

## CONSORTIUM AND WALGREENS TEAM UP TO OFFER ONGOING, IN--STORE HIV TESTING WITH ORAQUICK ADVANCE<sup>®</sup> RAPID HIV TEST

On April 10, the Delaware HIV Consortium's specially-trained staff began offering free HIV Counseling and Testing at the Walgreens drugstore at Market and 9th Street in Wilmington. Testing will take place on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"We are committed to helping people *get, stay and live well* and this initiative can help raise even greater awareness about HIV testing, prevention and treatment," said Jon Reitz, Walgreens market pharmacy director.

"We are excited about this unprecedented public and private ini-

tiative in Delaware that demonstrates the amazing opportunities that can come about through true collaboration," said Peter Houle, executive director of the Delaware HIV Consortium. "This innovative program does not use any state or federal funding to provide this additional service."

The Delaware HIV Consortium has also begun an in-house HIV Counseling and Testing program – by appointment only – in conjunction with OraSure Technologies at its Wilmington offices lo-

cated at 100 W. 10th Street, Suite 415.

OraQuick ADVANCE® is the only FDA-approved and CLIAwaived rapid point-of-care test that can detect antibodies to both HIV-1 and HIV-2 in 20 minutes, using oral fluid, finger-stick or venipuncture whole blood or plasma specimens.

The new HIV Counseling and Testing Program is a collaboration with Christiana Care Health System, which will provide rapid HIV testing and confirmatory testing with a traditional blood draw for those who test positive. Any individual who receives a preliminary positive result from an OraQuick test will be referred to Christiana Care HIV clinics for a confirmatory HIV test and linkage into appropriate care.

Arlene Bincsik, HIV program director at Christiana Care in

Wilmington said, "We are excited to see multiple agencies and companies working together to increase the number of people who know their HIV status and to provide the support, guidance and resources to help engage newly-diagnosed individuals in quality medical care."

The new HIV Counseling and Testing program being offered by the Delaware HIV Consortium, Walgreens, and OraSure will provide more testing options to the public in an alternative testing location, which encourages people to be aware of their HIV status, get into a treatment program, and thereby reduce HIV infections – all goals of the National HIV Strategy.

### ROUTINE HIV OPT-OUT MATERIALS ROLLED OUT

In an effort to assist primary care physicians in Delaware, the Consortium and our friends at Pfizer are now distributing provider education materials to assist them in adjusting to the new Opt-Out HIV testing law. Delaware Senate Bill 162, which, in part, requires that HIV testing be included as part of routine health screening for individuals 13 to 64, was enacted on June 27, 2012, National HIV Testing Day.

The law now requires that HIV testing be conducted as part of routine blood work, unless the patient specifically declines the test. Effectively, this means that a lot more HIV screening will be done and that HIV counseling and testing moves from clinic- or agency-based testing to the doctor's office. Materials are being distributed so that physicians and medical practitioners are prepared to counsel their patients,



both before and after testing. These materials also offer the Consortium as a resource to patients.

Arlene Bincsik, president of the Consortium Board of Trustees, and Peter Houle, executive director, attended a meeting of Pfizer representatives in May to educate them about the program.

The Opt-Out materials are made possible with the support of Pfizer and Christiana Care Health System, in collaboration with the Delaware HIV Consortium.

Letter from the Executive Director New Support Groups 2 2

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

The next two years will redefine HIV/ AIDS services across the country, especially the Ryan White CARE Act services as we have known them over the past decades. As a result, it is up to all of us to be pro-active going forward in order to sustain the quality of care



we have so diligently developed in Delaware over the years. The more knowledgeable, resilient, and prepared we are as organizations, consumers and as a community; the better prepared we will be to ensure a quality continuum of care continues to meet the changing needs of our consumers.

Our client's diverse and changing needs must be met with new innovative solutions and programs that always focus on improving services despite the tenuous funding streams. Our programs and actions must also meet the goals and implementation of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy: reducing the transmission of HIV infection, linkage and retention of people into medical care, and reducing stigma and health disparities. Wow, no easy task!

All the sweeping changes of the Affordable Care Act and the possibility of the Ryan White CARE Act not being renewed, demonstrate the need to be willing to change, to consolidate, to avoid duplication of services, increase needed services and improve quality while being cost effective. And we must always be responsive to what best serves the HIV community and its needs.

