride. It's Time.
Get Tested!

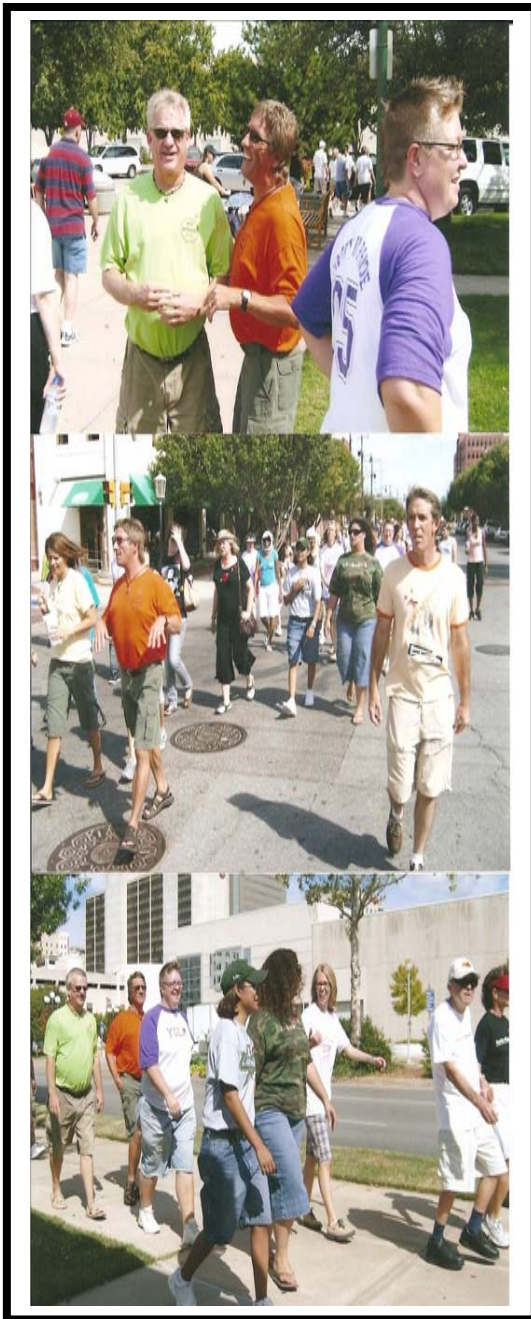


Over 100
People Tested



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<http://www.aidswalkokc.org/>

On **Sunday, October 5, 2008**, Oklahomans will participate in **AIDS Walk**.

It is a day of citywide HIV/AIDS awareness. Individuals, community and work groups, and families join together to raise funds to support people living with HIV/AIDS in the Oklahoma City community.

AIDS Walk will be held at the Myriad Botanical Gardens, 301 West Reno Avenue in Downtown Oklahoma City. The one-mile walk will officially begin at 2:00 p.m., and registration will begin at 12:30 p.m.

AIDS Walk of Oklahoma City is a non-profit organization and donations are tax-deductible.



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AIDS Walk Tulsa

*16th Annual
Tulsa AIDS Walk
October 11, 2008*

*Registration begins
at 9:00AM*

*Veteran's Park
21st and Boulder*

Visit our great new website
for more info, and to register or set up your team

www.aidswalktulsa.org

Questions???

Contact Janice Nicklas
(918) 699-4226 or
jnicklas@csctulsa.org

Currently, in the Tulsa Community, there are over 1,800 individuals who are living with HIV/AIDS, and many more who have HIV and are not aware that they are infected.

The 2008 AIDS Walk Tulsa helps our communities raise funds for the Tulsa Community AIDS Partnership (TCAP) to assist in bringing 5 AmeriCorps members to the Tulsa community to work in HIV prevention and care. Tulsa is one of only 7 communities to host a National AIDS Fund Team. Bring your dogs, baby strollers, and wheelchairs. Banners are welcome on the 2-mile walk from 21st to 31st on Riverside Drive.

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WHERE TO GET HELP FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

2-1-1

2-1-1 is a FREE 24-hour telephone number that connects Oklahomans with important community services 365 days per year.

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

Tulsa and eastern Oklahoma:

(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 Part B and other resources.

918 area code:

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

405 and 580 area codes:

RAIN, Inc., Oklahoma City (405) 232-2437 or (800) 285-CARE (2273)

RAIN, Inc., Lawton (580) 353-7900

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PREVENTION/TRAINING



The HIV Prevention & Training section of the HIV/STD Service offers training in several HIV/AIDS/STD related topics. Trainings throughout the year include:

[Online HIV 101](#)
[HIV Counseling and Testing](#)
[HIV/STD Risk Reduction Counseling](#)
[Bridging Theory and Practice](#)
[STD 101](#)

For online HIV 101 training or a complete list of course descriptions and dates, contact:

Raymond Dallas, M.P.H.
Coordinator, Prevention, Capacity Building & Training
(405) 271-9444 ext. 56619 or RaymondD@health.ok.gov

The training staff can also prepare and present HIV/AIDS/STD presentations and trainings based on request and trainer availability. To request a presentation or training, contact:

Sally Bouse-Pittser, M.P.H., C.H.E.S.
Manager, HIV Prevention and Training
(405) 271-9444 ext. 56621 or SallyB@health.ok.gov

To join an email list that alerts community partners about HIV/AIDS/STD related trainings, updates and events, contact:

Larry Shockley, M.P.H., C.H.E.S.
Health Educator
(405) 271-9444 ext. 56620 Larrys@health.ok.gov

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INFORMATION CORNER

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 is available on Kaisernetwork's HealthCast. Go to <http://www.kaisernetwork.org/>

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

The HIV/STD Service office will be **closed on November 11, 27 and 28** for state recognized holidays.

HIV/STD Service Staff Changes

New: **Martin Q. Lansdale, M.P.H.**
Epidemiologist

Promotion: **Debbie Purton, M.P.H., RN**
Director, Division of Surveillance,
and Care Delivery



Retirement: **Adib Salim**
DIS Front Line Supervisor - Tulsa



CHECK IT OUT

To go directly to the HIV/STD Service section of the OSDH web site, simply type <http://hivstd.health.ok.gov> into your Internet browser. The HIV/STD Service plans many updates and more information is available via the web site.

A new HIV/AIDS Fact Sheet is available in the HIV/STD Service section, and can be found by clicking the HIV/STD Statistics toolbar on the left side of the web page.

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