



Voices

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The Voice of Delaware's HIV Community

Consortium recipient of MAC Cosmetics housing grant

The Delaware HIV Consortium recently received a housing grant in the amount of \$25,000 from the **MAC Cosmetics MAC AIDS Fund**.

The grant will help begin to "fill in the gaps" of the recent budget cuts, which total more than \$300,000 over the past couple of years. It will assist the program and allow it to continue to run at its status quo level, meaning it will keep the level of service that clients are currently receiving, but will not be used to move clients off of the waiting list.

"We have lost so much HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People Living with AIDS) funding, and housing is such a critical need in Delaware," said associate executive director Glen Pruitt, who wrote the grant. "This grant will go to help fill the funding shortfall so we can maintain clients in program. This kind of funding is critical."

Affordable housing for people living with HIV/AIDS has always been a top priority of the Delaware HIV Consortium. Since 1997, the Delaware HIV Consortium has administered the state's only rental assistance program specifically targeted for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS. Our program provides more than 160 households per year the opportunity to live independently and affordably, and better manage their health issues.

The MAC AIDS Fund has been a major supporter of the Delaware HIV Consortium's annual WOW Awards Gala and has donated more than \$95 million globally since the fund was established in 1995.

There is still a great need for more funding for the housing assistance program. If you wish to make a donation to the program or know of a company or organization that may want to support the housing assistance program, contact Glen Pruitt at gpruitt@delawarehiv.org.



Fourth Annual "Easy As Pie" fundraiser continues to grow



With more pick up locations and more pie selections, this year's fourth annual **EASY AS PIE** fundraiser is sure to be the best yet!

The **EASY AS PIE** fund raiser is simple - for a \$20 donation, you receive a delicious pie to share at your Thanksgiving table, and all proceeds help the Delaware HIV Consortium and the Ministry of Caring provide services to Delawareans living with HIV disease.

The newest addition is possibly the tastiest -- a two pound, 8 inch New York Style Cheesecake is being offered this year, in addition to last year's selections of Dutch Apple Crumb, Pumpkin, Pecan, No Sugar Added Apple and Sweet Potato.

Also on board this year are several statewide businesses that have been so gracious to allow us to use their place of business as pick up locations! The Wilmington and Newark locations of Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurants, Saffron Fine Catering in Centreville, Baxter's Restaurant and Lounge in Wilmington and Partners Bistro in Rehoboth Beach have all been added as new pick up sites.

Order today! Turn to page 5 for a complete order form.

Thank you for your support!

Red Ribbon Advocates begin working in their communities



The newest class of the Red Ribbon Advocates celebrate their achievements. From left, front row: Lolisa Gibson, Thea Becton, Carlos Hicks. Back: Joe Scarborough.

The staff and board of the Delaware HIV Consortium would like to congratulate the newest graduates of the Red Ribbon Advocates Program!

The program, which teaches advocacy and communication skills pertaining to HIV/AIDS, is in its third year. Each class brings a group of individuals dedicated to speaking up and speaking out for ALL individuals infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

"I'm so proud of all of the time, energy and heart that each 2007 graduate has put forth over the past few months and continues to give to their communities," said former Red Ribbon Advocates program coordinator Susan Starrett.

All of the members have become very involved in a variety of HIV committees, boards and community outreach projects. Their hard work and dedication is sure to make a huge impact!

Donate to the Consortium when you shop online!

The next time you're looking for a great gift (for yourself or someone else!) make sure to visit the Delaware HIV Consortium's Web site (www.delawarehiv.org). At the bottom right side of the page, there are two links for **Boyd's Flowers** and **Amazon.com**. Purchasing from these two vendors is a simple way to give back to the Consortium!

By accessing Amazon.com from our Web site, a portion of what you spend is donated back to us. That money goes directly to clients, and provides everything from housing to utility assistance.

You can also donate through Boyd's Flowers 'Sharing Hands' program. Visit www.boydsflowers.com to place your order, and make sure you select the Delaware HIV Consortium under the Sharing Hands pull down menu. It's that easy!

