



PREVENTION WORKS IN MAINE

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION EDUCATION FOR SEXUAL HEALTH

A newsletter for health educators working with school aged youth

VOL #2, DEC 2012

COLLEAGUE CORNER

Working together for an AIDS free generation.

December 1 is World AIDS Day, a time to reflect on the impact of HIV in this country and around the globe. There is a disproportionate impact of HIV on youth; of the 50,000 people infected with HIV each year, 25% are between the ages of 13 to 24 years old. To make matters worse, 60% of these youth are unaware they are infected.

About 70% of youth were infected with HIV through male-to-male sex, 20% from heterosexual sex, 4% from injection drug use and about 4% from a combination of male-to-

male sex and injection drug use. 86% of young females got HIV through heterosexual sex.

One of the more alarming statistics that I recently read noted that 20% of youth who were born with HIV did not know their HIV status when they first became sexually active.

The study went on to say that of those youth who did know they had HIV, most reported they had not told their partner prior to sexual activity.

So how do we get to an AIDS free generation? Clearly we need to continue to stress to our young people the need to delay initiation of sex as long as possible as well as to use condoms when

they do become sexually active and to help them develop the skills necessary to do so.

Another important tool is for youth to know their HIV status. Only 14% of Maine high school students have ever been tested for an STD including HIV so there is plenty of work to be done (see [HIVTest](#)).

Wishing all of you and your families a very happy holiday season.

Sincerely,



UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date:

April 4, 2013

**Comprehensive
Sexuality Education
Conference**

Augusta, Maine

WORLD AIDS DAY

Check out these excellent resources for World AIDS Day. We encourage you to share with your students, co-workers, parents, family members, etc:

HIV Prevention in the U.S.:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/newsroom/HIVFactSheets/Epidemic/index.htm>

Let's Stop HIV Together:

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/LetsStopHIV/>



Did
you
know. . .

Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey

The 2011 Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS) web site is finally operational at:

<https://data.mainepublichealth.gov/miyhs/>

Let us know if you have any questions or need assistance with obtaining your data.

- Family Planning Association has a new website- www.maineteenhealth.org- which is a great resource for teens' sexual health questions. Colorful posters and wooden nickels are available free to teachers. If interested, contact 622-7524.
- Family Planning is offering to all Maine middle and high schools free copies of their new DVD, [Two Seconds](#), developed with Project Aware and a cast of Maine students. Email lkaplowitz@fpam.org to get a copy for your school.

In recognition of World AIDS Day, 2012

Please join Maine CDC's HIV, STD & Viral Hepatitis Program and the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Me for a panel discussion:

“FEET ON THE GROUND”

Members of Maine's public health community will discuss their experiences in the global fight to end HIV/AIDS in: Zambia, Guinea, Botswana, Zanzibar, Vietnam, and Haiti

Monday December 3, 2012
9am-11:30am

Holocaust and Human Rights Center, Klahr Center
University of Maine, Augusta Campus
46 University Drive, Augusta ME

CONTACT INFO

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QUICK LINKS

[Family Planning Association of Me](#)
[HIV/AIDS Info Resource](#)
[HIV, STD, and Viral Hepatitis Program, MCDC](#)