



# PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

HIV ADVOCACY & SERVICES SINCE 1995

The Network  
News  
2013  
October Issue #162

OREGON HIV/AIDS CASE MANAGEMENT

## A Benefit for The Living Room

The Living Room is a safe space for LGBTQ youth to connect with each other and other resources in community. They host the Alternative Prom at Atkinson Memorial Church each year in Oregon City and put on the GSA summit in Clackamas County. They have successfully reached out to all high schools in Clackamas County and have established GSAs in almost all of them. Their future goals are to establish GSAs in all middle schools in Clackamas County and to obtain their 501c3 status.

On Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm, Darcelle will be hosting a fundraiser for The Living Room to raise the funds needed to apply for their 501c3 status. This is a great event going toward a wonderful cause. If you know Clackamas County, you know that the work they are doing is groundbreaking. Please help support The Living Room by attending this fun happy hour event. It's \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

To purchase tickets go to: [www.thelivingroomyouth.org](http://www.thelivingroomyouth.org).

## Next Meeting

### November 12th

Internalized  
Oppression in the  
African-American  
Community: Part II -  
Working Sensitive-  
ly with African-  
Americans

Danette C. Haynes,  
LCSW  
Clinical Director

### **Avel Gordly Center for Healing**

Oregon Health &  
Science University  
Department of  
Psychiatry

## **PARTNERSHIP PROJECT 5th Annual Thanksgiving Program PROVIDE A THANKSGIVING MEAL FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS**

**OHSU/PARTNERSHIP PROJECT is asking you to help  
provide Thanksgiving for HIV + individuals and families.  
About \$25 provides a meal and allows people to gather and  
celebrate—stress free**

**Your tax deductible donation can be sent to:**

**OHSU/PARTNERSHIP PROJECT  
5525 SE Milwaukie Ave Portland ,OR 97202**

**OR you can donate online at**

**[HTTP://WWW.OHSU.EDU/PARTNERSHIP/DONATE.HTML](http://www.ohsu.edu/partnership/donate.html)**

**CONTACT: Lauren Nathe, RN 503-230-1202 X236 [nathe@ohsu.edu](mailto:nathe@ohsu.edu)**

## SOCIAL SECURITY SERVES THOSE WHO'VE SERVED

By Alan Edwards-Social Security Public Affairs

On November 11, we honor our Nation's veterans for their service to America. What better time than now to tell you — and for you to help spread the word — about the many benefits and wealth of information Social Security has available for veterans and military personnel?

Social Security recognizes those who put their lives on the line for our freedoms. Members of the armed forces receive expedited processing of their Social Security disability applications. The expedited process is available for any military service member who became disabled during active duty on or after October 1, 2001, regardless of where the disability occurs. Some dependent children and spouses of military personnel may also be eligible to receive benefits.

Visit our website designed specifically for our wounded veterans: [www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors). There, you will find answers to a number of commonly asked questions, as well as other useful information about disability benefits available under the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. Please pay special attention to the fact sheet available on that website, *Disability Benefits for Wounded Warriors*.

You'll also find a webinar that explains the faster disability process available to wounded warriors. The program covers general information about Social Security disability benefits as well as topics unique to wounded service members. The online video is less than three minutes and a great introduction to disability benefits for veterans and active duty military.

On the same webpage, you'll also find links to useful Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense websites. The requirements for disability benefits available through Social Security are different than those from the Department of Veterans Affairs and require a separate application.

Military service members are covered for the same Social Security survivors, disability, and retirement benefits as everyone else. Although the expedited service is relatively new, military personnel have been covered under Social Security since 1957, and people who were in the service prior to that may be able to get special credit for some of their service.

To learn more about Social Security for current and former military service members, read *Military Service and Social Security*. It's available in our digital library at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs).

But first, take a look at the wounded warrior page at [www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors). The webinar, factsheet, and pertinent links will brief you on everything you need to know to "maneuver" your way through the Social Security process.

### Question:

I got an email that says it's from Social Security, but I'm not so sure. They want me to reply with my Social Security number, date of birth, and mother's maiden name for "verification." Did it really come from Social Security?

### Answer:

No. Social Security will not send you an email asking you to share your personal information, such as your Social Security number, date of birth, or other private information. Beware of such scams — they're after your information so they can use it for their own benefit. When in doubt, or if you have any questions about correspondence you receive from Social Security, contact your local Social Security office or call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to see whether we really need any information from you.

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Continued on next page

**Question:**

I'm thinking about getting a disability insurance policy from a private company. If I become disabled and have a private policy, would it reduce my Social Security disability benefit?

**Answer:**

No. Your eligibility for Social Security disability benefits is not affected by any private insurance you may have. However, worker's compensation and certain other public disability payments may affect your Social Security benefit. For more information go to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or call our toll free number 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

**Question:**

I had a serious leg injury three years ago and received disability benefits for about 19 months until I could return to work. Unfortunately, my leg problems have returned and I may not be able to continue working much longer. When I first applied for benefits, I waited five full months before I was eligible to receive my first check. If I reapply for benefits, will I again be subject to this waiting period?

**Answer:**

No. If you become disabled a second time within five years after your previous disability benefits stopped, there is no five month waiting period before benefits start. If your claim is approved, you can receive benefits for the first full month of disability. However, it can take from three to five months to get a decision on a disability claim, depending on how long it takes to obtain your medical records and any other information we need to decide whether you are disabled. You can help shorten this time by providing as much information as possible when you apply for benefits. For more information about applying for benefits, we suggest that you review our booklet, *Disability* at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs). You can apply online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability).

