



PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

ADVOCACY & SERVICES SINCE 1995

The Network
News
2021
March/April
Issue #241

OREGON HIV CASE MANAGEMENT

Happy Social Work Month!!!

To all the incredible social workers who are part of our HIV community, thank you for the care, support, advocacy and dedication to this work! We are grateful for your contributions!



Next Meeting

March 9th
Becky Strauss,
Oregon Law
Center on
Eviction
Moratorium
and
Sara Harrington,
CAP Readiness
Coordinator

April Meeting April 13th

Email
lagermes@ohsu.edu
for the link to the
meeting

Updates from Social Security

Dear Community Partner,

My staff and I are here to help you with Social Security and Supplemental Security Income-related critical cases. If you are aware of someone who is in a dire need situation, and has been unable to contact his or her local Social Security office, please let me know.

Most Social Security services can be completed online at www.SSA.gov. We also are available by phone at our national toll-free number at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), or by calling your [local Social Security office](#). We recognize that some services may require a face-to-face interview, especially for dire need situations and critical cases. Due to the [COVID-19 pandemic](#), to keep the public and our employees safe, we have been limiting in-person assistance to appointment only for certain dire need situations.

Do you know someone who has a dire need situation who has been unable to get the help they need? If so, please contact the Regional Public Affairs Office at 303-844-1888 or DEN.SEA.Public.Affairs@ssa.gov.

Sincerely,
Shayla Hagburg
Acting Regional Communications Director
Social Security

Save the Date



More Updates from Social Security

The Social Security Administration and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) have once again joined forces to raise public awareness about Social Security imposter scams during the second annual 'Slam the Scam' Day on March 4. Social Security scams - in which fraudsters mislead victims into making cash or gift card payments to fix purported Social Security number problems or to avoid arrest - are the #1 type of government imposter fraud reported to the Federal Trade Commission and Social Security. The agency has made concerted efforts to address this issue, including partnering with other Federal and State agencies to identify and pursue scammers, increasing employee and public outreach and education, raising awareness through marketing in post offices nationwide, and maintaining a Social Security/OIG workgroup to maximize resources and ensure a cohesive response.

"I am deeply troubled that crooks are deceiving Americans and using fear tactics to trick people into providing personal information or money," said Social Security Commissioner Andrew Saul. "I urge everyone to remain vigilant, hang up on these fraudsters, and go to oig.ssa.gov to report any attempted scam."

Criminals are sophisticated and there are many variations of this fraud scheme. For example, scammers may call or email saying they are from Social Security and that the person's Social Security number is suspended or was used in a crime. The caller identification may be spoofed to appear as a legitimate government number.

They may text or email fake documents in attempts to coerce people to comply with their demands. In recent twists, thieves even use real Social Security and OIG official's names and send pictures of fabricated government ID badges. Social Security will never tell you that your Social Security number is suspended, contact you to demand an immediate payment, threaten you with arrest, ask for your credit or debit card numbers over the phone, ask for gift cards or cash, or promise a Social Security benefit approval or increase in exchange for information or money.

"We are working with the Department of Justice and law enforcement agencies across the United States to combat Social Security imposter scams—but our best weapon in this fight will always be awareness," said Inspector General Gail S. Ennis. "I want to thank the many agencies and organizations that have joined us in our effort this year to alert Americans to hang up on suspicious calls, and talk to their family and friends about phone scams."

Social Security employees do occasionally contact the public by telephone for business purposes. Ordinarily, the agency calls people who have recently applied for a Social Security benefit, someone who is already receiving payments and requires an update to their record, or a person who has requested a phone call from the agency. If there is a problem with a person's Social Security number or record, Social Security will typically mail a letter.

For more information, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/antifraudfacts/.

State of Oregon Condom Delivery Program



This program allows Oregon residents to receive a free envelope of sexual wellness supplies delivered discreetly to their door, up to twice per 30 days. Please note that all addresses are subject to verification and unverifiable addresses will not receive a shipment. For questions, please contact Alicia.t.knapp@dhsosha.state.or.us.

[To request condoms complete this form](#)

Oregon
Health
Authority



National Transgender HIV Testing Day/ Week will begin on April 18th. Please join us in the planning.

Connect with us on
<https://www.facebook.com/nthtdportland>
<https://www.instagram.com/nthtdpdx/>

**Join us to help plan for National Transgender
HIV Testing Week/Day 2021**

March 12 3-4:30 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 928 2570 8911

Passcode: 714699

Join by phone

| 1 346 248 7799 (Passcode: 92825708911)

**Be part of planning a meaningful community-
building event that celebrates the diversity &
strength of the transgender & gender non-
conforming community!**



ASL Interpretation Provided

COVID-19 Vaccine in Oregon

Did you know those living with HIV are included in the list of chronic conditions that make someone eligible for the vaccine!

- Persons living with HIV may already qualify for Covid-19 vaccine due to employment type, housing situation or another qualifying situation as outlined in Phase 1A.
- Persons living with HIV over 65 are currently eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine
- Persons living with HIV between ages 45-64 will be eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine no later than March 29th.
- Persons living with HIV between ages 16-44 will be eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine no later than May 1st.

[To see the full list of eligibility criteria and dates of eligibility visit here](#)

Every County in Oregon has a different process to register for the vaccine.
[To see how one registers in each county visit here](#)

Can I get a **COVID-19** vaccine? Where do I go?

- Visit covidvaccine.oregon.gov
- Text ORCOVID to 898211
- Email ORCOVID@211info.org
- Call 211 or 1-866-698-6155
(TTY: dial 711 or call 1-866-698-6155)

Health
OREGON DIVISION



In an effort to remain aware of all of our programmatic and staff changes throughout the HIV community in Oregon we would like to collect and share that information.

Programmatic & staff changes should be sent to lagermes@ohsu.edu by the last Wednesday of the month.

Cascade AIDS Project

Welcomes

Aaron Allison (He/Him/His) Bilingual Prevention Navigator started on 2/28
 Andrew Tran (He/Him/His) Housing Retention Peer Support Specialist
 Megan "Meg" Blackburn (she/her) COVID Support Services Navigator
 Oliver Childers (they/them/theirs) Development Associate
 Shawna Frazier (she/her) Prism LPN
 Troy Preble (He/Him/His) SW Washington Peer Navigator

Says Farewell

Mae Holsapple, Cascadia Mental Health Counselor– last day will be 4/1
 Aaron Von Reyn (he/they) Short Term Housing Case Manager
 Meghan Von Tersch Housing Navigation Team Lead

Thanks for your help in keeping the community updated. Please send them your new staff announcement, farewells and program updates to lagermes@ohsu.edu to be included in the next newsletter.

This newsletter is published by
[OHSU/ Partnership Project](#).

Our thanks to OHA HIV Care and Treatment Program for website posting distribution of the newsletter.

The editor is Julia Lager-Mesulam.

Comments/questions about this publication should be directed to:

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 5525 SE Milwaukie Ave. Portland, OR 97202

This issue, and issues from January 2011 on, can be found electronically [here](#)