The Network
News
2017
May Issue #203

## Happy Pride Month!!

During this month of Pride I want to extend my sincerest hope that folks feel both celebratory and proud of all that our LGBTQ and allied community holds— the diversity, the strength of our past, present and certainly our future. As we are in a time of great stress it is more important than ever to stay informed, connected to each other and active politically in a way that feels doable and safe for you.

Remember our varied and strong history of advocacy, the opposition that we have overcome and the tenacity with which we fight for what is right.

I also call on you to take care of yourself, reach out to others when you feel that the stress is too much and take breaks from the constant political issues when you need to. Remember this isn't a sprint it's a marathon!

In solidarity and peace,

Julia

Julia Lager-Mesulam, LCSW Director Partnership Project

### **Next Meeting**

June 13th

Cascadia
Subduction Zone
Earthquake: Are
you 2 weeks
ready?

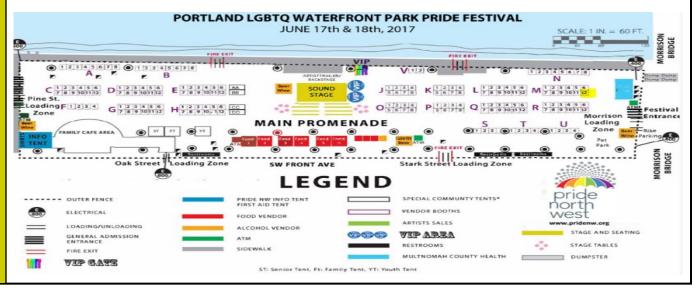
Jen Masotja, LMSW

Emergency Manager Multnomah County

### Join Partnership Project at Pride!!

Saturday (12-8 p.m.) & Sunday (11:30-6 p.m.) - Festival Booth M12- by the Morrison Bridge

Saturday- Portland Trans March Rally at 2 p.m., March begins at 3:30 p.m. NW Park Blocks



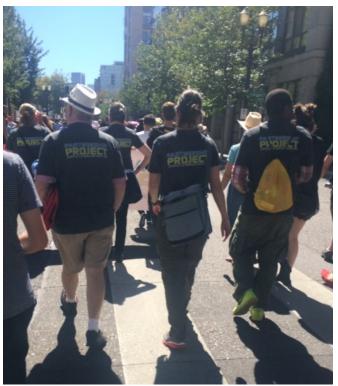
# Join Partnership Project on

# September 9th at AIDS WALK!!



# Join our team and walk with us!!







#### What's new with HIV Alliance?

HIV Alliance, a 501 ©(3) non-profit organization supporting people living with HIV and preventing new infections across much of the upper Willamette Valley, Coastal and Southern Oregon, is moving from its Eugene office of over 20 years to a new building. The new building is located at 1195 City View St., Eugene, OR 97402 and opened its doors to the public on May 11<sup>th</sup>. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, HIV Alliance will be having a BBQ open to the public our new office – mark your calendars and let us know if you can make it!

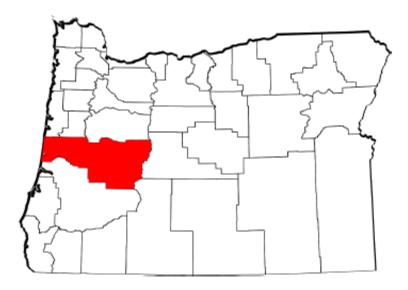
Over the years HIV Alliance has made several strides in its HIV support and prevention services in order to address a growing gap in the HIV care continuum. When HIV Alliance was first established in 1994, as a result of a merger between two AIDS-related organizations, it provided services in Lane County only, but over the years their services and region has grown: adopting syringe exchange programs in 1999, and launching dental care coordination for people living with HIV across the state in 2005 with the help of Lane Community College's Dental program. Between 2009 and 2013, we expanded our care and prevention program region to supplement the drop in HIV prevention that we were seeing in surrounding rural counties as a result of funding cuts. The new building will provide the agency, its staff, and clients with the space and resources they need to keep new infections low.

Today, HIV Alliance serves over 10,000 people either living with HIV, or belonging to an HIV target population group, through its various programs. In total, HIV Alliance provides HIV care and dental coordination, nursing case management, HIV specialized pharmaceutical care; HIV/HCV and STI testing, counseling, and referrals; mobile and office-based syringe exchange programs; targeted outreach; Behavioral Health services for LGBTQ+ groups; employment assistance for PLWH, and; HIV and HCV youth education. Apart from the youth education program, HIV Alliance's services target groups at a higher risk of HIV in Oregon, which are people living with HIV, men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, Transgender individuals and other LGBQ+ groups, partners of people in these groups, and other HIV prevention target groups.

The story continues on page 3 and 4......

# We've Come a Long Way

How it all began



### 1994

HIV Alliance is formed, and this marks the beginning of HIVA's time at 1966 Garden Avenue. At this time, HIV Alliance serves Lane County only.

### 1999

HIV Alliance begins providing syringe exchange services to people who inject drugs in Lane County.

### 2005

In this year HIVA Launched the Dental Program providing dental coordination to people living with HIV statewide.

