



# HIV Care Network

## NEWS

January 2005

*Serving Broome, Chenango & Tioga Counties*

Broome County Health Department, Lead Agency  
 225 Front Street  
 Binghamton, NY 13905  
 Phone: (607) 778-3066  
 Fax: (607) 778-3888

### 2005 – A New Year for the Network

As the Network prepares for the year ahead, we want to say thanks to those who have provided assistance to the Network. Please plan on attending the Volunteer Recognition Program on Thursday, March 3, 2005 from 2 – 4 PM at the Broome County Health Department. Please note the new date – the March Quarterly Network Meeting has been combined with the Steering Committee.

**If you wish to nominate an individual or agency for recognition, please call the Network Coordinator at 778-3066 by February 18, 2005.**

The Network Staff would like to thank Tina Barber for all the time and assistance she gave to the Network as well as for the assistance she has given to the clients that the Southern Tier AIDS Program serves. We wish her well in her new position at Binghamton University. Although Tina has left employment at STAP, we are sure she will keep in touch – especially since her husband, John Barry, has taken her previous position as Deputy Executive Director at STAP. We wish to give a warm welcome to John and look forward to working with him in the future.

Please note that new HIV/AIDS statistics are available for New York State, which includes the three county region; and for the United States. Please see page 5 for more information on these reports. The new statistics assist providers to plan for services within our region.

The **2002 Service Delivery Plan** for the Network has been updated to include the latest statistics for the region. You may review it on the web at: [www.gobroomecounty.com/safety/hivindex.php](http://www.gobroomecounty.com/safety/hivindex.php).

**Please note:** We had to change several scheduled meeting dates in 2005 due to lack of available space for the meeting.

**Please see revised 2005 Meeting Date Calendar attached at the end of this newsletter.**

Network Coordinator: Sandy Kosty, BSN, MHSA  
 Network Chair: Rosalind Wright,  
 Ideal Long Term Home Health Care Program  
 Network Co-Chair: Greta Immermann,  
 Southern Tier AIDS Program

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“The danger is not that our aims are too high and we will fail to reach them, but that they are too low and we will reach them”.

Michelangelo

The *Network News* is a publication of the Binghamton Tri-County HIV Care Network.

The Broome County Health Department is the Lead Agency for the Binghamton Tri-County HIV Care Network.

*The Mission of the HIV Care Network is to improve the quality of life of individuals and families impacted by HIV and AIDS. This mission is achieved by fostering a coordinated, comprehensive, and accessible system for health and social support services for persons and their families who are infected with or affected by HIV and AIDS.*

**HIV Care Network Staff:**

Sandy Kosty, Network Coordinator, 778-3066

&

Mary Beth Muscolo, Keyboard Specialist, 778-2858

**Mailing Address:**

225 Front St, Binghamton, NY 13905

**Website:**

[www.gobroomecounty.com/safety/hivindex.php](http://www.gobroomecounty.com/safety/hivindex.php)

**Steering Committee Members**

Rosalind Wright, Network Chair

Greta Immermann, Network Co-Chair

Alfreda Archie	Alan NeJame
Beverly Arnold	Yvonne Newell
Matt Asma	Jack Patterson
Robin Bronner	Sondra Pruden
Tina Edwards	Jim Sheridan
Bill Hartrum	Jane Sindoni
Lisa Kocak	Becky Smith
Elaine Mallison	Mike Whalen
Craig McFarland	
Nancy McGowan	

**Legal Action Center**

The Legal Action Center (LAC) has been awarded funding from the NYS AIDS Institute to provide training and technical assistance on HIV-related legal issues to HIV/AIDS service providers in NYS. The LAC will continue with its hotline to assist with HIV-related issues and questions. The LAC is in the process of developing expanded training and technical assistance for HIV service providers and clients on topics ranging from HIV confidentiality, discrimination law, public assistance, Medicaid, SSI/SSD and other issues. For more information, contact the LAC at: 212-243-1313 or on the web at: [www.lac.org](http://www.lac.org).