Egos need to be left at the door. We need to merge cultures, services and be forward thinking or risk becoming extinct at a time when more individuals are at risk of falling through the cracks and out of care. We owe it to our clients, our funders and to one another to redefine the current service paradigm. I believe we must go far beyond collaboration. Together we have to unite to achieve the outcomes, goals and changes that are expected of us from the government and our clients. Alone we float as islands that will be swept up by the tsunami of the inevitable change that is soon to come. Collectively we are stronger.

Change is a challenge for many, it is difficult for others and yet almost impossible for some to embrace. But if change is embraced, it can be directed and controlled before it takes charge of you. If as providers and a community we embrace change, we can own it and direct it to better fulfill our goals and improve our service quality. I believe change is inevitable and it will occur whether we want it to or not. We can't stop it but we can make the best of it especially if we continue to direct our actions by the core values of Leadership, Integrity, Empowerment, Excellence, Community Collaboration and Involvement, Communication, Accountability, and Fiduciary Responsibility.

Until There's a Cure,

**Peter Houle, MBA** Executive Director

# **News in Brief**

• The Consortium held its **2013 Annual Meeting** on Thursday, May 16 at the Sheraton Hotel Conference Center in Dover, with approximately 100 attending. Consortium staff reported on their accomplishments for 2012 and two speakers gave attendees a perspective on factors that affect our mission. The Consortium is grateful to **Bill McColl**, director of Public Affairs for AIDS United in Washington, D.C., who presented "Updating Ryan

White Programs for a New Era," and **Dázon Dixon Diallo, MPH,** founder and president, SisterLove of Atlanta, who presented "Communicating a Clear Path Forward: Understanding the Challenges of Health Literacy." The DHC An-



nual Meeting was sponsored by Merck, with additional funding provided by Gilead.

• On February 14, 2013 the Consortium's Medical Case Management team partnered with Bristol Meyers-Squibb to deliver a patient education workshop entitled Understanding Depression, Anxiety and HIV. The non-clinical workshop focused on empowering patients to overcome their depression/anxiety in order for them to initiate treatment. In April 2013, the Consortium also began a patient education workshop series titled "T.A.L.K. (Take Action Learn Know How)." This interactive series of workshops sought to encourage discussions between clients, their healthcare team and support systems to facilitate behavior change. For more information on the Consortium's Medical Case Management services or future patient education offerings, please call Katie Morgan at 302-654-5471.

• Christiana Care staffer Henriette Morris has begun a "Let's Be Positive Support Group" at the HIV Wellness Clinic in Georgetown. The group will meet every Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the Wellness Clinic. For more information, contact Henriette at 302-653-1904 or email her at hemorris@christianacare.org.

• A **peer-driven support group** meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at Epworth United Methodist Church, 19285 Holland Glade Road in Rehoboth Beach. For more information, email David at kingdm3@gmail.com.

• On April 22, Consortium director of Housing, Dianne Casey, and Joe Scarborough, attended the City of Wilmington's public hearing to review the **FY2014 Consolidated Plan budget**. Ms. Casey submitted written comments on behalf of the Consortium and Mr. Scarborough provided verbal testimony at the hearing.

• On May 23, the Consortium's Community Planning specialist Joe Scarborough presented a **Red Ribbon Advocate** training for seven people. Red Ribbon Advocate training teaches concerned individuals how to champion services for people living with HIV/ AIDS and to effectively tell their story to garner support for the need for services. For more information about Red Ribbon Advocacy, go to www.delawarehiv.org and click "Get Involved," or call Joe at 302-654-5471, ext 103.

# **WOW A SUCCESS!**

The 9th Annual WOW Awards Celebration - WOW in BASIC BLACK! – was held on Friday, April 19, 2013, at The Clarion Hotel - The Belle in New Castle. More than 350 people attended the event, honoring excellence in community leadership, volunteerism and philanthropy in the field of HIV/AIDS and raising more than \$65,000 in support of the Con-



sortium's services to people with HIV/AIDS.

This year at the 9th Annual WOW Awards Celebration the Delaware HIV Consortium honored 12 very special Red Ribbon Awardees whose work with the Consortium helps improve the quality of life for people with HIV/AIDS in Delaware:

Statesman Award, Governor Jack Markell; Visionary Award, Steven Martin, Dr. Daniel O'Connell, and Dr. Holly Swan, University of Delaware; Sister Dolores Macklin Guardian Angel Award, Karen Swanson, Christiana Care; Impact Award, Ginny Schatzman, Clarion Hotel - The Belle; Ryan White Award, Jim Shepherd, Christiana Care; Volunteer of the Year Award, Bill Korenkiewicz; Leadership Award, Frank Howard, Howard Consulting Group; Media Award, Matt Pellman, 6abc; Ally Award, Mattes Seafood; and the Community Award, Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant.

