

HIV Care Network

NEWS

November 2003

Serving Broome, Chenango & Tioga Counties

Broome County Health Department, Lead Agency
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 Network Chair: Tina Barber, Southern Tier AIDS Program
 Network Co-Chair: Rosalind Wright, Ideal Senior Living Center

December 1 – World AIDS Day

Last year during the World AIDS Day Program at the Broome County Courthouse, a television reporter asked an attendee how the group was planning to keep the topic of HIV/AIDS in the public's awareness. He referred to the fact that HIV has been around for more than 20 years. Others, including the national media during this past year, have also noted concern about keeping HIV in the public's awareness. I hope that that same reporter is available this year for World AIDS Day– and has his running shoes on! This year, the Network and its members are planning not one but **three** programs on World AIDS Day, as well as an AIDS Quilt display and several HIV testing clinics by the New York State Department of Health.

World AIDS Day in Broome County will be observed by a gathering at 6 PM at the Broome County Courthouse for a short program that will include the Reading of Names of those who have died from AIDS. At the conclusion, a silent Candlelight March will be held to the Trinity Memorial Church at 44 Main St, Binghamton where a Celebration of Life and Message of Hope Program with refreshments will be held.

Chenango County is planning a World AIDS Day Observance and will gather at 6 PM in the lobby of the Chenango Memorial Hospital and begin a Candlelight March to the Courthouse. After a short program there that will include the Reading of Names, a panel presentation and refreshments will be held at the United Church of Christ First Congregational Church in Norwich.

Tioga County will host its first ever World AIDS Day observance. Their program will be held at Marvin Park, Main Street, Owego at 4 PM. If all goes as planned, a tree will be dedicated to those who are infected with HIV or have died from AIDS. Refreshments will be available.

INSIDE.....

Steering Committee Election	2
World AIDS Day (Cont)	2
Latino Health Fair	2
Faith-Health Summit	2
Upcoming Events at a Glance	3
Upcoming Meetings	3
Committee News	4-5
Alliance For Inmates With AIDS	5
AIDS Quilt Panel Maker Presentation	5
International News	6
News From the United States	7
Hepatitis C	8
Our Community's Response	8
Community Resources	9
Educational Offerings	10

“Nothing is so strong as gentleness and nothing is so gentle as real strength.”

-Ralph W. Sockman

(Continued on next page)

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.

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&

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www.gobroomecounty.com/safety/hivindex.php

Steering Committee Members

Tina Barber, Network Chair

Rosalind Wright, Network Co-Chair

Alfreda Archie	Nancy McGowan
Beverly Arnold	Alan NeJame
Lynda Converse	Jack Patterson
Tina Utley Edwards	Sondra Pruden
Bill Hartrum	Jim Sheridan
Greta Immermann	Jane Sindoni
Lisa Kocak	Becky Smith
Elaine Mallison	Milly Utech
Craig McFarland	Mike Whalen

World AIDS Day (continued from first page)

Four panels from the National Names Project – Syracuse Branch will be on display from December 2 – December 7, 2003 at the Broome County Library on Court Street in Binghamton. An opening ceremony is planned for December 2nd. More information will be made available as plans are finalized.

Finally, it is hoped that the programs planned for World AIDS Day will encourage those who are at risk for HIV infection to discuss their concerns with their health care provider and/or get tested for HIV. At this time, the New York State Department of Health will be doing anonymous testing in Owego on Tuesday, December 2 from 4 to 7 pm at the offices of Tioga Opportunities Program. Testing will also be offered in Norwich by the NYS DOH with test dates and times to be announced.

I hope you are able to come to one or more of the events planned to observe World AIDS Day. Remember, even though World AIDS Day is observed every December first, try to keep awareness of HIV/AIDS and of those infected with HIV/AIDS with you every day.