### 2009 - 2013

HIV Alliance expands services to fill in gaps in service statewide

2009 Coos/Curry/Josephine (Care)

2010 Marion, Lake, Klamath (Care)

2011 Douglas (Care and Prevention), Jackson (Care)

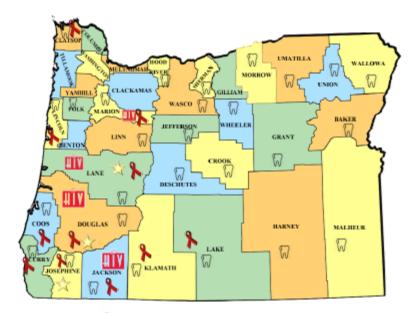
2012 Marion (Education) Lincoln (Care)

2013 Clatsop (Care)



# We've Come a Long Way

# From Garden Avenue to City View



- County with HIV Alliance office
- HIVA Client Care County
- HIVA Prevention County
- HIVA Dental County

## Our impact in 2016

900 CLIENTS RECEIVED COORDINATED CARE SERVICES IN 11 COUNTIES

1,047 HIV TESTS ADMINISTERED.

481 HEPATITIS C VIRUS TESTS ADMINISTERED

12,638 CONTACTS WITH PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS TO EXCHANGE NEEDLES, PROVIDE WOUND CARE AND REFER TO HEALTH RESOURCES

1,535 DENTAL SERVICES PROVIDED TO 326 CLIENTS LIVING WITH HIV ACROSS 22 OREGON COUNTIES

5,512 OUTREACH CONTACTS WITH MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND STI TESTING FOR LGBTQ+ POPULATIONS



#### President's **Proposed** Budget FY 18

By now you have seen the proposed President's Budget for FY 18. Remember this is a 1st step not a final budget.

In order to advocate for the needs of our community it is important to be knowledgeable about what the ACHA includes. Test your knowledge here

Here are some places you can go for information in different formats as the budget itself is very dense reading.

HHS Budget in Brief

GLAAD put out these details -impact on the LGBTQ Community.

Overview of changes from Institute for Healthcare Improvement

From the Washington Post –graphs and infographics explain the cuts

Some of the details related to what was proposed and it's impact on those living with HIV are as follows:

- Cut **\$59M** for Ryan White Program
- Same level of funding for ADAP
- \$26 million in cuts to Housing Opportunities for People with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA)
- cut CDC's HIV prevention programs by \$149 million or 19 percent,
- cut CDC's STD prevention programs by \$27 million or 17 percent since FY 2016,
- eliminate the Ryan White Program's AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETC) and the Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) programs,

#### Safety Net related funding:

- \$1.4 trillion in cuts to Medicaid over 10 years
- \$192 billion in cuts to SNAP (food stamps) over 10 years
- **\$72 billion in cuts to disability** over 10 years (including SSDI)
- blocks Planned Parenthood from participation in any federal programs
- bans federal funds from being used for syringe exchange programs

#### Remember a couple of things:

- This is an initial proposal that has to go through many steps before becoming reality
- We have strong MOC's and a Governor who will fight
- We are a strong community and will advocate for our community!!!
- Whatever is approved will not go into effect until July 2018

#### **EVERY DAY IS INTERNET SECURITY DAY**

#### By Alan Edwards, Social Security Public Affairs



Being safe online is important every day. There may be days devoted to internet security awareness, but you need to be careful every time you go online. Do you know what it takes to be safe online? You probably connect daily to get information, shop, socialize, or work. Every time you go online, you need to avoid the risk of theft or fraud. Here are some tips to use while visiting the Social Security website and the other websites you use.

**Use Strong Passwords-**-Strong passwords have at least eight characters and include capital letters, numbers, and non-letter characters. These passwords make it harder for someone to hack your account.

**Don't Recycle Passwords--**Although it requires effort to think of new passwords constantly, it provides safety when you do. What if you use the same password for every site and you lose your password? If someone finds it, they could get access to all your accounts. Many people choose to reuse — don't be one of them.

Take Advantage of Multifactor Authentication—Many websites offer the option to use a second factor—or method—in addition to just a username and password to ensure that only you access your information. Using more than one factor to establish identity makes it harder for someone to get into your account and steal your personal information. Beginning June 10, 2017, Social Security requires multifactor authentication to access a *my Social Security* account. Customers choose whether to receive a one-time security code to either their phone or email in order create a new account or sign into their account. Visit this link to find out more about how to secure your personal *my Social Security* account: <a href="www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount/verifyandprotectid.html">www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount/verifyandprotectid.html</a>. Consider using multifactor authentication whenever it's offered to protect your information.

**Read Scam Alerts--**For information about fraudulent activities related to Social Security, you can find information at our blog *Social Security Matters* under the Newsroom section at <u>blog.socialsecurity.gov</u>. One way to avoid identity theft is to create your own *my Social Security* account, if you haven't already. When you have an account, no one else can set up an account using your information. Social Security's Office of the Inspector General investigates fraud involving Social Security and they publish Fraud Advisories at <u>oig.ssa.gov/newsroom/news-release</u>. The Federal Trade Commission website publishes information about scams that appear in the news at <u>www.consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts</u>. You'll want to be aware of current scams to avoid being tricked.

Review Your Online Accounts and Credit Reports--Just as you review your earnings record with Social Security for accuracy at <a href="http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount">http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount</a>, you should review your bank and credit card accounts for accuracy. Get a free copy of your credit report available annually from the three credit reporting agencies (Experian, Equifax, and Transunion) at <a href="www.annualcreditreport.com/">www.annualcreditreport.com/</a> and check it for incorrect entries.

Protecting your identity can be daunting. Guarding your personal information requires investing some time, but is worth it. Discourage theft and fraud by adopting these security practices when you use the internet.

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The editor is Julia Lager-Mesulam.

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