

## Materials for your use



We are excited to share a number of new materials available for you to print, disseminate or refer to as needed.

“HIV/AIDS: Know the Facts” brochures (visit <http://1.usa.gov/freemtrls>) were translated to Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, simplified Chinese, Cambodian, Swahili, Somali and Farsi to expand access to basic information about HIV for Oregon’s diverse populations.

A fact sheet about viral load and HIV transmission (<http://1.usa.gov/V-load>) was

developed for persons living with HIV and their partners. The fact sheet includes information to help make decisions relating to condom use or starting treatment.

A fact sheet about Oregon law on consent for HIV and STD testing among minors (visit <http://1.usa.gov/minorslaw>) was developed to help answer questions OHA receives from both healthcare providers and community members.

A report titled “Sexual Health Disparities among Disenfranchised Youth” (view the report at <http://1.usa.gov/youthSHD>) was commissioned by the OHA Office of Family Health and produced by Portland State University to bring light to the sexual health disparities among seven subpopulations of youth.

## Demonstration project funding

On March 2, CDC notified us of its funding decisions regarding Oregon’s two demonstration project applications. OHA was awarded demonstration project funding to support the innovative use of technology for HIV prevention. Questions about this project may be directed to Dano Beck at [daniel.w.beck@state.or.us](mailto:daniel.w.beck@state.or.us).

OHA’s application for a Social Networks Strategy (SNS) HIV testing demonstration project was also approved, but did not rank high enough for funding at this time. The SNS application may be considered for funding should additional CDC funds become available in the future.

## Program planning update

The HIV Prevention Program is conducting program planning with the seven local health departments (LHDs) receiving 2012 CDC HIV prevention grant funding.

OHA requested and incorporated input on the draft workbook from these seven counties. As some CDC reporting requirements relating to LHD activities have not yet been determined, the workbook will be revised once these requirements are finalized.

This new, streamlined workbook will be used for both program planning and reporting purposes and referenced during quarterly check-ins. The information shared in the workbook and in the quarterly reports are critical to informing the jurisdictional (Oregon) HIV prevention plan to be submitted to CDC. This plan will serve to document the important HIV prevention work of LHDs and CBOs across the state, as well as unmet service needs.

## Upcoming events

### National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

March 20

Learn more at <http://bit.ly/nnhaad12>.

### LGBTQ Meaningful Care Conference

March 30

Portland, OR

Register at <http://bit.ly/MCC12>.

### STD Awareness Month

April

Learn more at <http://1.usa.gov/SAM12>.

### Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April

Learn more at <http://www.nsvrc.org/saam>.

## Order by mail

The OHA HIV Care and Treatment Program and the HIV Prevention Program have collaborated to implement a free, mail-order condom distribution program for clients enrolled in the Medical Therapy Management Program (MTMP). MTMP offers assistance with HIV medication adherence to clients who have had late medication refills or other indicators of non-adherence.

MTMP clients receiving medications via a mail-order pharmacy may elect to receive a large supply of condoms and lubricant with their medications every three months.



Alongside the condom distribution efforts of our local partners, OHA will continue to explore options for integrating condom distribution with other state-level systems serving Oregon's priority populations.

## HIV test form changes

OHA has revised Oregon's HIV test form with consideration of changes in CDC reporting requirements, input from local partners, and the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory's new laboratory information system.

The new HIV test form has fewer questions than the current form, reducing staff time spent on data collection. In April, the new test form will be implemented and online trainings will be offered. More information is forthcoming.

## Text messaging for Partner Services



Congratulations to Juan Mendez, Julie Maher and the Multnomah County Health Department for

bringing national attention to county's model use of text messaging for HIV/STD Partner Services.

Read about the county's success with this practice in a letter to the editor of *Sexually Transmitted Diseases* (see <http://bit.ly/MultLTE>).

## Syringe exchange funding update

In December 2011, Congress passed a law (HR 2055) reinstating the ban on using federal funds for syringe exchange. As a result, CDC HIV prevention grant funds may not be used

to support syringe services programs (SSPs). However, other funds may continue to be used to support SSPs in Oregon.

## Get to know Tuesday



Tuesday Johnson remains a leader in public health both locally and statewide. She is the HIV/HCV prevention coordinator/health educator for the Deschutes County (Bend)

Health Department and co-facilitator of the HIV/Viral Hepatitis/Sexually Transmitted Infection Integrated Planning Group.

Tuesday has successfully garnered law enforcement's support for harm reduction services for persons who inject drugs, which is a challenge in many areas of Oregon. Her approach involved presenting research on the benefits of harm reduction programs for both the community and law enforcement. As Tuesday stated, "Protecting the community involves proper needle disposal and disease prevention. Officers returning home safely to their families includes avoiding a needle stick during a pat down or other situation involving persons who inject drugs."

In 2011 alone, the Deschutes County Harm Reduction Program received more than 25,000 used syringes (not including those placed in syringe disposal boxes) and distributed more than 31,000 clean syringes. Tuesday hopes to take even more used syringes off the streets with the use of a mobile van this spring. She shares that "a mobile van is essential in an area such as Deschutes county where over 100,000 residents are dispersed over 3,000 square miles and many clients do not have reliable transportation."

Deschutes County has seen an increase in syphilis and HIV cases among men who have sex with men. In response, Tuesday's efforts have included raising awareness among local providers and promoting culturally sensitive risk assessments among men seeking testing.

Tuesday leads an HIV/Viral Hepatitis education class in the local jail. The course reached 75 inmates in 2011. Inmates may receive Hepatitis C testing, as well as Hepatitis A and B vaccinations.

After a year of helping establish the new Integrated Planning Group, Tuesday co-facilitated the first meeting of the new advisory group in January. The group represents a "great opportunity to provide the best services for all Oregonians throughout the continuum of prevention and care related to HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections. We have an amazing group of people from which to draw both personal and professional experience."

What keeps Tuesday motivated? "Working with and learning from all types of people and seeing the transformation of a person once you gain his/her trust. It is my hope that every person I serve feels that I treated them in a non-judgmental manner. People are judged every day throughout their life. That doesn't need to be the case when they access health services." Thank you for your insight and leadership, Tuesday. Your efforts continue to have a positive impact across Oregon!

### Program contacts

County	Contact
Benton, Douglas, Josephine, Lane, Linn, Tillamook	Larry Hill
Clatsop, Deschutes, Hood River	Cessa Karson-Whitethorn
Klamath, Lincoln, Yamhill	Loralee Trocio
Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington	Cessa Karson-Whitethorn/Loralee Trocio
Jefferson, Marion, Polk, Umatilla	Cessa Karson-Whitethorn/Larry Hill
Jackson	Larry Hill/Loralee Trocio

\*Larry Hill: 971-673-0162 or [larry.d.hill@state.or.us](mailto:larry.d.hill@state.or.us); Cessa Karson-Whitethorn: 971-673-0150 or [cessa.karson@state.or.us](mailto:cessa.karson@state.or.us); Loralee Trocio: 971-673-0165 or [loralee.j.trocio@state.or.us](mailto:loralee.j.trocio@state.or.us).