



## “Come Fly With Us...” to the 2010 WOW Awards Celebration on Saturday, April 17, 2010

The Delaware HIV Consortium and The Clarion Hotel-The Belle invite you to “Come Fly With Us” to the 6th Annual WOW Awards Celebration on Saturday, April 17, 2010 from 6:30 pm to 11:00 pm in the Golden Belle Ballroom. Join us as we honor excellence in community leadership, volunteerism and philanthropy in the field of HIV/AIDS. This year’s theme, “Come Fly With Us...”, incorporates all the nostalgia of airline travel to Las Vegas in the early 1960s. Every year we work hard to make you say “WOW”, and this year will certainly be no exception. Put your seats and trays in their upright position and please pay attention to the flight attendants in the forward cabin.

“Ladies and gentlemen, the captain has turned on the *Fasten Your Seatbelt* sign for good reason. You’re invited to a fabulous evening in the “Vegas” Red Flamingo Lounge where comfort food reigns supreme, the wine and cocktails flow, Sinatra sings on the main stage and the surprises never end. Attire is business casual or *Mad Men* chic.”



Seats are limited so book your tickets early for this incredible event that will transport you back to the 1960s with a delectable buffet that’s limitless, a sake bar, a “Duty Free” silent auction with something for everyone, and an evening guaranteed to make you say... WOW! Remember, what happens in the Red Flamingo Lounge, stays in the Red Flamingo Lounge. We hope you’ll join us for an evening that you’ll be talking about all year long while supporting a great cause.

This celebration honors the following Red Ribbon Awardees: *Ryan White Award*, Dr. Lisa Phillips; *Volunteer of the Year Award*, Kathy Hilmer; *Community Award*, Pat McDowell of NAMI Delaware; *Impact Award*, Club Phred; *Corporate Award*, Danielle Davis and Gilead; *Guardian Angel Award*, Joyce Bunkley; *Humanitarian Award*, Nicholas A. Mirkay; *Ally Award*, Frank Hawkins of

AIDS Delaware; *Visionary Award*, MAC AIDS Fund.

Your round trip tickets may be purchased by calling “WOW Airlines” at **302-654-5471**, or by placing your order on our web site, **www.delawarehiv.org**. An order form can also be found on page 7 of this newsletter. Coach and First-Class Tickets are available. No baggage fees apply. FUN IS ALL INCLUSIVE!

## The Clarion Hotel - The Belle Graciously Hosts WOW 2010, For the Second Year

After last year’s WOW Awards Celebration, the positive comments rolled in. “Great food and very creative”, “awesome theme and decorations”, “incredible silent auction”, and “gorgeous ballroom!” were all encouraging words to hear. Of course it takes a lot of planning and hard work to make it all happen but without the generosity of Alan Spiro, owner of The Clarion Hotel – The Belle, the amazing event that took place would not have been possible. The Delaware HIV Consortium is overjoyed that yet again The Clarion Hotel – The Belle will host the 6th Annual WOW Awards Celebration.

Having been actively involved in supporting the local community for the past 27 years, Alan Spiro sees supporting local charities and non-profits as a responsibility that he takes seriously but thoroughly enjoys. “I have great empathy and passion for people who are suffering from the effects of HIV and AIDS,” says Alan. “We aim to do whatever we can to help eradicate this insidious disease that greatly affects our community. By assisting the HIV/AIDS community we’re not only helping to maintain and improve lives and family relationships but we’re actually helping the greater community stay healthy, too.”

“I have seen the toll it [HIV and AIDS] takes on the human experience and how it can negatively affect families,” says Alan. “Healthy people can get out and enjoy life, and that’s what I want people to be able to do - enjoy their lives and communities. As



Pictured from left: Victoria and Alan Spiro with Board members Stuart and Donna Levin at WOW in 2009

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Dear Friends,

I want to take the time to say "thank you" to so many of you for helping to make the past year a better year for the Consortium, despite some challenges. So often I ask and then ask some more of all of you. But this time around, all I want to do is thank you... thank you for your kindness, your compassion, your time, your talents and of course your financial contributions and donations.

Hundreds of individuals, companies, families and corporations blessed us with their gifts, small and large. Never before has the Consortium received so much support from so many. Whether it was a \$1 or \$5 personal donation, a \$25,000 grant or a \$5,000 sponsorship, each contribution built upon the other to help us continue to fulfill our mission.