Latino Health Fair

Several Network members participated in the first Latino Health Fair that was held on Sunday, Oct. 19, 2003 in Binghamton. Jamila Rivera from STAP presented a workshop on Hepatitis C and HIV. Mary McFadden, Becky Gelunas and Jennifer Lesko from the Broome County Health Dept. presented a workshop on chronic diseases and prevention and representatives from Mothers and Babies did a workshop on Access to Care. All the workshops were done in Spanish. The Fair was well attended and those in attendance asked many questions of the workshop presenters. WSKG coordinated the Fair and Dr. Barrerio provided his medical office for the location of the fair.

Faith – Health Summit

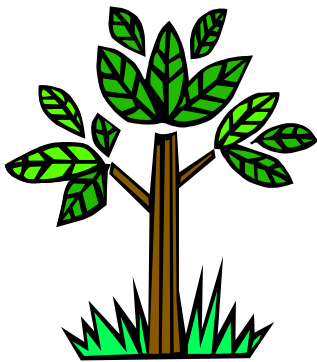
A Faith –Health Summit is being held on Saturday, Nov. 22, 2003 at Salvation Temple Church. A community health fair will be held from 11 AM to 2 PM & open to the community. Many local health providers will be available to give information and answer questions. HIV testing will be available by the New York State Health Dept. & flu vaccines will be offered by the Broome County Health Dept. For more information, call the Network at 778-2858.

Upcoming Events At a Glance

Saturday, November 22, 2003 Time: 11 AM – 2 PM
Faith-Health Summit – Community Health Fair
Location: Salvation Temple Church, 103 Susquehanna Street, Binghamton, NY
Workshops on health related topics and the impact of faith on a person's health status to be offered; HIV testing by NYS DOH; Flu Vaccines and more!

Call Mary Beth at 778-2858 for more information.

Monday, December 1, 2003 4 PM
World AIDS Day – Tioga County
Location: Marvin Park, Owego, NY
Note: This event is to be held outdoors – please dress appropriately for the weather.



Monday, December 1, 2003 Time: 6 PM
World AIDS Day – Broome County
Broome County Courthouse, Court St, Binghamton
Brief program, Reading of Names, then silent Candlelight March to Trinity Church, 44 Main St, Binghamton, NY for program and refreshments

Monday, December 1, 2003 Time: 6 PM
World AIDS Day – Chenango County
Meet in parking lot of Chenango Memorial Hospital for Candlelight March to the County Courthouse for a brief program including reading of Names; then continue to United Church of Christ First Congregational for a panel program and refreshments.

Tuesday, December 2, 2003 Time: TBA
Opening Ceremony for AIDS Quilts
Location: Broome County Library, Court St, Binghamton
Four panels from the National Names Project – Syracuse will be on display at the Broome County Library Dec. 2 – 6, 2003.

Upcoming Network Meetings:

Wednesday, November 5, 2003 Time: 11 AM - 12:30 PM
Consumer Advisory Board
Topic: The 5 Wishes Document
Speaker: Michael Greenfield, STAP
Location: Broome County Health Department
Please note new time for committee!!!

Thursday, November 6, 2003 Time: 2 PM – 4 PM
Steering Committee Meeting
Topic: Review Committee Workplans and progress towards meeting objectives; Membership Assessment & more!
Location: Broome County Health Department

Monday, November 17, 2003 Time: Noon
Faith-Health Summit Planning Meeting
Location: Salvation Temple Church

Tuesday, November 18, 2003 Time: 2 PM
Tioga County Meeting
Topic: World AIDS Day – Dec. 1, 2003
Location: Tioga County Health Department

Wednesday, November 19, 2003 Time: 2 PM
Chenango County Meeting
Topic: World AIDS Day – Dec. 1, 2003
Location: Eaton Center, Room 202

Thursday, Nov. 20, 2003 Time: 10 AM - Noon
Case Management Committee
Topic: Discussion with representatives from Broome County CASA and Ideal Long-Term Home Health Care Program regarding referrals to long-term care programs
Location: Broome County Health Dept.