**The Nicholas A. Rango  
HIV Clinical Scholars Program**

Are you a doctor, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or dentist? If so, you may want to consider a fulltime, two year, hospital-based training program to study state-of-the-art HIV clinical care, research and leadership skills, and public health aspects of the HIV epidemic. The NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute and selected academic medical centers (Designated AIDS Centers) are making this opportunity available. A stipend and full benefits are available. For more information, call K. Montesano-Ostrander at 518-473-8815 or email: [km01@health.state.ny.us](mailto:km01@health.state.ny.us). Applications are due by Feb. 1, 2005.

**Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need**

The NYS Dept. of Health, AIDS Institute, is beginning the process of updating the Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need (SCSN). The purpose of the SCSN is to enhance collaboration of all CARE Act grantees in the identification of significant issues related to the service needs of people living with HIV/AIDS and to increase cross-title coordination, integration and linkages. Once the group has drafted the SCSN, there will be a series of meetings to solicit comments and input into the draft before it is finalized. The Network will be providing copies of its Service Delivery Plan and Regional Gaps Analysis Report for consideration with the development of the SCSN. For more information about this statewide process, please contact Rhea Temblador at 518-474-5577.

## Upcoming Events At a Glance

**February 8, 2005: LGBTQ Youth Community Forum** sponsored by the STAP's LGBT Initiative and the Lesbian and Gay Family Building Project.  
Time: 11:30 AM to 1 PM.  
Location: Broome County Library, Binghamton  
For more info or to RSVP: call Becky Green at STAP (798-1706). RSVP's required by Feb. 4, 2005.

**February 15, 2005: AIDS Awareness Day** sponsored by the New York AIDS Coalition (NYAC). Location – Chancellor's Hall, State Education Department Building, Albany, NY. Time: 10 AM – 3:30 PM.  
Call Tom Garruto at STAP (798-1706) for more information.

**February 24, 2005: 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM – Persons Living with HIV/AIDS Helping PWHAs Address and Maintain Mental Health.** A forum provided by Cicatelli Associates under a grant from the NYS AIDS Institute. Forum to be held at the Broome County Health Department and presenters include LTI faculty and mental health professionals. Call Jenny O'Brien at 1-866-792-5323 or email [jenny@cicatelli.org](mailto:jenny@cicatelli.org) for more information. Breakfast and lunch provided.

**February 28 – March 1, 2005: The 2005 National Conference on African-Americans and AIDS,** Philadelphia, PA. A national forum on HIV/AIDS for health professionals who provide care for African-Americans. Hosted by Minority Health Care Communications, Inc. Call 1-866-901-6267 for more information.

**April 17, 2005 (Sunday): AIDS Walk** at Recreation Park in Binghamton. Call Ron Siwec at STAP at 798-1706 for registration and more information.



**April 28, 2005 (Thursday): Dining Out for Life** at participating restaurants – a fundraiser for STAP. Call Ron Siwec at STAP at 798-1706 for more information.

## Upcoming Network Meetings:

**Thursday, Jan. 27, 2005 Time: 10 AM - Noon**  
**Case Management Committee**  
Topic: HIV Confidentiality Law; discuss plans for April 2005 – March 2006; & vote on workplan  
Location: Broome County Health Department

**Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2005 Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM**  
**Community Awareness Committee**  
Topic: Youth Programs; discussion and vote on new workplan  
Location: Broome County Health Department

**Thursday, Feb. 10, 2005 Time: 2 – 4 PM**  
**Tioga County Workgroup**  
Topic: to be announced  
Location: Tioga County Boys & Girls Club, Owego, NY

**Thursday, Feb. 17, 2005 Time: 10 AM - Noon**  
**Chenango County Workgroup**  
Topic: to be announced  
Location: Eaton Center, Norwich, NY

**Thursday, March 3, 2005 Time: 2:00 PM– 4:00 PM**  
**Quarterly Network Meeting- combined with Steering Committee**  
**Note New Date!**  
Topic: Volunteer Recognition & more!  
Location: Broome County Health Department

**Thursday, March 3, 2005 Time: 2 PM – 4 PM**  
**Steering Committee Meeting – combined with Quarterly Network Meeting**  
Topic: Volunteer Recognition & more!  
Location: Broome County Health Department

**Wednesday, April 20, 2005 Time: 11 AM - 12:30 PM**  
**Consumer Advisory Board**  
Topic: to be announced  
Location: Broome County Health Department

**Please note:** We had to change several scheduled meeting dates in 2005 due to lack of available space. **Please see revised 2005 Meeting Date Calendar attached at the end of this newsletter.**

**NOTE:** We try not to change dates/times or cancel meetings, but sometimes it happens. Therefore, please call 778-2858 to confirm meeting information.