We would like to thank everyone who supported WOW! It was a great success! The following companies either sponsored the event, donated goods or services, or discounted services to us for this year's gala. We couldn't have done it without you:

Walgreens PhRMA Clarion Hote

Abbvie **American Gold & Diamond Buvers** Amtrak **Bank of America** Bassett, Dawson & Foy, Inc. New Castle Discount **Bloomsberry Flowers Brandywine Counseling & Community Services Bristol-Meyers Squibb** By Land or By Sea Catering Planning Factory **Cherry Tree Hospitality Group/Mikimotos Christiana Care** Club Phred Gilead **Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware** 

IRON HILL BREWERY & RESTAURANT **Light Action Productions** 

LP Italian Treats **Mattes Seafood Moore Brothers Wine** Company Pharmacy **OraSure Technologies, Inc.** Smirnoff Sorbet Light **Pfizer Rossi Wellness Center RoverComm Graphic Expressions ViiV Healthcare** 

Woody's Crab House



6abc's Matt Pellman



John Masino from Moore Brothers still pouring and supporting WOW! after nine years!



Honoree Ginny Schatzman from the Clarion Hotel - The Belle.



U.S. Senator Chris Coons stopped in at WOW again this year.





Our friends from Iron Hill Brewery!



Red Ribbon Awardee Bill Korenkiewicz with Peter Houle and Arlene Bincsik.



Former Red Ribbon awardee, the group Club Phred provided entertainment at this year's WOW!



Guests check out more than 250 silent auction items, and enjoy fabulous food in the ballroom.



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# IRON HILL HOSTS GIVE 20 JUNE 19TH

On Wednesday, June 19, Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant at the Wilmington Riverfront will host a GIVE20 to benefit

the Delaware HIV Consortium. Clip the coupon below, take it with you, present it to your server between 5-10 p.m., and 20 percent of your tab (does not include alcohol) will be donated to the Delaware HIV Con-



sortium – a tasty way to support our services to the HIV/ AIDS community in Delaware. For additional coupons, go to our website, www.delawarehiv.org, or to our Facebook page to print a copy and take it with you on June 19. Hope to see you there!

### AIDS WALK: SAVE THE DATE!

AIDS Walk Delaware will be held on **Saturday, September 28**. In-person registration begins at 9 a.m., with step-off at 10 a.m. Now in its 27th year, AIDS Walk Delaware is very much a family affair. Year after year, many groups of "regulars" gather each year to walk together. Maybe you can put together your own team. Let's beat AIDS - *together*! Register to join us at the AIDS Walk at the Wilmington Riverfront or at Rehoboth's Grove Park.

Once again this year, our friends at **Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant** will be hosting our Diamond State walkers (who raise more than \$1000 each) to a sumptuous lunch. IHB will also be donating 20% of your tab on 9/28 and 9/29 (*more about this later*).

The money you help raise supports health, social service and prevention programs and services of AIDS Delaware, the Delaware HIV Consortium and other organizations that provide services and programs related to HIV/AIDS throughout the state (including Ministry of Caring, Faith Community Partnership, CAMP Rehoboth, and more). All money raised for the Walk stays in Delaware for the fight against AIDS. For more information go to: www.aidswalkdelaware.org.

#### Delaware HIV Consortium

Coupons may not be distributed on Iron Hill premises. On-site solicitation will result in termination of your event. Redeem only at Iron Hill Brewery in Wilmington, DE Offer Valid 6/19/13 ONLY

GIVE 20...means dine with us on Wednesday, June 19, 2013, and we'll donate 20% of your food bill (excluding alcoholic beverages) to the Delaware HIV Consortium. Thank you for your support.

#### IRON HILL BREWERY & RESTAURANT

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CONSORTIUM STAFF: Peter Houle, MBA, Executive Director • Glen Pruitt, Director of Contract Compliance and Quality Assurance • Robert Raup, CPA, Director of Finance and Administration • Dianne Casey, Director of Housing • Barbara Devlin, Administrative Assistant • Scott MacKenzie, Director of Communications and Special Events • Andrea Killian, Financial Assistant • Katie Morton, Medical Case Manager • Charmaine Quarles, Manager of Housing and Case Management Services • Joe Scarborough, Community Planning and Policy