With your support, we were able to sustain our housing voucher program without implementing any cuts or lowering the assistance level to hundreds of men, women, children and families. We were able to continue funding the Michael Brossette Memorial Fund for emergency client assistance in Kent County and Sussex County. In addition, we were also able to start a new Red Ribbon Advocates program that helps empower persons living with HIV/AIDS to become more knowledgeable advocates on issues that are important to their needs and the wellbeing of the entire HIV community. The Consortium has also been able to sustain numerous other programs and services and looks forward to initiating some new programs this year as well, in part through the generosity of our "Voices" supporters and friends.

Because of your compassionate support and our ever watchful eye of every dollar we receive, I am very pleased to report that out of every dollar the Delaware HIV Consortium receives, nearly \$.88 goes back into direct client services. We hope that you will agree and continue to support us as we strive to be good stewards of all of our funding sources and donations, both large and small.

So on behalf of the Board of Trustees, the entire staff of the Delaware HIV Consortium, the hundreds of clients we serve weekly, monthly and annually... THANK YOU. Thank you for your continued contributions and strong support of our mission and belief in our goals to ensure a seamless, quality of care for all people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and in meeting the new challenges of an ever-changing disease. We could never reach our potential without you and we hope that we will continue to earn your support in the future.

*Peter Houle*

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**Joe Scarborough**  
Client Advocate &  
Community Planning and  
Policy Assistant

# What's Keeping Us Busy

## Joe Scarborough Speaks Out About His Scholarship to Attend 18<sup>th</sup> Int'l AIDS Conference in Austria

Every two years, the International AIDS Society holds a conference that brings together some of the world's leading scientists, doctors, service providers, advocates and PWAs to address the AIDS pandemic on a global scale. This year, the XVIII International AIDS Conference will be held in Vienna, Austria (July 17- 23, 2010) and, thanks to a generous scholarship from the National AIDS Housing Coalition (NAHC), I will be part of the International AIDS Housing Roundtable (IAHR). The IAHR is a set of satellite meetings and workshops organized and facilitated by HIV/AIDS housing providers, advocates and consumers to address the role that housing plays in the treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS worldwide. The National AIDS Housing Coalition awarded 10 scholarships to advocates from around the world to attend the conference and formulate the IAHR workshops. Of those 10 scholarships, I was lucky enough to receive the only one in the U.S. The nine remaining scholarships went to Costa Rica, Saint Lucia, Australia, Panama, Uganda, Nigeria, the Philippines and Kenya, with Kenya receiving two.

It is an honor to be chosen to participate in such an important event, and I am proud to represent both the HIV/AIDS and housing communities here in Delaware and the United States. In the past three years I have been able to expand my advocacy from local budget hearings to international issues thanks to the support of the Delaware HIV Consortium, Homeless Planning Council of Delaware, and the Delaware Housing Coalition, as well as the National AIDS Housing Coalition. It just goes to show what a Red Ribbon Advocate can do.

### Question & Answer Session between *Voices* and Joe

**Voices:** Senator Coburn (R-Oklahoma) said in February that this conference should be cancelled and that the money should be spent on HIV treatment and research instead. What would you say to that suggestion?

**Joe:** "It's conferences like this that help set the priorities for future research and advocacy issues. Without the ability to discuss and network in person it would be a lot more difficult for everyone to share their work and ideas and be on the same page."

**Voices:** What do you most hope to get out of this conference (for yourself personally and professionally)?

**Joe:** "Professionally it will give me the chance to bring home the latest information on HIV as well as HIV housing issues. It will also give me the chance to add the voices of service providers, advocates and PWAs across Delaware and the US to this prestigious event."

Personally, being a gay man living with AIDS who lived through the early years of the epidemic, it is an honor and privilege to be a part of the fight against HIV/AIDS on such a global scale."

## Red Ribbon Advocates Program Returns

The Red Ribbon Advocates Program, which teaches advocacy and communication skills relating to HIV/AIDS issues, has come back after a three-year hiatus and will be taught, in part, by Joe Scarborough, a graduate of the program in 2007. This program is for both HIV-positive individuals and any other community members who want to speak up and speak out for the rights of people with HIV and AIDS.

Joe Scarborough and Rita Devlin Salvo will lead the six sessions of the Red Ribbon Advocates Program from March through May. The goal of the program is to teach community members how to advocate effectively in ways that work for them. Subjects covered include: how to write editorials and letters to newspapers; writing to and speaking with legislators; writing and presenting personal testimony; speaking to students, churches, community groups; and much more.

Graduates of the Red Ribbon Advocates Pro-



Graduates of the Red Ribbon Advocates Program in 2007, from left: Lolisa Gibson, Joe Scarborough, Thea Becton and Carlos Hicks.

gram have gone on to become involved in the HIV community in many different ways. Groups have attended marches and rallies in Washington DC and New York, individuals have joined the Planning Council or Policy Committee and graduate Carlos Hicks has even started his own support organization.

