



# VOICES

The Voice of Delaware's HIV Community

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## “Easy As Pie” Thanksgiving Fundraiser Is As Sweet As It Is Easy

With Thanksgiving just around the corner it's time to start thinking about which pies you will be ordering for this year's "Easy As Pie" fundraiser. It's not called "Easy As Pie" for nothing - ordering and pickup are a cinch and the hardest part is choosing from all of the delicious flavors.



With convenient pick up locations throughout the state, it's easy to find one close to you. The whole process is simple: for each \$20 donation you receive one pie of your choice. All proceeds benefit the Delaware HIV Consortium's housing assistance program and the House of Joseph II, a 16-bed residence for people living with the advanced stages of AIDS. This year marks the fifth anniversary of the fundraiser, and the third year of collaborating with the Ministry of Caring.

You will find an order form in the back of this newsletter that you can mail, or fax, to the Consortium. We have five delicious pies and a cheesecake to choose from, so get an old favorite and try something new. Buy an extra pie for your Thanksgiving dinner hosts and show them just how much you appreciate their kindness. And just imagine the look on their faces when you give your mother, friend, in-laws or client a yummy holiday treat. With every purchase you're helping our clients, who need assistance the most.

So log on to our website, [www.delawarehiv.org](http://www.delawarehiv.org), or check out page seven in this newsletter to get your pie order completed now, and you will have one less thing to worry about when the holidays roll around.

### World AIDS Day

December 1, 2008 will commemorate the 20th anniversary of World AIDS Day, which was first declared by the World Health Organization and the United Nations General Assembly in 1988. Since then, it has increasingly become one of the most successful "international days" for raising awareness on a worldwide issue.

The theme for World AIDS Day 2007 and 2008 is Leadership, promoted with the slogan, "Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise." Leadership encourages leaders at all levels to fight HIV/AIDS. "Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise" is

Continued on page 3...

### Sister Dolores Honored for Her Years of Work, Love

Sister Dolores Macklin was honored as a Board Member Emeritus of the Delaware HIV Consortium's Board of Trustees on September 25, 2008. Board President Arlene Bincsik, Executive Director, Peter Houle, and Pat Lincoln of the AETC were present to award Sister Dolores the special resolution.

Sister Dolores first began her work in the HIV/AIDS field in 1988 when Catholic Charities proposed a program that would run 11 months, after which time the

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# Letter From the Executive Director



## When Did AIDS Become A Job, And Not A Passion?

More than twenty-six years ago in June 1981 an epidemic was discovered in young, gay American men. A transmissible form of Kaposi's sarcoma was found in NYC's and San Francisco's gay community. Before AIDS was called AIDS, people referred to this plague as the "gay cancer". At this time in history, cancer was the most dreaded disease in America. It was everyone's worst fear.

But from this fear came a new sense of urgency and activism. In the living rooms and basements of gay men in NYC and San Francisco came the birth of a movement and a passion that inspired a nation and mobilized a community that demanded to be heard and demanded that our government act! It was the birth of AIDS activism and something that would change America forever!

From these informal meetings in basements and living rooms came a new kind of passion...a grass roots passion for advocacy, the fight for funding and research and for supportive services. These grass root efforts were the birthplace of Act Up and the Gay Men's Health Crisis, the forefathers of every AIDS Service Organization (ASO) in cities across the U.S and around the world.

Yet, almost thirty years into this epidemic, many things about this disease have changed dramatically while others have not. We've given this pandemic a name, it's no longer a "gay" disease and new drugs provide longevity and a better quality of life. We invented the first "Walk" fund-raiser, reduced the death rate and brought hope to millions. But, at the same time, there is still no cure and AIDS continues to ravage the world. It has changed its face and demographics many times and now preys on our youth and communities of color and still remains the biggest stigma the world knows.

Although I had a career prior to the era of AIDS or at least I think I did, I can't seem to remember doing anything else. For nearly two decades and in three states, I've shown up every morning to an ASO. For me, it's what I do. It's where I belong. It's still my passion. I think it's what some people call "work".

So when did AIDS become a job and not a passion? When did people start "working" at AIDS organizations? When did it become "OK" to not attend and support the annual AIDS Walk? When did too many people start thinking that someone else could pick up the slack? ASO's don't make widgets. We provide opportunities to empower people living with HIV/AIDS so that they may live healthier lives with purpose and resolve.

Harsh as this may seem, I say it's time to recommit, engage or quit! Now more than ever, we need to lead by example. We need to walk the walk and we need to speak up and speak out and speak loudly. It's time to show the passion once again because HIV/AIDS can't afford to be a job...it has to be a passion!