Check out the Network's Website at:  
[www.gobroomecounty.com/safety/hivindex.php](http://www.gobroomecounty.com/safety/hivindex.php)

## Committee News

### Steering Committee

- Rosalind Wright, Chair, Ideal AIDS Long Term Home Health Care Program
- Greta Immermann, Co-Chair, Southern Tier AIDS Program

The Steering Committee met on January 6, 2005. The Network's Response to Site Review and the Continuing Funding Application (which includes a draft of all committee workplans) were discussed and approved.

Next Meeting: March 3, 2005

### Case Management Committee

- Beverly Arnold, Chair, Catholic Charities
- Nancy McGowan, Co-Chair, Binghamton Family Care Center

The Case Management Committee has been working with Natalie Thompson, consultant for the Collaboration Project. Natalie has held focus groups in all three counties to seek input into case management issues. Anonymous surveys have been received from clients of the Binghamton Family Care Center to provide additional input to the project. The next phase of this project entails developing an educational handout on case management for consumers. This handout will include both general information about case management and specific provider information. Natalie will be assisting in the development of this handout. The Network Coordinator will be seeking provider information from those agencies that provide case management services. The New York AIDS Coalition (NYAC) funded this project.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Jan. 27, 2005.

### Community Awareness Committee

- Lisa Kocak, Chair
- Robin Bronner, Co-Chair

The next meeting of the Community Awareness Committee will be on Tuesday, February 8, 2005. The tentative agenda includes:

- 1) discussion of the proposed Workplan for 2005 – 06;
- 2) Robin Bronner will discuss information from her trip to New Orleans for the Harm Reduction Conference;
- 3) Dani Berchtold from STAP and Matt Asma from Planned Parenthood will be talking about their programs to provide HIV/AIDS prevention education to young people;
- 4) review a draft of the Nutrition Guide that the Network is currently compiling.

### Consumer Advisory Board

- Bill, Chair
- Elaine, Co-Chair

The CAB met on Jan. 19, 2005 and discussed the Workplan for 2005 – 06; letter to LTI graduates and mentoring guidelines.

The next meeting of the Consumer Advisory Board will be on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 from 11 AM to 12:30 PM.

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## Network Workgroups

### Chenango County Workgroup

The Chenango County workgroup is facilitating an educational program by Sondra Pruden on March 23, 2005. The program is *What's New in HIV/AIDS*. This will be the first time this program is offered in our region. The next meeting of the Chenango County Workgroup will be on Thursday, Feb. 17, 2005 at 10 AM at the Eaton Center, Norwich, NY.

### Tioga County Workgroup

The Tioga County Workgroup met on Jan. 11, 2005. The group is planning an educational program on crystal meth. The group is also exploring possible activities to undertake to increase the awareness of HIV and Hep C in the county.

The next meeting of the Tioga County Workgroup will be Feb. 10, 2005 from 2 – 4 PM.

Call 687-5333 for more information.

### Bylaws Ad-Hoc Committee

Chairperson: to be named

A Bylaws Adhoc committee will be meeting to review the Network's current bylaws and make recommendations for changes or additions. If you are interested in attending or have a suggestion or comment about the Bylaws, please call the Network Coordinator at 778-3066.

New Members for the above committees and workgroups are continually welcomed. Call Mary Beth at 778-2858 for more information about membership or to confirm meeting dates.

### **New Recommendations for Opportunistic Infections**

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the HIV Medicine Association/Infectious Diseases Society of America released new recommendations “Treating Opportunistic Infections Among HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents”. The recommendations can be found in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), December 17, 2004, vol. 53, no. RR-15 or on the web at: [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5315a1.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5315a1.htm).