"While trying to find my place in the HIV community, I found the Red Ribbon Advocates Program. It gave me the skills to explore several types of advocacy and helped me find a way to be a part of the fight against AIDS that was both personally and professionally fulfilling. The Red Ribbon Advocates Program hopes to inspire and train people who are affected and infected to become involved in policy, education and awareness." says Joe Scarborough.

If you are interested in participating in the Red Ribbon Advocates Program the next time the course is offered, contact Joe or Rita.

**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.**

**Client Computer Education Workstation Available - Funded by the Delaware Community Foundation**

To use the client education workstation or to arrange a private tutorial, clients may call Joe Scarborough at 302-654-5471.

## Making Changes Together - Planning Council and Policy Committee Working Hand-in-Hand

The Delaware HIV Consortium's two major standing committees—Planning Council and Policy Committee—have a major impact on the provision of HIV/AIDS services in Delaware. Traditionally, Planning Council members monitor the disease and available services through studies, gaps analyses, and creation of long-range prevention and treatment plans that guide the allocation of funding statewide. In fact, Planning Council just recently completed the 2010-2014 Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan and Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need (Comprehensive Plan). On an on-going basis, the work of the Policy Committee complements that of Planning Council. While Planning Council monitors services and needs, Policy Committee takes an additional step and advocates for changes at the local, state and federal level. Most recently, Policy Committee was intricately involved in advocating for (a) implementation of the successful pilot Needle Exchange Program in the City of Wilmington and (b) recognition locally and nationally of the fact that stable, affordable housing is an essential component in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS.

Moving forward into 2010, Planning Council and Policy Committee have started an exciting initiative. Through ad hoc work groups comprised of interested members and invited experts in varying fields, the committees are collaborating on a series of White Papers. Topics for the papers emerged from the Comprehensive Plan, were suggested by the Division of Public Health, or were recommended by members of Planning Council and Policy Committee:

- Making HIV screening available in all high school-based Wellness Centers
- Continuing/expanding the Needle Exchange Program
- Including "disabilities" as a preference for subsidized housing programs
- Providing HIV prevention education in all high schools and youth detention centers
- Addressing substance abuse treatment and mental health issues
- Implementing routine opt-out HIV testing
- Legalizing medical marijuana laws in Delaware

Each White Paper will reflect a problem statement, a review of current literature and available research, an analysis of the various stakeholders, and a summary of potential remedies that are suitable for Delaware. As each paper is done, supporters will be enlisted to "sign-on". The White Paper then will be utilized to educate, or initiate discussion with key stakeholders.

Ad hoc groups have already met in March regarding two White Paper topics: implementing routine opt-out HIV testing and continuing/expanding the Needle Exchange Program. It is too early to provide information regarding progress on those papers. Subsequent newsletters, however, will include summaries regarding their statuses, as well as that of any other topic.

For those who are interested in obtaining more information or joining the committees, contact Rita Devlin Salvo at 302-654-5471 or [rdsalvo@delawarehiv.org](mailto:rdsalvo@delawarehiv.org). Also, Planning Council and Policy Committee Meeting Schedules can be found on the Consortium's web page at [www.delawarehiv.org](http://www.delawarehiv.org).

## Delaware HIV Consortium Participates in National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Event



The Faith Community Partnership recently sponsored its 9th Annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Conference on Sunday, February 21. It was a well-attended event despite having been cancelled earlier in the month due to snow.

This year's theme of "HIV/AIDS Prevention—A Choice & A Lifestyle" was reflected in musical presentations, an inspirational keynote speech by Reverend Aaron R. Moore, updates from the Division of Public Health, and tributes to local heroes.

More than any other racial/ethnic group in the US, Blacks account for more new HIV infections, AIDS cases, people estimated to be living with HIV, and HIV related deaths. Even though Blacks make up 13% of the US population, they account for about half (49%) of the people who get HIV and AIDS.

Pictured on the left are: Rita Devlin Salvo, Alyson Lang and Joe Scarborough at the Consortium's educational display table.

## HIV Travel Entry Ban Lifted

On January 4, 2010 the US lifted a 22-year travel ban which had stopped all individuals with HIV/AIDS from entering the country. President Barack Obama said the ban was not compatible with US plans to be a leader in the fight against the disease.

This entry ban was originally placed into effect in 1987 when there was little information on how HIV is spread. Only a few countries worldwide prohibit HIV positive travelers from crossing their borders, and the US has been the only Western country to uphold this discriminatory policy. Last year, Congress finally repealed the law mandating the travel ban, and the Obama Administration was able to remove the remaining regulatory barriers.