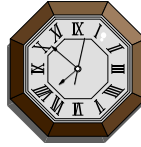
Thursday, November 20, 2003 Time: Noon
World AIDS Day Planning Committee
Topic: World AIDS Day – Dec. 1, 2003
Location: Broome County Health Dept.

Monday, December 8, 2003 Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Community Awareness Committee
Topic: The Transgendered Community & discussion re World AIDS Day 2003 and plans for 2004
Location: Broome County Health Dept.

Thursday, December 18, 2003 Time: 2:00 PM– 4:00 PM
Quarterly Network Meeting
Speaker: Joe Barnett, STAP, to speak regarding his summer trip to Ghana & his activities with the AIDS community there
Location: Broome County Health Department

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

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. Network committees play an integral role in promoting this system of care and in making recommendations to continuously improve accessibility and quality of care in the region, as well as increasing awareness of HIV/AIDS issues for the general public and among our legislators.



Committee News...

Community Awareness Committee.....

Chair: Alan NeJame

Co-Chair: Alfreda Archie

The Community Awareness committee met on Sept. 11 2003. The plans for World AIDS Day were discussed. Attendees also approved a quality assurance tool for the committee.

Next meeting will be Monday, December 8, 2003 from 2 – 4 PM. Location: the Broome County Health Department*.

Case Management Committee.....

Chair: Nancy McGowan, RN

Co-Chair: Beverly Arnold

A Case Management Committee meeting was held on Sept. 25th. The revisions to the Consumer Directory were discussed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 20th, 2003* from 10 AM - Noon at the Broome County Health Department. Representatives from Broome County CASA and Ideal Long-Term Home Health Care Program will be present to discuss referral to the Ideal AIDS Long-Term Home Health Care Program. The committee wishes to invite all consumers and any other interested person to attend.

Consumer Advisory Board.....

Consumers assisted Ciccattelli Associates from New York City to hold a luncheon meeting on Sept. 26, 2003. The purpose of the meeting was to meet with consumers, service providers and others to discuss needs of consumers in our region. Approximately 22 persons attended.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 5, 2003* at 11 AM at the Broome County Health Department. Michael Greenfield will be speaking about the 5 Wishes Document.

Call 778-2858 to reserve a lunch.

Steering Committee

Chair: Tina Barber

Co-Chair: Rosalind Wright

The Steering Committee met on Sept. 4, 2003. The results from the ranking sessions of the Regional Gaps Analysis were discussed; the committee approved a quality assurance survey tool to be used by committee members to evaluate the committee; and updates of other committee's actions were discussed. The committee also voted to change the time for the Quarterly Network meetings from 3-5 PM to 2-4 PM.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, Nov. 6th from 2 – 4 PM at the Broome County Health Department.

Quarterly Network Meeting.....

Chair: Tina Barber

Co-Chair: Rosalind Wright

Tina Utley Edwards, Lisa Kocak, Elaine Mallison, and Jane Sindoni were elected for their first term on the Steering Committee at the Sept. Quarterly Network Meeting. Ten others had their terms renewed for another two years. The results of the Regional Gaps Analysis ranking process were discussed.

The next Quarterly Network Meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 18th from 2 – 4 PM at the Broome County Health Department*.

*Dates may change – please call the Network at 778-3066 if you are interested in a meeting and you are not on the mailing list for the committee.

Remember – all meetings are open to the public except for the Consumer Advisory Board.

Committee News Continued on next page

Chenango County Meeting

The Chenango County group has been meeting to make plans for World AIDS Day in Norwich and to discuss educational needs of the community.

The next meeting in Chenango County will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 19th at 2 P.M. at the Eaton Center, Room 202, Norwich, NY.

Tioga County Meeting

This group has been meeting to discuss plans for World AIDS Day and to discuss and plan for needs of the county, such as educational needs.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18th from 2 – 4 PM at the Tioga County Health Dept.