### **Caring for HIV-Infected Veterans**

The Department of Health & Human Services has released *Final Policy Notice – 04-01 Ryan White CARE Act and Veterans*. This notice outlines how CARE Act grantees should address the care and treatment of veterans who present to CARE Act grantee sites. CARE Act grantees may not deny services, including prescription services, to a HIV-infected veteran eligible for CARE Act services. Veterans may be referred to Veteran Administration (VA) for services but are not required to receive services from the VA. More information about VA services can be found at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). This full policy notice can be found on the Internet: <http://hab.hrsa.gov/law/0401.htm> or obtained from the Network Coordinator. Please call 778-3066 if you would like a copy.

### **How to Gain Access to County Jails for Delivery of HIV/AIDS Services**

The NYS DOH, AIDS Institute has released a new publication, *How to Gain Access to County Jails for Delivery of HIV/AIDS Services, A Guide for Community-Based Organizations*. This eight-page booklet was developed to provide guidance to community based organizations seeking to offer services in local jails. Topics include the rules and regulations that affect provision of services in jail, establishing relationships with jail leaders, and identifying staff who understand jail dynamics and are comfortable providing programs in a jail setting. This publication can be found on the web at: [www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/hivaids/cbo/cojailguide.pdf](http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/hivaids/cbo/cojailguide.pdf). Please contact the Network Coordinator at 778-3066 if you would like a copy.

### **“Sweaty Palms at the Pharmacy”**

[Dec. 29, 2004] CDC HIV/STD/TB Prevention News Update

Embarrassment may be a key barrier to young people’s purchase of condoms. Researchers at the University of Florida asked about 250 students to purchase condoms and then write a paper about their experience. Twenty-five students were unable to make the purchase and one of those students stated that too much embarrassment was the reason. Of the remaining 78 men and 176 women in the study, embarrassment was prevalent. Men reported less embarrassment than women. Almost one fifth of the students sought out a clerk of the same sex. Both men and women reported trying to conceal the condoms or buying additional items to distract attention from the condoms. Women were more likely to wait for other customers to leave the store before making the purchase. Students who were least embarrassed about buying condoms referred to the purchase as “the responsible thing to do”. The researchers stressed that this idea should be emphasized in their report “College Students’ Condom Purchase Strategies”. The full report of this study was published in *Social Science Journal* (2004; 41(3): 459-464).

New York Times (12.21.2004)

### **New HIV/AIDS Statistics for New York State**

The Bureau of HIV/AIDS Epidemiology, New York State Department of Health, has released the latest HIV/AIDS statistics, New York State HIV/AIDS Surveillance Semiannual Report For Cases Diagnosed through December 2002. This report is available on the web at: [www.health.state.ny.us](http://www.health.state.ny.us) - click on Information for Researchers. Printed copies may be obtained by writing to: Bureau of HIV/AIDS Epidemiology, PO Box 2073, ESP Station, Albany, NY 12220-0073. The Network will make the regional statistics available at Network meetings.

### **New HIV/AIDS Statistics for the United States**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released new statistics for HIV/AIDS in the United States. The HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, vol. 15, covers cases of HIV infection and AIDS in the U.S. through 2003. The report can be found at: [www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats.htm) or a copy can be obtained by calling 1-800-458-5231.

# Community Resources Page

## ***Support Groups***

### **The DRAGONSLAYERS**

Hep C and Co-Infection Support Group  
Alternate Tuesdays

Call Kevin Littlejohn at STAP for more information  
798-1706 or 1-800-333-0892  
Email [hepcaware@stapinc.org](mailto:hepcaware@stapinc.org)

**Mental Health Association of the Southern Tier**  
724-8888

**HIV/AIDS Support Group** 1st & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. For information contact Karen VanKleeck 648-2553

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## ***Anonymous\* & Confidential HIV Testing Sites:***

- \* Broome County Health Dept.....(607) 778-2839
  - \* Chenango Memorial Hospital .....(607) 337-4217
  - \* Partner Notification Assistance Program.1-800-541-2437
  - \* Planned Parenthood Binghamton.....(607) 723-8306
  - \* Planned Parenthood Norwich.....(607) 334-6378
  - \* Tioga County Health Dept.....(607) 687-8600
  - \* Tioga Opportunities Program.....(607) 687-5333
  - \* Southern Tier AIDS Program.....1-800-333-0892
  - \* NYS SIDA (Spanish).....1-800-233-7432
- Others in New York State call..... 1-800-562-9423