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The Delaware HIV Consortium is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating the spread of HIV/AIDS and to creating a seamless continuum of care for all people infected and affected in Delaware.

Spotlight on La Red Health Center, Kent/Sussex Counseling Services

Both of this month's spotlight organizations -- La Red Health Center and Kent/Sussex Counseling Services -- should feel very proud of the hard work they do everyday to help people living in Kent and Sussex Counties. From expanding their facility space to receiving a very special accreditation, these two organizations provide some of the best care in Delaware.

Congratulations to both of these organizations. Your hard work, care and dedication is so important to so many people living with HIV/AIDS in Delaware.

La Red Health Center

Georgetown's **La Red Health Center**, a non-profit organization that provides quality, reliable and convenient health care for every stage of life to people living in and around Sussex County, recently celebrated a major achievement - the opening of its second facility.

"With an already limited number of physician practices in Sussex County, the increasing patient volume has served as the catalyst for us to expand our services," CEO Brian Olson said.

Originally a 1,400-square-foot building with three exam rooms, the facility has grown into a 2,800-square-foot building with six exam rooms.

The new facility, which is located directly across the street from the original center on Market Street in Georgetown, will allow more people to access their services, which include HIV prevention and outreach, comprehensive pediatric, adolescent, adult and geriatric primary care, childhood immunizations, diabetes education and prenatal care.

La Red Health Center is proud to offer both evening and weekend hours and is accepting new patients of all ages.

For more information about La Red Health Center, call 302-855-1233 or log onto www.laredhealthcenter.org.



Congressman Mike Castle, Senator Tom Carper and Lt. Gov. John Carney, among others, attend the ribbon cutting ceremony at La Red on Aug. 6.

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Kent/Sussex Counseling Services

The Delaware HIV Consortium congratulates **Kent/Sussex Counseling Services (KSCS)** for their latest achievement - being awarded a three year accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Robin Cabbage, the HIV/AIDS program manager at KSCS, explained that the accreditation means their HIV programs, which include case management, emergency client assistance and confidential HIV testing, meet internationally recognized standards. She explained that members of the commission interviewed clients and staff, researched records and reviewed all aspects of the HIV programs.

"This accreditation speaks volumes of the work we do here," she said. "It is a big achievement and shows dedication and commitment to the people we serve."

KSCS has offices in Dover, Georgetown and Laurel, and is considered to be one of the major "public" outpatient substance abuse treatment centers in Delaware's lower counties. In addition to the HIV services mentioned above, KSCS also offers education and counseling services to individuals diverted from the criminal justice system as well as substance abuse and mental health treatment.

CARF International is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of human service providers in the areas of aging services, behavioral health, child and youth services, employment and community services, and medical rehabilitation.

For more information about KSCS, visit www.kscs.org or call 302-735-7790.

For more information about CARF, visit www.carf.org.

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Walkers, supporters raise more than \$200,000 statewide for the 21st Annual Delaware AIDS Walks

This year's AIDS Walk Committee would like to extend an enormous THANK YOU to everyone who donated their time, energy and money to make the 2007 Delaware AIDS Walks the BEST in the history of the Walk in Delaware!

All three Walks - held in Wilmington, Dover and Georgetown - saw more growth in the number of Walkers and the amount collected from each Walker.

"This Walk shows what hard work and collaboration can achieve," said Peter Houle, executive director of the Delaware HIV Consortium. "Thank you to each and every person who made this year the best yet!"

Make sure to save the date for next year's Walks - Sunday, Sept. 28 in Wilmington and Sunday, Oct. 5 in Dover. The Committee is currently discussing the possibility of moving the Sussex County Walk from Georgetown to Rehoboth in 2008. Check the next edition of Voices for more information and updates about the possible change of location!



Thousands of Walkers step off at Rockford Park in Wilmington.