For more information on any of the above committees, or to join a committee, call Sandy at 778-3066.

Alliance For Inmates with AIDS

The Alliance for Inmates With AIDS (AlliA) is a grassroots, statewide coalition of individuals affiliated with organizations that advocate on the behalf of persons living with HIV, AIDS and Hepatitis C and their families and community who are affected by the criminal justice system. AlliA supports the empowerment of prisoners for medical treatment. This organization also assists former prisoners to provide guidance and education on prison issues. The Alliance works to address issues within the criminal justice system in New York State.

The AlliA's newsletter ALLIA NEWS included an article regarding the Binghamton Tri-County HIV Care Network in its Summer 2003 edition. The article described the Network in general and highlighted Larry Fisher's visit to the Network. Mr. Fischer is the Jail Administrator for the Broome County Public Safety Facility. The article noted the county's Therapeutic Pod, a project at the jail in which many social, health, and educational services are provided to incarcerated persons. The rate of recidivism for prisoners who resided in the Therapeutic Pod is much lower than for prisoners who did not reside in the Therapeutic Pod.

For more information regarding The Alliance For Inmates With AIDS, contact Romeo Sanchez, phone:212.453.2659 or email: rsanchez@latinoaids.org.

AIDS Quilt Panel Making Program

On Wednesday, October 22, 2003 a group of Network members met at the Southern Tier AIDS Program to listen to an educational presentation by Carol Cavalluzzi from the National Names Project – Syracuse. Carol gave a very informative program on making panels for the AIDS Quilt. The Syracuse group will accept panels for the quilt. Panel makers may choose to have the panels stay in Syracuse and thus they are displayed primarily in Central New York or panel makers may opt to have the panel sent to the National Names Project in Atlanta for inclusion.

All panels must be 40" by 76" to allow for a two-inch hem all the way around the panel. Panel makers are not to put backing on an individual panel. When eight panels are sewn together, backing is applied at that time.

Carol noted that there is "no right or wrong way" to design a panel. She recommended that glue not be used due to it deteriorating over time. Also, she recommended not using glass beads or sequins, as they tend to cut into the material. She described how pictures could be put onto fabric; items can be enclosed in plastic, use of permanent marker or fabric paints can be used. Carol brought eight panels to show attendees how different fabrics can be used for appliques.

The Syracuse project will assist people to make a panel. Volunteers have taken designs and finished them into panels as well as have designed and made panels based on information provided. If someone has started a panel and cannot complete it or if someone wants to make a panel to remember someone who died from AIDS, the volunteers will assist. For more information on the Names Project Syracuse, phone 315.498.4940 or email: npsyracuse@aol.com. If you have a panel completed, you may send it to the Names Project Syracuse. Their address is: 6705 S. Salina Street, Nedrow, NY 13120. There is a Panel-maker Information Form you must complete to send with a panel, so contact the Names Project Syracuse before sending a panel.

"Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community." *Anthony J. D'Angelo*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

“Increasing Number of HIV Vaccines Undergoing Human Clinical Trials”

[10.06.03] Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report

Throughout the world, approximately 24 potential HIV vaccines are being tested with the hope of finding an effective HIV/AIDS vaccine. Currently 12,000 volunteers worldwide are being tested with potential vaccines. At least 12 different companies are researching HIV vaccines. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases budget for HIV vaccine research grew from \$182 million in 1999 to \$456 million in fiscal year 2004.

“US, Mexico Back Canada on Plan to Export Cheap AIDS Drugs”

(10.08.03) CDC HIV/STD/TB Prevention News Update

On October 7, 2003 the United States and Mexico offered its support to Canada for plans to change its legislation to allow for exports of generic AIDS medications to developing countries. Canada’s goal is to be the first country in the Group of Seven industrialized nations to require major laboratories within its borders – both Canadian and international – to share their formulas with manufacturers of generic HIV/AIDS medications. This would allow for exporting of generic AIDS medications to developing countries.