*Peter Houle*

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.

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# Education: The Best Prevention

## Volunteer of the Year, Joe Scarborough, Speaks to the Youth

By Joe Scarborough

For many people, autumn means “back to school”. This year I had the opportunity to go back myself, not as a student but as an educator. For many years I focused my efforts on HIV prevention by speaking to various groups as a PWA (Person With AIDS), hoping that somehow the story of my life coping with HIV would help others stay safe, and keep them from having to join me on that journey. One group in particular of special importance to me was our youth. People under the age of 25 have consistently ranked among the top most “at risk” populations and new infections for over a decade. Even while my involvement in the HIV community began to include more work in the supportive services area, I continued to accept any offers to talk with the younger people about prevention.

After several years’ absence from public speaking, I have been given the chance to return to doing something I feel so passionately about. A few weeks ago I was asked to give a lecture to some of the students at Delaware State University (DSU). As I stood there taking questions, I was reminded of how much I missed doing these kinds of talks and how important it is to make sure that these “at risk” people receive the education and the tools they need to stay healthy and safe. The students at DSU were incredible. Everyone was extremely accepting and asked some great questions.

Following the DSU talk, I spent two days with the students of Dover High School. I was invited by their Wellness Center to talk with some of the students during lunch period. These groups were much smaller and intimate than anything I had done, but the feeling that these more personal discussions would have a greater impact gave me hope that maybe my message would hit home.

I have been asked to come back to DSU to do another presentation and have been contacted by the Wellness Center of another high school to speak. The chance to try and help these young people make smart choices in their lives in some ways validates my struggle, by using it to show them what life with HIV is really like. By giving them the opportunity to speak candidly about their curiosity, fears, and misconceptions, I feel that I can help promote understanding and acceptance. Not only is it important to speak to these people about HIV prevention, but to try to engage them in open dialog about HIV/AIDS to help dispel the myths and stigma surrounding it. It is up to our youth to reignite the flame in the war against AIDS, and these discussions can help inspire them to join the fight against this dreaded disease.

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### World AIDS Day, Continued from pg. 1

the World AIDS Campaign’s dominant theme from 2005 through 2010. The World AIDS Campaign supports, strengthens and connects campaigns that hold leaders accountable for their promises on HIV and AIDS.

Check out our website’s on-line calendar which will be updated with local events pertaining to World AIDS Day. Our Facebook page will also list local events recognizing this special day. For more information visit [www.worldaidscampaign.org](http://www.worldaidscampaign.org).

### Board News

The Consortium’s Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the addition of two new board members. Dr. Stephen Eppes, an infectious disease physician from A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children, is a welcome addition to the board where his medical knowledge and history of working with patients with HIV/AIDS since the 1980’s will be helpful, no doubt.

We are also happy to announce that Gary Kirchhof has joined the board. Gary is a Manager of Provider Relations and Contracting at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Delaware. Blue Cross Blue Shield was the Corporate Award recipient at the 2008 WOW Awards Gala. Congratulations and welcome!

## CDC: 1.1 Million in US Have HIV

According to the latest statistics available from the CDC, 1.1 million people in 2006 were living with HIV in the United States. This is up 11 percent from 2003, and can be somewhat/partially attributed to the fact that people are living longer with HIV/AIDS due to improved medications. With more people in the population who are HIV positive, there is a greater chance for the virus to spread. New infection rates have been stable at around 56,000 annually, which suggests expanded HIV testing and prevention efforts are having an effect.

More than 20 percent of individuals infected with HIV, 232,700 Americans, are not aware of their HIV positive status. Worldwide, 33 million people are HIV positive and 25 million people have died because of AIDS.

## Sister Dolores Honored, Continued from pg. 1

program's necessity would be evaluated. When no one came into her office for the first several weeks she sought out the people who needed her in the community. She created and helped establish support groups for men, women and families as well as a support group for bereavement. She co-managed pregnant women and their babies with Dr. Stephen Eppes at the Wilmington Hospital, and worked closely with Dr. Richard Skinner who assisted her with the men's group. In addition, she was appointed to the Governor's task force for pediatric HIV/AIDS issues.

Part of the resolution honoring her achievements states:

"Sister Dolores Macklin is one of the longest serving members of the Board of Trustees for the Delaware HIV Consortium, bringing to the Board her rich history of experiences in HIV prevention work, her HIV education efforts in Delaware's school systems, her work in caring for babies with HIV infection, her spiritual counseling to persons living with HIV/AIDS, and her volunteer work in Delaware's HIV Wellness Clinics."

