

Inova JUNIPER JOURNAL



July-December, 2009

Inova Juniper Program, Northern Virginia Local Performance Site of the Pennsylvania/MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center (PAMA AETC)

Summary of 2009 faith-based HIV conference, “Partners Together: Talking about Faith and Sexuality”

Inova Juniper Program, Northern VA Local Performance Site, of the Pennsylvania/MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center and collaborators held the fifth annual faith-based HIV conference, “Partners Together: Talking about Faith and Sexuality” on June 12, 2009 at First Baptist Church of Alexandria on 2932 King St. About 50 participants were in attendance at the conference. First on the agenda Chocoma Darocha, physician assistant, at Inova Juniper Program brought attendees up to date on the current status of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Northern Virginia’s communities of color. To finish out the morning conference registrants participated in a thought-provoking panel discussion in which clergy leaders and faith-based members dialogued together to raise important questions and get honest answers about issues relating to faith and sexuality in the context of HIV. After lunch musical inspiration was provided by Deliverance, a talented group of young musicians from Woodbridge, VA. In the afternoon of the conference participants chose from a variety of workshop topics: basic HIV facts; an examination of Scripture and what it reveals about ministering to the spiritual needs of individuals who are HIV positive; culturally specific strategies that work well to promote the spiritual health and well-being of faith communities of color and their members who are living with HIV/AIDS and; innovative ways to work effectively with youth in HIV prevention. Conference participants left the conference having achieved tangible learning outcomes around preventing HIV and ministering effectively to people living with HIV/AIDS. Conference attendees’ evaluations indicated that the 2009 conference was a success and there was much new and interesting information learned by conference – goers. Participants commented as they departed the conference that they looked forward to the 2010 annual faith-based HIV conference.

HIV Testing Policy

In September, 2006 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a recommendation that HIV testing be made a routine part of medical care in all medical settings. In this recommendation, the CDC was hoping to eliminate separate consents for HIV testing and thereby make it easier to test more people. With this measure CDC believes that fear and anxiety surrounding HIV testing will decrease. If health care providers test all of their patients, then no one is singled out. It is estimated that about a fourth of all HIV positive people do not know their HIV status. In July, 2008, Virginia changed its laws to be more consistent with the CDC recommendations.

HIV Testing Policy, continued

It is estimated that about a fourth of all HIV positive people do not know their HIV status. Virginia changed its laws and it is no longer necessary to have a separate consent for HIV testing. The revised laws promote voluntary HIV testing. Individuals can “opt out” of HIV testing (i.e. refuse testing). The Inova Health System has changed its HIV policy as of June, 2009 to eliminate separate consents for HIV and is moving to an opt-out system. This policy applies to all Inova Health System settings. We hope that this will help reduce stigma regarding HIV and increase the numbers of HIV positive persons who know their status and who can then get into care.

Remembering Ed Cavanaugh

On April 10, 2009, Ed Cavanaugh, health educator at the Inova Juniper Program (IJP), passed away. Many of you have worked with Ed or may remember being greeted so warmly by him as you signed-in for workshops. Those of you who spoke with him over the phone may remember his diligence in helping you get answers to your questions or in finding resources. Some of you may have worked with him in *Clinical Training*, a program which blossomed under his guidance. It was thanks to Ed that IJP was finally able to connect with, and help create, a clinical training program for pharmacists, a vital group of healthcare professionals.

Ed never forgot that he had been a patient here at IJP, and a recent statement highlights how that informed his love and dedication to this work:

“[Working at IJP] gives me the chance to help (indirectly) every client be given the same opportunities that I was given. It’s kinda like a way of saying ‘Thanks’ to everyone here at Juniper for helping me get my health back, and with coordinating programs and bringing the best speakers we can afford, to help you all be the best care providers you want to be.”

Ed did help us be the best providers we could be: he pushed, he inspired and he never let us forget that our work was so important. And we miss him.

Ed’s family requests that contributions be made to the Inova Juniper Program (HIV/AIDS Services), Inova Health System Foundation, 8110 Gatehouse Rd., Suite 200, Falls Church, VA 22042-1210.

HIV Prevention Counseling Series

Priority will be given to Virginia providers and nursing contact hours will be provided.

Inova Juniper Program
8001 Forbes Place, Suite 110
Springfield, VA 22151

The Facts (Fee: \$35) 8:00 am - 4:45 pm
September 9, 2009

This workshop provides basic information on the spectrum of disease, legal issues, HIV antibody testing, risk assessment and risk reduction, and psychosocial issues.

What's New in the STD, HIV, Family Planning, and Addictions Worlds

September 22, 2009 1pm – 6:30pm
Inova Juniper Program
(No FEE)

At the end of this conference, participants will be able to:

- Describe the current methods of effective contraception;
- State current practice in the treatment of STDs;
- Describe recent developments in the field of HIV;
- Explain how to screen clients for substance abuse issues

Effective Communications Skills for Diverse Populations

August 12, 2009 8:30 am – 4:15 pm
Location: Inova Juniper Program
(No FEE)

After completing this program, learners should be able to:

- Explain the differences between cultural competency, awareness, and sensitivity;
- Discuss scholarly & theoretical theories;
- Identify cultural biases & misconceptions;
- Implement strategies to assist with encountering clients who are “different”;
- Increase communication skills and knowledge that will enable providers to provide cultural competent health care;
- Utilize resources in the community.

SAVE THE DATES

Please **do not** send registrations at this time.
Brochures forthcoming. Thank you.

August 19, 2009

Health Literacy and Plain Language

September 15, 2009

12th Annual HIV Case Management Conference

November 10, 2009

HIV/AIDS Advanced Clinical Update

Registration Form

Mail to: Registrar, Inova Juniper Program
8001 Forbes Pl. Ste. 200
Springfield, VA 22151

Phone: 703-321-2600
Fax: 703-321-2603

_____		_____		_____	
First name	Last Name	Discipline			

Organization					

Address		City	State	Zipcode	

Phone number		E-mail address			

_____		_____	
Program Title	Program Date		
Indicate Method of Payment		FEE: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check enclosed –payable to <i>Inova Juniper Program</i> (mail)			
<input type="checkbox"/> VISA		<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard (FAX or mail)	
Card# _____			
Expiration Date _____		Security # _____	

Those who cancel up to one week prior to the program will receive a refund minus a \$10 administrative fee. Thereafter, no refunds will be given.



Inova Juniper Program
8001 Forbes Place, Suite 200
Springfield, VA 22151
Phone: 703-321-2600 Fax: 703-321-2603
www.inova.org/juniper