[10.08.03] Agace France Presse

“Africans Outdo US Patients in Following AIDS Therapy”

(09.03.03) CDC HIV/STD/TB Prevention News Update

Recent studies in Botswana, Uganda, Senegal and South Africa have found that on average, AIDS patients in Africa take about 90% of prescribed AIDS medications, better than 70% adherence seen in patients in the United States. Compliance may be easier in Africa as patients there have access to a triple-therapy cocktail that allows for as few as two pills a day. The cocktail is not available in the United States. Tight supervision also seems to promote better adherence. The Doctors Without Borders Program in Cape Town uses strict enrollment criteria to achieve high levels of compliance with the result that within six months, 91% of their patients had miniscule levels of HIV in their blood.

Regarding Africa, did you know that Joe Barnett, an employee of the Southern Tier AIDS Program, spent two weeks of his vacation time this summer in Ghana? Joe visited with the AIDS community there are learned from them how they are addressing the AIDS epidemic and told them about activities in the U.S. Joe will be the speaker at the Dec. 18th Quarterly Network Meeting – please plan on coming to hear from Joe regarding his trip.

“One-Third of British Columbia Residents Who Died of HIV Causes Didn’t Get Treatment”

(10.13.03) CDC HIV/STD/TB Prevention News Update

A study by researchers at the B.C. Centre of Excellence in HIV/AIDS revealed that one-third of British Columbia residents who died of HIV/AIDS did not access life-saving treatment. Those who did not get treatment most likely were First Nations, female, poor and/or living in Vancouver’s drug-infested Downtown Eastside. A study published earlier noted that aboriginal injection drug users in Canada’s poorest postal code contract HIV at twice the rate of non-aboriginals.

In Canada, medications are free. British Columbia currently spends about \$37 million Canadian dollars (or \$28 million U.S. dollars) yearly for HIV medications. They treat 3,000 people, including about 400 injection drug users.

The study researchers recommend culturally sensitive interventions to improve access to care for HIV-positive aboriginals. Also, testing and referral at safe injection sites are also hoped to reduce deaths from HIV/AIDS.

The complete study can be found in the Journal of Infectious Diseases (2003;188(8):1164-1170).

“HIV/AIDS is Disease of Young People; One Youth Infected Every 14 Seconds Worldwide, UNFPA Report Says”

(10.09.03) Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report

The United Nations Population Fund estimates that half of the five million new HIV infections worldwide each year occur among people ages 15-24. In other words, every 14 seconds someone aged 15-24 becomes HIV infected resulting in 6,000 new cases every day. If the HIV/AIDS pandemic is left unchecked, this could significantly slow the growth of the world’s population since half of the world’s population is currently under the age of 25.

The report also noted that HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects women – 67% of HIV positive young people in sub-Saharan African and 62% of HIV positive young people in Asia are women.

Reasons for the growth of HIV/AIDS in young people worldwide include poverty, sex trade workers, lack of knowledge of how HIV is transmitted, early marriages by young women and taboos against discussing sex. The report’s authors recommend providing information, skill training, and services to young people to assist them to avoid infection. They promote using the ABC prevention message – abstain from sexual activity, be faithful to one partner, use condoms.

News From the United States

“CDC Not Abandoning HIV Prevention Efforts But Strengthening Existing Efforts, CDC Director Says”

[10.14.03] Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report

CDC Director Julie Gerberding wrote to the Los Angeles Times that by encouraging more HIV testing and helping HIV-positive people to stay healthy and prevent transmission of the HIV virus, the CDC is not abandoning support for HIV prevention efforts but instead is strengthening them. The CDC had stated previously that the emphasis on community outreach prevention programs has been ineffective as evidenced by the growth in new cases. Gerberding noted that most people who learn they are HIV positive reduce their risk behaviors. Gerberding's letter to the editor was printed in the Los Angeles Times on Oct. 11, 2003.