Thanks to the change in policy the 2012 International AIDS Conference will be held in Washington, D.C., a first for this global summit to be held in the US. By 2012, the US says it will have a National HIV/AIDS Strategy in place for the first time in its history.

## Important Dates in 2010

### Annual Meeting

You're invited to attend the 2010 Annual Meeting at the Dover Sheraton on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm. A special guest speaker will present during the luncheon. Please RSVP by Friday, May 14, 2010 by calling Stephanie at 302-654-5471. Guest speaker and lunch are provided by ViiV Healthcare.

### AIDS Walk Delaware

Sunday, September 26,  
Wilmington

Sunday, October 3,  
Dover

Sunday, October 3,  
Rehoboth Beach

[www.AIDSWalkDelaware.org](http://www.AIDSWalkDelaware.org)



### NAMI Delaware Walk

Register now for the Saturday, May 1, 2010 NAMI Walk! Go to [www.nami.org/namiwalks/DE](http://www.nami.org/namiwalks/DE) Check in begins at 8:30am, the walk begins at 10am.

## Nor What, or Who I Am

A poem by  
Clarence (Clay) B. Parker, Jr.

You asked me! What is life?  
How can I answer, but to say  
I have been as a seed for many years  
Resting deep within the soil,  
With all the elements around for life,  
But lacking knowledge of its secret  
So I slept for many years, deep in dreams  
That could not appear.  
I dreamed of reality which was life for me  
But lacking knowledge of its sequence  
I lived the life of a dream  
That kept me drifting back and forth  
Knowing not who or what I am  
Nor how, or which way to go  
Then one day one eye opened  
And then another  
And all the elements were united  
All seemed to fall in its place  
My roots sprouted and formed my foundation  
My stem grew and gave me strength  
My leaf appeared and gave me breath  
A thorn appeared and gave protection  
And life was forming step by step  
A day, a week, a month went on  
Like a child within the womb  
A blossom appeared upon the thorn  
A day, a week, a month went on  
Then one day one petal opened  
And then another  
And all the elements were united  
A day, a week, a month went on  
And there I stood, a rose!

December 1976

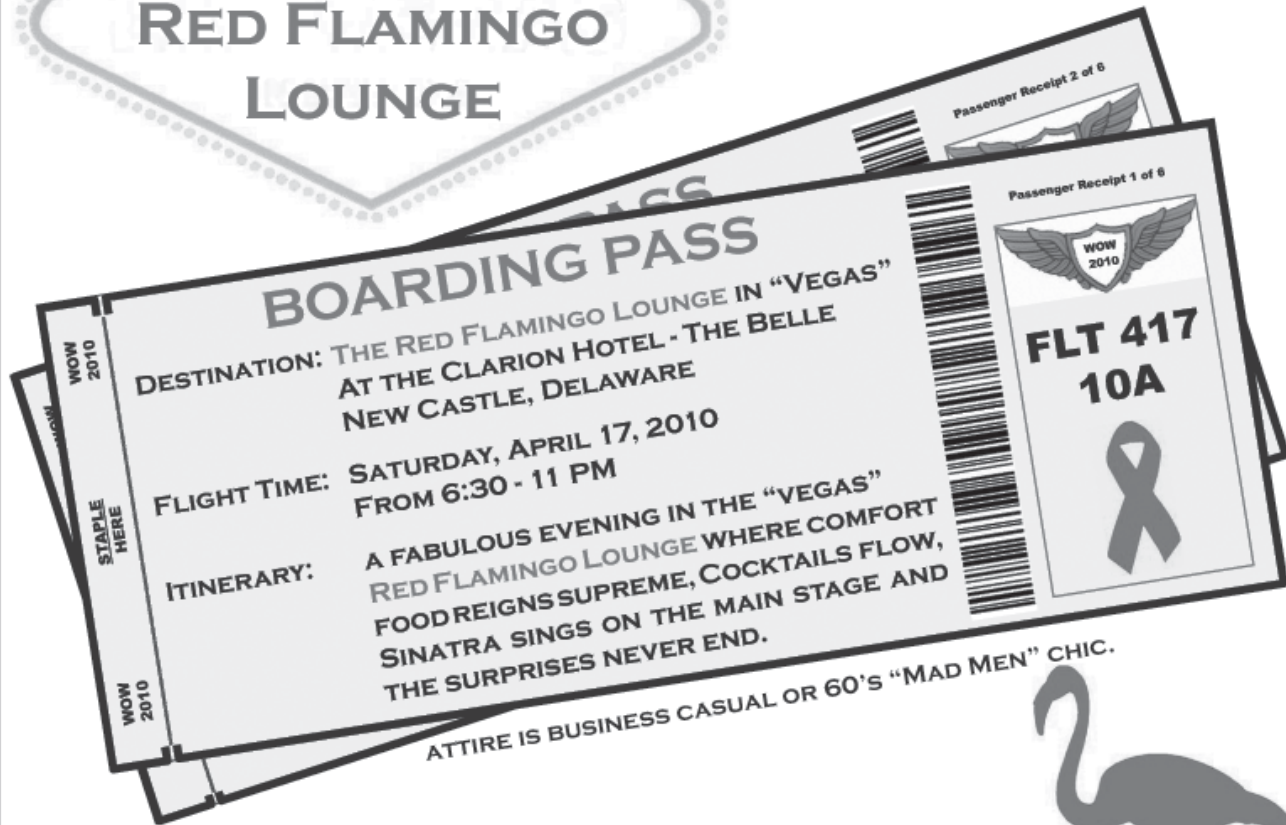
•Clarence is a long standing member of the Planning Council•