In recent months Sister Dolores's health has made it

## House Committee Holds Hearing on HIV Prevention & Incidence

Representative Henry Waxman (D-CA), chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, held a hearing on September 16 titled, *The Domestic Epidemic is Worse Than We Thought: A Wake Up Call for HIV Prevention*, addressing HIV prevention and the CDC's new HIV incidence estimates.

Chairman Waxman had requested that the CDC prepare a budget that would be necessary to effectively implement HIV prevention programs. The CDC's budget recommendation calls for at least \$1.6 billion in the next year, which is more than two times the budget that the Bush administration has requested for the coming year.

Chairman Waxman also discussed factors that are contributing to higher rates of HIV including abstinence-only education programs, which are largely unsuccessful, and a federal ban on needle exchange programs that are shown to work.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID), and Dr. Gerberding, Director of the CDC, testified that scientific evidence concludes that needle exchange programs effectively prevent HIV and do not increase drug usage.

Others testifying at the hearing agreed that abstinence-only programs have not shown to be a benefit, but that comprehensive sex education is effective in HIV prevention.

difficult for her to attend Board meetings, and she had asked the board to accept her resignation. Her dedication will now be forever recognized by the Consortium, and we wish her the best of health and are always thinking of her in our prayers. If you would like to send a card, or well wishes, to Sister Dolores you may address it to:

Assisi House, Marion Hall, Room 77  
600 Red Hill Rd.  
Aston, PA 19014



# What's Keeping Us Busy

## Medical Monitoring Project Conference

Rita Devlin Salvo, Manager of Community Planning, traveled to Atlanta recently for a Medical Monitoring Project (MMP) conference. MMP is a national patient survey project sponsored by CDC, NIH, and HRSA. Delaware is one of 26 state and local health departments implementing MMP, whose aim is to help answer the following questions:

- How many people living with HIV/AIDS are getting care for HIV?
- How easy is it to access care and use prevention and support services?
- What needs of people living with HIV/AIDS are not met?
- How is treatment affecting people living with HIV/AIDS?

MMP is a cooperative effort involving health departments, scientifically-sampled HIV care providers and their patients, and local advisory boards. Upon selection, patients are invited to participate in face-to-face interviews with trained, local health department MMP staff. MMP staff also perform medical record abstractions, collecting additional information which complements interview data. Health departments then submit all information, securely and confidentially, to CDC for analysis. Advisory board members help recruit providers, encourage patient participation, increase advisory board participation, and promote the MMP.

Said Salvo, "I want to thank the DPH team, cooperative providers, and supportive patients for their assistance. DPH is to be especially congratulated. We have the highest number of interview and abstraction completions for all participating areas." Other jurisdictions are still working to overcome obstacles related to geographic size, transient populations, lack of participation, and so forth.

"The conference is an opportunity for MMP participants to share experiences, discuss provider and patient recruitment solutions, receive updates on the overall program, and suggest marketing tools," said Salvo. "I'm glad I had the opportunity to participate." For more information, check the MMP website at [www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/treatment/mmp/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/treatment/mmp/index.htm).

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## AIDS Walk Brings in Over \$195,000, Major Growth in Downstate Walks

The AIDS Walks raised more than \$195,000 this year. More than 4,000 supporters attended the Walk in Wilmington on September 28, and the rain held out just long enough for nearly everyone to finish. The Dover and Rehoboth Beach Walks on October 5 were bigger than in years past, and raised more money than ever before. Glen Pruitt, who helped organize and attended the Walk at its new location in Rehoboth Beach, said the new location doubled the number of walkers and tripled the donations. The Dover Walk also attracted more walkers, who raised more money than in years past. Many student groups from Delaware State University were present for the walk. "We were pleased to see so many new faces show up at the Dover Walk," said Tammy Jones. "Everyone seemed truly excited to be there and we hope to see them in the future."

In Wilmington the crowd gathered at 1:15 pm to hold up a 100-plus yards long piece of red fabric, in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the World's Largest AIDS Awareness Ribbon.

We would like to thank all of the individual teams, schools, churches, organizations and countless other special people who "Walked the Walk", which is the easiest and most effective way of showing that you care. We also thank everyone who donated food, water, raffle prizes, time and money to make this event successful. We hope to see you next year on Sunday, September 27, 2009 when once again we will "Walk the Walk".