“About Half of U.S. Hispanics were Uninsured in 2001; Two-Thirds of Those in Low-wage Jobs, Study Says”

[10.16.03] Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report

The Commonwealth Fund reported that Hispanic workers were most likely to lack health insurance of all ethnic groups. Their report noted that 45% of all Hispanics under the age of 65 were uninsured for all or part of the year in 2000 and that 65% of low income working aged Hispanics were uninsured for all or part of 2000. In the United States, about 33% of low-income children were uninsured for all or part of 2000 but that figure jumps to 44% for Hispanic children. Twenty five percent of Hispanics aged 50-64 years went without needed care, including prescription medications, treatments or medical care due to inability to pay for such health care costs. The report's author, Michele Doty, noted that lack of insurance, unstable coverage, language barriers and low income were contributing factors to their findings.

“Teen Project Aims to Halt HIV-AIDS”

[10.09.03] CDC HIV/STD/TB Prevention News Update

Jesse Torrence, a 23 year old from Monclova Township in Ohio, discovered that Lucas County, Ohio, had the highest HIV-AIDS rate among 20 year olds in Ohio and decided he needed to do something to address this situation. Receiving a grant from the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, Torrence recruited high school students from schools with large Hispanic populations. Active Toledo Teens Awareness Committee was formed and includes teens from all ethnic groups. The teens use traditional venues, such as dances and public service announcements, to educate regarding HIV/AIDS.

Toledo Blade (10.06.03)::Clyde Hughes

“FDA Approves Schering Drug for Hepatitis C”

[10.14.03] CDC HIV/STD/TB Prevention News Update

Schering-Plough Corporation announced on Oct. 13, 2003 that the Food and Drug Administration approved the PEG-Intron Redipen, a prefilled penlike syringe that delivers a medication for chronic Hepatitis C. The product is expected to be available in the U.S. in early 2004. It is already available in Europe and other international countries.

New York Times (10.14.03)

“Uncircumcised Men Have Higher HIV Risk-Study”

[10.10.03] CDC HIV/STD/TB Prevention News Update

Male patients who are circumcised had an eight-fold reduction in HIV-1 risk than male patients who were not circumcised. The research supporting this finding was done at three sexually transmitted disease clinics in India and presented to the 41st Annual Meeting of the Infectious Disease Society of America.

Two-thirds of U.S. males are circumcised, usually shortly after birth. Worldwide, rates for male circumcision vary widely. The American Academy of Pediatrics no longer recommends routine circumcision.

Dr. Steven Reynolds, one of the study's researchers and a post-doctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, believes that the inner surface of the foreskin has a less protective layer than the outer surface and is more vulnerable to HIV. Methods that uncircumcised men may be able to use to reduce the chance of contracting HIV include condoms. Research is currently underway in Kenya, Uganda and South Africa to see if male circumcision as a prevention strategy is effective. The researchers also hope that in the future a topical microbicide may be developed that will be effective if applied to the foreskin before sex.

Reuthers (10.10.03).

“New Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (FluMist) Not Recommended for People with HIV or their close contacts”

[10.09.03] <http://AIDSinfo.nih.gov>

FluMist, a new influenza vaccine that is given intranasally, should not be given to people with HIV or their close contacts. FluMist uses a live influenza vaccine and could cause disease. Therefore, the use of an inactivated vaccine (which is given by a needle into the muscle) is preferred for vaccinating people with HIV, their household members, health care workers, and others with close contact with immunosuppressed persons.