\* Anonymous testing is free\*

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### **Department of Social Services**

Broome County.....778-2669  
Chenango County.....337-1531  
Tioga County.....1-800-548-4642

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### **First Call for Help**

Broome County .....729-9100  
Chenango County.....1-800-227-5353  
Tioga County.....1-800-266-5252

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### **Legal AID For Broome and Chenango, Inc.**

(607) 723-7966 *Binghamton*  
(607) 336-8256 *Norwich*

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### **Syringe Exchange Program (SEP)**

1-888-206-2870

### **AIDS DRUGS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ADAP) 1-800-542-2437**

If you have questions or concerns about access to AIDS medications, are eligible for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, and are on a Medicaid spend-down, please call the ADAP program.

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### **Binghamton Area Rainbow Association**

**(BARA)** – a GLBT information resource & social activities. Phone: 607-772-3216 or check out the web site at: [www.barabing.org](http://www.barabing.org)

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### **FRIENDS: Weekly Dinner & Social Hour**

For persons infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, their friends and family members.

Trinity Episcopal Church, for information, call Jack at 723-0523 or Bill at 724-0103

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### **HIV/AIDS Information in Spanish**

[www.AIDSmeds.com/espanol](http://www.AIDSmeds.com/espanol)

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### **CDC National AIDS Hotline TTY Service: 1-800-243-7889**

All calls are free and private. For information regarding HIV, AIDS or Sexually Transmitted Diseases. The following programs are Ryan White Title II funded services. It is not our intention to exclude other programs that may serve persons with HIV/AIDS. If you would like your program listed in the Newsletter, please call the Network office at 778-3066.

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### ***HIV/AIDS Counseling Program***

Outpatient Mental Health Clinic  
Binghamton General Hospital  
Summit Building, 33 Mitchell Ave., Binghamton  
**(607) 762-3254**

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### ***Project Uplift / Mental Health Association***

Counseling & Psychiatric Consultation Serving  
Mentally Ill/Chemically Addicted  
164 Court Street, Binghamton  
**(607) 771-8353**

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### ***The S.M.A.R.T. Initiative***

Education and consultation on HIV Treatment Issues for Health and Human Service Providers  
(607) 798-1706 **OR** 1- 800-333-0892  
The Southern Tier AIDS Program  
122 Baldwin Street, Johnson City, NY

# Community Resources Page

## Dental Care

- ❑ **Broome County DSS**  
(Serving Broome County Residents Only)  
(607) 778-2669
  - ❑ **BCC Dental Hygiene Clinic**  
(Serving Broome and Surrounding Counties)  
(607) 778-5015
  - ❑ **Chenango Health Network**  
(Serving Chenango County Residents Only)  
(607) 337-4128
  - ❑ **UHS Dental Services**  
(607) 762-2005
- 

## Domestic Violence Resources

- ❑ **A New Hope Center**  
(Tioga & Surrounding Counties)  
1-800-696-7600 OR 687-6866
  - ❑ **Catholic Charities**  
(Chenango County)  
Crime Victims/Domestic Violence  
(607) 336-1101
  - ❑ **Crime Victims Assistance Center**  
Non-residential services for domestic violence  
722-4256 24hr hotline
  - ❑ **NYS Domestic Violence Hotline:**  
1-800-942-6906 English  
1-800-942-6908 Spanish
  - ❑ **SOS Shelter**  
(Serving Broome and Surrounding Counties)  
754-4340 24 hr hotline
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## Financial Assistance

- ❑ **ADAP**  
1-800-542-2437
- ❑ **Broome County DSS**  
(Serving Broome County Residents Only)  
(607) 778-2504
- ❑ **Chenango County DSS**  
(Serving Chenango County Residents Only)  
(607) 337-1531
- ❑ **Mothers & Babies Perinatal Network  
Of South Central New York, Inc.**  
(607) 772-0517 or 1-800-231-0744
- ❑ **Tioga County DSS**  
(Serving Tioga County Residents Only)  
1-800-548-4642