Looking for work? Interested in returning to the job market? **Working Choices** is a great resource for people who need support around employment—creating a resume and cover letter, networking, getting job leads, interview practice and more. We offer several workshops (listed below), career planning and support for you to meet your goals.

**Orientation:** *Tuesdays, 12 noon in Pivot*

Interested in learning more about what Working Choices can do for you? This Orientation Session is your first step.

**Open Lab:** *Drop-in hours: Mondays, 10am – 2pm in Pivot*

Open Lab is a self-directed job search session that aims to serve as a mini one-stop career center. Available resources include computers, phone, fax, and photocopies. Staff are available to assist you with all aspects of job search.

**Job Club:** *Group meeting: Wednesdays, 10am – 11:30am on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor*

Come network with your peers, gain helpful occupational information, share job leads, opportunities, and learn new skills and strategies. Job Club aims to work through issues and challenges that come up while searching for employment in a friendly, respectful setting.

Working Choices is part of the Aligned Partner Program through [WorkSource Oregon](http://WorkSource Oregon). We highly recommend that job seekers register with WorkSource Oregon, and take advantage of the wide variety of workshops, job opportunities and supports available to help people get back to work.

**Questions? Please contact Heather Salek 503.278.3812 or Katy Byrtus 503.278.3848.**

# Have you signed up for your reminders yet?



There's a better way to  
**REMEMBER**

**Free, confidential health reminders via text\* or email.**  
Oregon Reminders sends you health information and can remind you to take your HIV medicine, get tested for HIV/STDs, and more.

\*Standard Message and Service Fee apply.

[www.OregonReminders.org](http://www.OregonReminders.org)  
text "ORreminders" to 61827





[Oregon Reminders](#) is a FREE and confidential resource. Reminders are sent via text, email, or phone. You can customize your own reminders to test for STDs, to take medications, and to refill prescriptions. You can also sign up for weekly educational health tips. All the information stored in this system is secure, private and HIPAA compliant.

**We love it and think you will too!**

Click [HERE](#) to sign up now! **Make sure to tell CAP sent you!**



### Insurance Update

We are all aware that the insurance transition is not happening as we thought it would and our community has come together in an extremely collaboratively manner to ensure that clients apply as quickly and correctly as possible. I want to share some information for those who may not be as close to the process as others. Thank you to CAREAssist who created the document below which highlights what folks should do based on what insurance they currently have.

If you...	Currently have OHP/ Medicaid	Currently have Medicare	Currently have OMIP/ FMIP or PCIP	Currently have VA or an employer based insurance	Currently have a private policy	Are not eligible for health care within the Affordable Care Act	Currently have COBRA
<b>You will be eligible for...</b>	OHP or Medicaid	Medicare	OHP (under 138% of FPL) or a Silver Level Plan (above 138% FPL)	The same insurance you have now. No changes are expected for most people. Individuals under 138% of FPL do not need to enroll in OHP.	OHP (if you're under 138% of FPL) or a Silver Level Plan (above 138% FPL)	A Silver Level plan outside of Cover Oregon. CAREAssist will help you purchase insurance through an insurance agent.	OHP, a Silver Level plan or COBRA
<b>Am I required to change my health insurance ?</b>	No	No	Yes	No	Possibly	Yes	Possibly
<b>What do I need to do between Oct 1 and Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013?</b>	Nothing	Nothing	Enroll in OHP or any Silver Level plan through Cover Oregon.	Nothing, unless your employer based policy is expensive. Contact CAREAssist for more information.	Enroll in OHP or any Silver Level plan through Cover Oregon.	Enroll in a Silver Level plan outside of Cover Oregon. CAREAssist will connect you with an insurance agent.	Nothing

Next Page for where to resources on where to seek help

The message we want everyone to hear is: reach out to your Medical Case Manager or Assister associated with their HIV Medical Provider to complete this insurance transition.  
Here are the places that can be helpful

#### Medical Case Management Providers & Assisters

<http://www.ohsu.edu/partnership/> Partnership Project ( Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington and Columbia Counties)

<http://www.hivalliance.org/> HIV Alliance and Case Managers (Benton, Clatsop, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Lincoln, Linn, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Marion and Polk Counties)

<http://www.eocil.org/> EOCIL and Case Managers( Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler Counties)

<http://web.multco.us/health/hiv-health-services-center> ( Multnomah County HIV Clinic)

<https://healthy.kaiserpermanente.org/health/care/!ut/p/c5/> ( Kaiser IDC Clinic)

#### Assisters

<http://cascadeaids.org/cover-oregon> ( Assisters at Cascade AIDS Project)

#### State ADAP Program/Assisters

<http://www.oregon.gov/oha/pharmacy/CAREAssist/Pages/HealthCareReform.aspx>



12.1.13

GETTING TO  
**ZERO**

**ONE PERSON  
AT A TIME.**

[worldAIDSdayNW.org](http://worldAIDSdayNW.org)

This newsletter is published by  
[OHSU/ Partnership Project](http://www.ohsu.edu/partnership/).

Our thanks Barbara Danel for website posting and Karen Smith for distribution of the newsletter.

The editor is Julia Lager-Mesulam.

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or call (503) 230-1202, FAX (503) 230-1213,  
5525 SE Milwaukie Ave. Portland, OR 97202

This issue, and issues from Feb 2002 on, can be found electronically [here](#)