Hepatitis C

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is found in blood and certain body fluids. It is transmitted when the virus from an infected person gets into the body of another person. It is frequently spread by sharing of needles, or, in the case of health care professionals, from accidental needle punctures. Sometimes an infected mother can infect her baby during birth. It is possible, but not common to transmit Hepatitis C during sex. People at risk for Hepatitis C, such as injection drug users and health care workers, should get tested for HCV. Also, persons who received clotting factors made before 1987, hemodialysis patients, recipients of blood/organ products before 1992, persons with undiagnosed liver problems, and infants born to infected mothers (test after their 12 month birthdate) should be tested for HCV.

A major concern with Hepatitis C is that 3 out of 4 persons infected with Hepatitis C can have no symptoms yet can infect others without knowing it. Hepatitis C has been reportable since July 2002. Currently in Broome County there are over 450 cases of Hepatitis C reported, with 20-30 new cases of Hepatitis C reported monthly. Of those cases reported, 62% have been males and the average age is 45 years. It is possible to be infected with both HIV and HCV. When this situation occurs (called coinfection), there may be more rapid progression of HCV liver disease and there will be more concerns with medications prescribed for both viruses.

Since many of the persons at risk for HIV are also at risk for HCV, New York State is promoting collaboration between providers of sexually transmitted disease services, the AIDS Institute, the Department of Corrections, and the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services. Colleen Flanigan is the Hepatitis C Coordinator for NYS.

Our region was fortunate to have had two recent opportunities to hear Colleen speak. First, Colleen was one of several presenters at a conference on Sept. 17 sponsored by the Broome County Health Dept. Colleen also spoke at a community forum in Norwich on Oct. 7, 2003.

The above information was taken from handouts received from Colleen Flanigan and from Mari Yourdon, PHN, BCHD, during the Sept. 17, 2003 conference.

For more information regarding Hepatitis C, contact your primary health care provider, or call Mary Yourdon, Communicable Health Nurse, 778-2804, or contact the Southern Tier AIDS Program at 1-800-333-0892.

Our Community's Response

We are fortunate in our community to have health care and social service providers who are addressing the Hepatitis C issue locally. Here are some ways this is occurring:

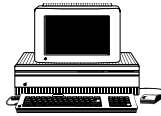
1. The Networks' Chenango County group held a community forum on Oct. 7, 2003. Plans are now being discussed for two possible educational programs in January 2004. We will keep you posted as plans are finalized.
2. The Broome County Health Department received a Hepatitis C grant from National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) to offer the Hepatitis C Update for Test Counselors on Sept. 17 at the Heritage Conference Center. Approximately 75 persons attended. The grant also provided funds for Mari Yourdon, PHN, Melissa Brennan, NP, and Kay Hooper, NP to provide six Hepatitis C educational presentations in Broome County, including the two presentations held at the Broome County Jail.
3. Southern Tier AIDS Program (STAP) – held a daylong conference on Hepatitis C in March. A Hepatitis C Coalition has been formed by STAP after the March conference. The Coalition is bringing providers together to discuss issues regarding Hep C, to provide for education and to offer support to those infected with HCV. Kevin Littlejohn, an educator with STAP, began a HCV support group on October 17, 2003. STAP also hosted a "Hep C Overview for Service Providers Working with Drug Users" on Oct. 23, 2003. Effective January 1, 2004 STAP will be able to provide an assessment by their medical advocate, HCV testing, HCV/HIV support group, stipends for nutrition while on treatment, transportation to medical appointments, and community education for City of Binghamton residents only. The funding for this project is from the City of Binghamton Development Block Grant; thus the residency requirement.
4. The Tioga County Health Department is hosting a half-day training for health and social service providers in Owego on Oct. 30, 2003. Colleen Flanigan will be the featured speaker at that conference.