Mrs. Delaware America 2007 Angela Burns joins AIDS Delaware's Frank Hawkins at the Dover Walk.



Participants eagerly wait for step off at Silver Lake Recreation Area in Dover.



Executive Director Peter Houle joins long time HIV/AIDS supporters Mayor James Baker (second from left) and Wilmington City Council President Ted Blunt (right) with Special Events/Development Associate Tammy Jones.

DID YOU KNOW?

The most current statistics are always available on our Web site (www.delawarehiv.org). Under 'Consortium Library' click on 'statistics' and then 'surveillance reports.'

More than 3,300 people in Delaware are living with HIV/AIDS. 67.9 percent are male; 32.1 percent are female.

The majority of people living with HIV/AIDS reside in Wilmington. 2,349 people in Wilmington are infected, while 331 people in Kent County and 603 in Sussex County are living with the disease. (22 people are listed as 'unknown' regarding their county of residency.)

African Americans, both male and female, are becoming infected at an astronomical rate. 2,105 African Americans are infected, while 958 whites and 221 Hispanics are living with HIV/AIDS in Delaware.

One of the fastest growing age groups for HIV infection are young adults, ages 20-29.



It's As Easy As Pie to order!

Choose one of four ways to order your pies!

1. Order online: www.delawarehiv.org
2. Phone: 302-654-5471
3. Fax: 302-654-5472
4. Mail to: Delaware HIV Consortium
100 West 10th St., Ste 415
Wilmington, DE 19801

Choose a pick up location & time

_____ Tues. 11/20/07 _____ Wed. 11/21/07

Community Service Parking Garage

Corner of 11th & Orange Sts., Wilmington

Tues. 11/20/07 (noon - 6 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

MOC- Francis X. Norton Center

917 Madison St., Wilmington

Tues. 11/20/07 (noon - 6 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

Wild Thyme Flowers Inc.

5725 Kennett Pike, Centreville

Tues. 11/20/07 (noon - 5 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

Baxter's Restaurant and Lounge

2006 Pennsylvania Ave., Wilmington

Tues. 11/20/07 (4 p.m. - 9 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (4 p.m. - 9 p.m.)

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

710 S. Madison St., Wilmington

Tues. 11/20/07 (noon - 7 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (noon - 7 p.m.)

Saffron Fine Catering

2801 Centreville Rd., Little Falls #3, Wilmington

For specific instructions regarding this location, call 302-998-3050

Tues. 11/20/07 (noon - 3 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (7 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

174 E. Main St., Newark

Tues. 11/20/07 (noon - 7 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (noon - 7 p.m.)

Kent/Sussex Counseling Services

1241 College Park Dr., Dover

Tues. 11/20/07 (noon - 6 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

Sussex Counseling Services

20728 DuPont Blvd., Unit 313, Georgetown

Tues. 11/20/07 (noon - 5 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (9 a.m. - noon)

Partners Bistro

404 Rehoboth Ave., Rehoboth Beach

Tues. 11/20/07 (3 p.m. - 8 p.m.) Wed. 11/21/07 (3 p.m. - 8 p.m.)

Method of Payment

Name _____

Billing Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

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CHOOSE YOUR PIES

(Please fill in the quantity on the corresponding line)

_____ Dutch Apple Crumb _____ NY Style Cheesecake

_____ Pumpkin _____ Sweet Potato

_____ No Sugar Apple _____ Pecan

Total number of pies _____ x \$20 each = \$ _____

I would like to make an additional donation of \$ _____

TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT = \$ _____

CHOOSE A PICK UP LOCATION

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_____ Wild Thyme Flowers

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_____ Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant - Wilmington

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_____ Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant - Newark

_____ Kent/Sussex Counseling Services

_____ Sussex Counseling Services

_____ Partners Bistro

METHOD OF PAYMENT

All orders must be pre-paid.

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Please complete for credit card orders only. Check card type.

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Name on Card _____

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOON ON
FRIDAY, 11/16/07.**

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