# A Client's Voice

## This program helped save my life...

John Sayres has been through a lot in his life, and while his health had been declining in recent years, with the help he receives from the Consortium in paying his monthly rent, his overall health has certainly improved. Just like the other 325 people who are waiting for rental assistance, John spent years on the waiting list, and while waiting he was living with room-mates who didn't always make it so easy for him to maintain the best of health. When asked if stable housing has allowed him to receive better medical care and maintain better health overall John doesn't hesitate to say, "Absolutely!"

Before John moved into his own living space his mother suggested that he move into a nursing home where staff would be able to administer his medications on a steady basis. Now, John is in good health and volunteers his time to the community, including CAMP Rehoboth events such as the film festival and the jazz fest. On prior World AIDS Days in Rehoboth Beach, John has read the list of names commemorating those who have died from AIDS, with some of his friends' names appearing among the "casualties of this war".

I think this program is a real lifesaver," says John. "I know that some programs suffer from budget cuts, but this program is really important." When asked what he would like to see improved to help people living with HIV/AIDS, John mentions the importance of public transportation. Many of the people who have HIV/AIDS rely on buses to get them to their doctors' offices and case manager appointments, and John says getting around rural areas can be especially difficult.

These days John is even looking into the possibility of taking on a part-time job. His voice and tone are positive, and he sounds truly happy when asked about his future and goals. Having come so far, John says, "This program helped save my life."

## A Busy Year in Housing

Other than medical care and therapy adherence, permanent and affordable housing is the most influential issue in stabilizing the health and improving the quality of life for individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

In striving to better our clients' housing opportunities, between January and August 2008, the housing assistance program transitioned 61 clients off of the housing program waiting list. As of the end of September, 26 clients had completed the process of finding housing and using their rental assistance vouchers.

## It's Official, Mark Your Calendar...

The **2009 WOW AWARDS GALA** will be held on **Saturday, April 18, 2009**. The event will be hosted at the beautiful Clarion, The Belle Hotel, in New Castle. See the newly renovated hotel for yourself, ahead of WOW, and grab a bite to eat at The Augusta Grille.

Conveniently located off Rt.13 & I-295,  
1612 N. DuPont Hwy.  
New Castle, DE 19720  
Phone: 302-428-1000

## Partnerships That Work: Each One Teach One Partners With Fund for Women To Bring Health Edu-Tainment To Channel 28

On November 16, Each One Teach One, a community-based health education agency, with support from the Fund for Women will host/produce "Reality Check", a 30-minute cable program designed to increase awareness about HIV, STDs and contraceptive options. It will also provide effective techniques to help women adopt healthy, sexually responsible behaviors, especially since the percentage of HIV/AIDS cases among females increased from 15% in 1989 to 41% in 2006. The show will air from 2:30 pm to 3:00 pm on the third Sunday of every month from November through August. For more information about Reality Check, Each One Teach One, volunteering,

6 or making donations, contact Alyson Lang at 302-658-0217.

# It doesn't get any easier than this...

## It's As Easy As Pie To Order!

Choose one of four ways to order your pies!

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



### Method of Payment

### CHOOSE A PICK UP LOCATION AND DATE

\_\_\_\_\_ Tues. 11/25/08 \_\_\_\_\_ Wed. 11/26/08

\_\_\_\_\_ **Community Service Parking Garage**  
Corner of 11th & Orange Sts., Wilmington  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 5:30 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (9 a.m. - noon)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Caring - FXN Center**  
917 Madison St., Wilmington  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 5 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (9 a.m. - noon)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Wild Thyme Flowers Inc.**  
5725 Kennett Pike, Centreville  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 5 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (10 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Baxter's Restaurant and Lounge**  
2006 Pennsylvania Ave., Wilmington  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 8 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (noon - 8 p.m.)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Bloomsberry Flowers**  
1801 Delaware Ave. Wilmington  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 5 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (9 a.m. - noon)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant**  
710 Justison St., Wilmington  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 8 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (noon - 8 p.m.)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant**  
174 E. Main St., Newark  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 8 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (noon - 8 p.m.)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Kent/Sussex Counseling Services**  
1241 College Park Dr., Dover  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 5 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (9 a.m. - noon)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Sussex Counseling Services**  
20728 DuPont Blvd., Unit 313, Georgetown  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 5 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (9 a.m. - noon)

\_\_\_\_\_ **CAMP Rehoboth**  
37 Baltimore Ave., Rehoboth Beach  
Tues. 11/25/08 (noon - 5 p.m.) Wed. 11/26/08 (9 a.m. - noon)

\_\_\_\_\_ Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Billing Address

\_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail

### 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 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

All orders must be pre-paid.

\_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ American Express

\_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card (Please print legibly)

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number

\_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

**All orders MUST be received by NOON on Friday, 11/21/08**

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