Community Resources Page

Domestic Violence Resources

- ❑ **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
- ❑ **A New Hope Center**
(Tioga & Surrounding Counties)
1-800-696-7600 OR 687-6866
- ❑ **Safe Against Violence**
(Delaware County)
(607) 746-6278
- ❑ **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

Website URL for the *HIV Care Network*:
www.gobroomecounty.com/safety/HIVindex.html



Anonymous* & Confidential HIV Testing Sites:

- * Broome County Health Dept.....(607) 778-2839
- * Tioga County Health Dept.....(607) 687-8600
- * Southern Tier AIDS Program 1-800-333-0892

Others in New York State call **1-800-541-AIDS**

* Anonymous testing is free.

Partner Notification Assistance Program..... 1-800-541-2437

HIV/AIDS Support Group 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month. For information contact Betty Pomeroy, 763-6003

First Call for Help

- Broome County729-9100
- Chenango County.....1-800-227-5353
- Tioga County.....1-800-266-5252

Department of Social Services

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

Legal AID For Broome and Chenango, Inc.

(607) 723-7966 Binghamton

(607) 336-8256 Norwich

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

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.

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

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.

HIV/AIDS Counseling Program

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

Project Uplift / Mental Health Association

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

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

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

**Broome County Health Department's HIV/AIDS Training Program
June - December 2003**

<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Date offered</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location of Training</i>
<i>Cultural Diversity</i>	<i>Nov. 4</i>	<i>9:00 AM – 4:30 PM</i>	<i>Binghamton</i>
<i>The ABC's Of HIV & Hepatitis</i>	<i>Nov. 7</i>	<i>1:00 – 4:00 PM</i>	<i>Oneonta</i>
<i>HIV/AIDS Treatment Update</i>	<i>Nov. 13</i>	<i>9:00 AM – Noon</i>	<i>Johnson City</i>
<i>Tailoring HIV Counseling & Testing to Unique Needs of Adolescents</i>	<i>Nov. 17</i>	<i>9:00 AM – 4:30 PM</i>	<i>Binghamton</i>
<i>HIV Disclosure</i>	<i>Nov. 20</i>	<i>9:00 AM – 1:00 PM</i>	<i>Elmira</i>
<i>HIV/AIDS & Mental Health Services</i>	<i>Dec. 3 –4</i>	<i>9:00 AM – 4:30 PM</i>	<i>Binghamton</i>
<i>Domestic Violence in Lesbian, Gay, Transgendered & Bisexual Comm.</i>	<i>Dec. 9</i>	<i>9:00 AM – 4:30 PM</i>	<i>Johnson City</i>

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

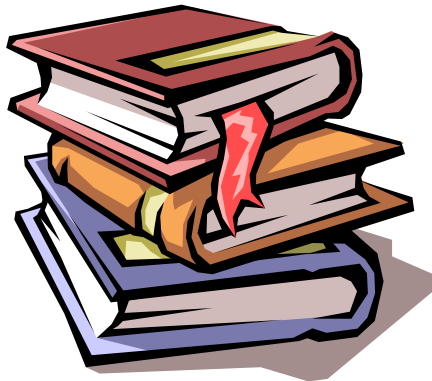
To register, call: Brenda Crone (607) 778-2855

2003 HIV/Dermatology Teaching Day

United Health Services Hospitals' Continuing Professional education is holding their HIV/Dermatology Teaching Day on Thursday, November 13, 2003. The program begins at noon and includes workshops on dermatology and HIV, oral manifestations of AIDS, and an update on antiretroviral therapy. This program is intended for doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses and residents. Continuing education credits are available for physicians. Registration and payment of fees is due by November 6th. Please call the Office of Professional Education at 607.763.6538 to register.

Other Educational Offerings available include:

1. American Red Cross, Endicott, NY. Contact Michael Taylor, 785-7207, for information on classes regarding Bloodborne Pathogens Training, Workplace HIV/AIDS Education, African American HIV/AIDS Education, Hispanic HIV/AIDS Education, Basic HIV/AIDS Education, Youth HIV/AIDS Education, and more!
2. NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute. For information, go to: www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/aids/training.htm.



The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.

Herbert Spencer, English Philosopher, (1820 - 1903)