THE DELAWARE HIV CONSORTIUM  
AND  
THE CLARION HOTEL - THE BELLE

INVITE YOU TO

“COME FLY WITH US...”

TO THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
WOW AWARDS CELEBRATION  
SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010



ATTIRE IS BUSINESS CASUAL OR 60's "MAD MEN" CHIC.



TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED BY CALLING WOW AIRLINES AT 302-654-5471, OR ONLINE AT WWW.DELAWAREHIV.ORG. COACH TICKETS ARE \$89, 1ST CLASS TICKETS ARE \$149, AND CAPTAIN'S TABLES OF 8 ARE \$1,200. FUN IS ALL INCLUSIVE.

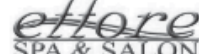
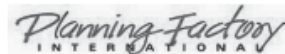
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“Come Fly With Us...”

SPONSORS, Continued from page 1

a business owner, I feel that it's important to support causes that improve people's lives and the community and the WOW Awards Celebration is a wonderful example of how we like to get involved in community events.”

Having attended WOW for the past two years, Alan noted that what really struck him about the event was that even though the gala is for a very serious cause it is executed in a very positive, upbeat fashion. “I continue to be impressed with the Consortium staff and the time, effort and thoughtfulness that goes into this event,” says Alan. “It's not easy to raise awareness about such a devastating disease in an enjoyable manner. It's really nice to see all of the energy and excitement among all those who attend.”

“In addition to working with Alan Spiro, who generously donates his venue and fabulous menu, we are thankful for working with the rest of the professional and friendly Clarion staff which include Chef Bob Beeson, Director of Sales and Marketing Ginny Schatzman, Director of Operations Denise McCool and Matt Kuhwald,” says Executive Director Peter Houle. “Thank goodness we also have the help of Susan Simmons and Cher Przelomski, from the Planning Factory, who can transform a room into a creative, fes-

tive and exciting space for a party. Their creative talents have always made WOW a truly special and unique event since we started six years ago.”

Alan Spiro adds, “I thoroughly enjoy collaborating with the Delaware HIV Consortium and the Planning Factory International on this initiative and I am glad for the positive relationships that have come from our work together. I'm really looking forward to see how everything turns out this year- it's always exciting.”

Remember, The Clarion Hotel - The Belle is offering WOW guests a special rate for the evening of April 17, 2010. For only \$89, two guests can spend the night in a luxurious room and enjoy a continental breakfast in the morning. Please call the Clarion Hotel at (302) 428-1000 and ask for the “WOW Special” when making your reservation (special rate depends on availability). Check out the hotel's web site today, www.clarionbelle.com.

Additional thanks to all of our latest sponsors and supporters including: ViiV Healthcare, Grotto Pizza, Gilead, Walgreens, Tibotec, Christiana Care Health System, Southwest Airlines, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Letters from CAMP Rehoboth, and Delaware Inn at Rehoboth Beach.



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WWW.CLARIONBELLE.COM

WOW Ticket Order Form (Return by Mail, or Fax to 302-654-5472)

Raffle tickets for the 50" Flat Screen TV may be purchased at the event or by calling the office at 302-654-5471.

Name (Please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Captain's Table(s) for 8 @ \$1,200 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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I wish to pay (select one) by check \_\_\_\_\_ or by credit card \_\_\_\_\_.

Please make all checks payable to The Delaware HIV Consortium.

Please bill my: \_\_\_\_\_ VISA, \_\_\_\_\_ MC, \_\_\_\_\_ AMEX, \_\_\_\_\_ Discover

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Please print all guests' names clearly. Reservations will be held at the door.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
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4. \_\_\_\_\_
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