

## Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Wednesday February 7th

# **BLACK HIV/AIDS** AWARENESS DAY

African Americans continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV. In 2016, African Americans represented 12% of the population, but accounted for 44% of HIV diagnosis. African Americans have the highest rate of HIV diagnoses compared to other races and ethnicities.<sup>1</sup>

### Next Meeting

Next Meeting February 13

HIV/ HCV and OUD—Alphabet Soup and the realities of transition to community from Prison

Ann Chakwin, PhD, MPH, MSW MS Health Promotion Programs Coordinator Oregon Department of Corrections

Check out <u>https://nationalblackaidsday.org/</u> for information around testing and care.

On February 21st <u>register here</u> for "Reunited and It Feels So Good: Addressing Barriers that Fuel the Division of Ending The Epidemic (ETE) Planning in Black America".

**FEBRUARY 7TH IS** 

#### Easily Access Your Social Security Benefit Statement for 2017 By Alan Edwards, Social Security Public Affairs



Social Security puts you in control of your finances and future. We have made requesting or replacing your annual Benefit Statement even easier. The Benefit Statement is also known as the SSA-1099 or the SSA-1042S. Now you have the ability to download it anytime and anywhere you want using our online services. There's no need to visit a field office.

An SSA-1099 is a tax form Social Security mails each year in January to people who receive Social Security benefits. It shows the total amount of benefits you received from Social Security in the previous year so you know how much Social Security income to report to IRS on your tax return.

If you currently live in the United States and you need a replacement form SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S, simply go online and request an instant, printable replacement form with a *my Social Security* account at <u>www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount</u>.

A replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S is available for the previous tax year after February 1.

If you already have a personal *my Social Security* account, you can access your online account to view and print your SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S. If you don't have access to a printer, you can save the document on your computer or laptop and email it. If you don't have a *my Social Security* account, creating a secure account is very easy to do and usually takes less than 15 minutes.

If you're a noncitizen who lives outside of the United States and you received or repaid Social Security benefits last year, we will send you form SSA-1042S instead. The forms SSA-1099 and SSA-1042S are not available for people who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

When you have access to your benefit information, you can make knowledgeable decisions about your financial future. With you in control, you can secure today and tomorrow for yourself and your loved ones. Visit <u>www.socialsecurity.gov</u> to find out more.



Snowden, Principal at Edgework Consulting and formerly the Founding Director of National LGBT Health & Aging Program at the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and Founding Director of National Center for LGBT Health & Equity at University of California San Francisco.

Continuing education credit will be available for conference attendees. Previous Meaningful Care Conferences have been accredited by the following organizations:

- The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
- Oregon Board of Pharmacy
- National Association of Social Workers Oregon Chapter
- Addiction Counselor Certification Board of Oregon (ACCBO)
- The National University of Natural Medicine

If there is accrediting body you wish us to include, please email <u>dayna@oraetc.org</u>. For conference related questions, please email <u>pparisot@cascadeaids.org</u>.

#### Reaching Retirement Age? Here's What You Need to Know By Alan Edwards, Social Security Public Affairs



Every birthday deserves celebration, but some seem a little more special than others. Think of a baby's first birthday. Sweet 16. The "Big 4-0." Then, before you know it, along comes 65. This last milestone is especially important to retirees.

For nearly half a century, American workers looked to 65 as the age at which they could stop working and finally reap their full retirement benefits under the Social Security Act of 1935.

Today, however, the full retirement age is now 66 or 67, depending on when you were born. In 1983, Congress changed the law to increase the retirement age gradually over a 22-year period, citing improvements in the health of older people and increases in average life expectancy. To find out your full retirement age, visit <u>www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/</u>retire/ageincrease.html.

If you've contributed enough to the Social Security system through payroll taxes, you still can claim your retirement benefits at 65 — or 62, 63, or 64, for that matter — but your monthly payments will be permanently reduced.

For help deciding which age is right for you to start receiving Social Security retirement benefits, read, "When to Start Receiving Retirement Benefits" at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10147.pdf.

We have also made applying for benefits easier than ever. You can do it online! To apply for benefits, please go to www.socialsecurity.gov/applyforbenefits.

That said, age 65 should still factor in prominently as you prepare for retirement and a stable financial future, because that's when most American workers first become eligible for Medicare health insurance coverage.

To see if you've earned enough credits through work to qualify for Medicare at age 65, view your *Social Security Statement* online using your personal *my Social Security* account. Create or log on to your account at <a href="https://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount">www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount</a>.

If you're already receiving Social Security benefits before age 65, we'll automatically enroll you in Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) and Medicare Part B (supplemental medical insurance) effective the first day of the month you turn 65. Watch your mailbox a few months before your birthday for your Medicare card.

Otherwise, three months before your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday, you can apply for Medicare Parts A and B online at <u>www.socialsecurity.gov/applyforbenefits</u>.

Your Initial Enrollment Period for Medicare starts three months before your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday month and continues for three months after. To learn more about Medicare enrollment and coverage, please visit <u>www.socialsecurity.gov/medicare</u>. To learn more about Medicare coverage, visit <u>www.medicare.gov</u>.

Social Security is with you through life's journey, on your first birthday and the many more that follow. Learn how we help you and your family secure today and tomorrow through our financial benefits, information, and planning tools at www.socialsecurity

#### What's been going on?

- On January 23rd, National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, Harm Reduction Coalition
  and The AIDS Institute released a statement to Congress asking for 100 million in new funding for the
  CDC in regards to the Opioid Crisis and calling on them to include treatment related to Hepatitis C and
  HIV. Read the full statement <u>here</u>
- Updates from the Hill (and not the OHSU hill) Read <u>here</u> and subscribe to receive these updates in your email.
- Questions about how your clients will transition from Family Care to Healthshare. Check out information on <u>Healthshare's updated website</u> and also on <u>Healthshare's Provider Information page</u>

#### • Curious about Trauma Informed Care

Listen to <u>this podcast</u> from Matt Bennett to hear his thoughts on trauma informed care within the service delivery system

<u>Trauma Informed Oregon</u> provides resources for organizations that you can utilize to assess how trauma informed your organization is and how you can make improvement.



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This issue, and issues from January 2011 on, can be found electronically <u>here</u>