



PREVENTION WORKS IN MAINE

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION EDUCATION FOR SEXUAL HEALTH

A newsletter for health educators working with school aged youth

VOL #3, APR 2013

THE COLLEAGUE CORNER

Partnerships with youth



Just a reminder that our 8th Annual Comprehensive Sexuality Conference takes place on April 4, 2013. This year's theme is, "Make Every Second Count: Create Timeless Partnerships with

Youth," and features Project AWARE and their newly

released video, "[Two Seconds](#)." All attendees will receive a copy of the DVD.

There is still some room available and time for you to register so do it today by going to: [Family Planning Association of Maine](#). If you have any questions, please let me know. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Jean Zimmerman, Program Coordinator

AWARENESS

Infections we need to know about

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are a serious problem in Maine as well as the rest of the country. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has released some alarming statistics on the extent of the problem. They estimate an annual number of new cases to be almost 20 million.

Together with existing cases, there are an estimated 110 million Americans infected with an STI. The total medical costs

are estimated at \$16 billion annually.

The eight most common STIs per year are Hepatitis B (19,000), HIV (41,400), Syphilis (55,400), Genital Herpes (776,000), Gonorrhea (820,000), Trichomoniasis (1,090,000), Chlamydia (2,860,000), and Genital Warts (14,100,000).

Both genital herpes and warts are not curable so CDC estimates that there are 24,100,100 Americans who are

Awareness continued on pg. 2--

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Apr 4:

[Comprehensive Sexuality Education Conference](#)

Make Every Second Count: Create Timeless Partnership with Youth, Augusta Civic Center

May 14:

[Comprehensive School Health Education Conference](#)

Plugging Health Education into the Digital World, Thomas College, Waterville

Jun 24-26:

[Maine Schoolsite Health Promotion \(Wellness\) Conference](#)

Sugarloaf Mountain Resort



Did
you
know. . .

--Did You Know continued

awareness and anti-stigma campaign, [Let's Stop HIV Together](#). It was launched in July 2012 and features people living with HIV and their loved ones or friends. The campaign raises awareness about the impact of HIV and reduces stigma by showing that people living with HIV are mothers, fathers, friends, partners, brothers, sisters, coworkers, sons, and daughters. People living with HIV are part of the fabric of our families and valued members of our communities. The campaign is a part of CDC's [Act Against AIDS](#) initiative, which was launched by the White House, the Department of Health and Human Services, and CDC in 2009. ✦

- While approximately 20% of HIV-infected Americans do not know they are infected, this figure is 25% among American Indians/Alaska Natives. American Indians/Alaska Natives diagnosed with HIV infection or AIDS have one of the shortest survival times of all ethnic or racial groups, suggesting that they may be diagnosed late in the course of their infection or have limited access to care.
- May 1 is the National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. See [The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy](#) for more info.
- We are excited to share information about the expansion of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) HIV

Continued--

--Awareness continued from pg. 1

living with genital herpes and a staggering 79,100,900 who have HPV (the virus that causes genital warts). As a matter of fact, most sexually active men and women in this country will get HPV at some point in their lives. The HPV vaccine is recommended for all 11-12 year old boys and girls and is most effective prior to initiation of sex. This vaccine helps to protect against some of the most common forms of HPV that can cause cancer.

All sexually active individuals should get tested at least once a year. Many STIs are symptomless until they have caused permanent damage. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention has launched a new campaign at: www.seeMEtested.com to focus attention on having sexually active individuals get tested. ✦

CONTACT INFO

HIV Prevention Education Program
Me. Department of Education
23 State House Station
Augusta, Me 04333-0023
(physical: 111 Sewall St)
<http://www.maine.gov/education/hiv>
Phone: (207) 624-6692
Email: hiv.doe@maine.gov

QUICK LINKS

[Family Planning Association of Me](#)
[HIV/AIDS Info Resource](#)
[HIV, STD, and Viral Hepatitis Program](#), MCDC
[Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey](#)
[Teen and Young Adult Health Program](#), MCDC