## Food Banks

- ❑ **Catholic Charities Food Pantry/Nutrition**  
(Serving Broome and Surrounding Counties)  
(607) 723-4563
  - ❑ **Open Door Mission**  
Owego (607) 687-1121  
Waverly (607) 565-7710
  - ❑ **Salvation Army Emergency Assistance Program**  
(Serving Broome and Surrounding Counties)  
(607) 722-2987
  - ❑ **Tioga County Rural Ministry**  
(Serving Broome and Surrounding Counties)  
(607) 687-3021
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## STD Testing

- ❑ **Broome County Health Department**  
(Serving Broome & Surrounding Counties)  
(607) 778-2839
  - ❑ **Chenango County Health Department**  
(Serving Chenango County Residents Only)  
(607) 334-1660
  - ❑ **Planned Parenthood of  
Broome** (607) 723-8306  
(Serving Broome County Residents Only)  
**Chenango** (607) 334-6378  
(Serving Chenango County Residents Only)
  - ❑ **Tioga County Health Department**  
(Serving Tioga County Residents Only)  
(607) 337-1660
  - ❑ **Tioga Opportunities Program**  
(Serving Tioga County Residents Only)  
(607) 334-7433
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## Transportation

- ❑ **Broome County DSS**  
(Serving Broome County Residents Only)  
(607) 778-2627
- ❑ **Broome County Public Transport**  
(Serving Broome County Residents Only)  
(607) 763-4464
- ❑ **Chenango County DSS**  
(Serving Chenango County Residents Only)  
(607) 337-1531
- ❑ **Tioga County DSS**  
(Serving Tioga County Residents Only)  
(887) 882-8313
- ❑ **Tioga County Public Transit**  
(Serving Tioga County Residents Only)  
(607) 699-3432
- ❑ **Tioga County Transit Service**  
(Serving Tioga County Residents Only)  
(607) 334-7433

**Broome County Health Department's HIV/AIDS Training Program  
January – June 2005**

<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Date offered</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location of Training</i>
Overview of HIV Infection and AIDS	January 19	9 AM – 1 PM	Binghamton
HIV Testing Procedures	February 9 – 10	9 AM – 5 PM	Binghamton
Basics of Youth Development	February 23	9 AM – 1 PM	Binghamton
Implementing Rapid Testing	March 2	9 AM – 1 PM	Binghamton
HIV/AIDS Confidentiality Law	March 10	9 AM – 1 PM	Binghamton
Reducing the Risk and Harm of HIV	March 16-18	9 AM – 5 PM	Binghamton
What's New in HIV/AIDS	March 23	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Norwich
Basic Information About Domestic Violence	April 5	9 AM – 5 PM	Binghamton
What's New in HIV/AIDS	April 13	9 AM – Noon	Binghamton
Overview of HIV Infection and AIDS	May 18	9 AM – 1 PM	Binghamton
Addressing Prevention With HIV + Clients	May 25	9 AM – 5 PM	Binghamton
HIV Testing Procedures	June 8 –9	9 AM – 5 PM	Binghamton
Building Bridges to Cultural Competency	June 16	9 AM – 5 PM	Binghamton
Domestic Violence in the Lesbian, Gay, Transgendered & Bisexual Communities	June 22	9 AM – 4:30 PM	Binghamton

*Note: All of the above trainings are free!!!!!!!!!!*

*To register, call: Brenda Crone (607) 778-2855*

**Other Educational Offerings available include:**

- 1. NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute.** For information, go to: [www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/aids/training.htm](http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/aids/training.htm).
- 2. Leadership Training Institute (LTI)** – a statewide initiative that provides training, skills building, motivation and education to people living with HIV and AIDS. Training programs include community organizing, planning and decision making, advocacy and policy-making advice.

For more information, call 1-866-PWA-Lead or contact the Network at 778-2858 for more information.

**Speaking of Education**

**Many Thanks to:**

1. The staff of the Southern Tier AIDS Program for providing a great two-day conference on Hepatitis C and HIV in December 2004. Those in attendance received valuable information on these two diseases.
2. The Southern Tier Faith Initiative for providing a one-day conference on Faith and HIV/AIDS on November 18, 2004 for local faith leaders. The conference was very informative for those in attendance.
3. United Health Services for providing their annual HIV/AIDS Teaching Day on Nov. 18, 2004. This Teaching Day was very informative for the approximately 75 persons who attended the daylong training.