



Positive Advocate

Fall 2014

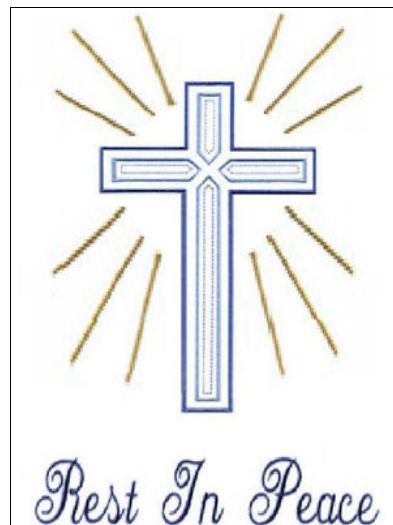
A publication of the Affected Communities Committee of the HIV Health Services Planning Council

My Friend Debra

By Mark Underwood, Affected Communities Committee Chair

On August 9, 2014, I and the community at-large lost a very important person, Debra Drayton. I had known Debra for over ten years, having met her at the Client Advisory Panel of Cares Community Health. Debra was not only a long-time member and past vice-chair of the Affected Communities Committee, she had also been an HIV Health Services Planning Council member since 2006. When I decided to become a volunteer for Cares Community Health, in 2011, Debra trained me. We also had Thanksgiving dinner at her house every year, because she knew that I was alone with no immediate family in Sacramento.

Debra worked for Volunteers of America and also Community Against Sexual Harm. She was heavily involved with both Sunburst Projects and Cares Community Health. Debra made a significant impact in the HIV/AIDS Community by being a strong advocate, and was passionate about getting people tested for HIV. Debra's desire to help was always evident. She would even feed homeless people in her neighborhood. Debra will be greatly missed by me and the entire community.



Open enrollment: Open enrollment for 2015 coverage begins November 15, 2014 and ends February 15, 2015.

Comprehensive Health Care Coverage

Available through Covered California (Covered CA)

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) ensures that all legal U.S. residents are able to obtain affordable health care coverage, regardless of any pre-existing conditions. Legal California residents are able to get affordable private health care coverage from a variety of plans through Covered CA.

Open enrollment: Open enrollment for 2015 coverage begins November 15, 2014 and ends February 15, 2015. **Special Enrollment periods:** Special enrollment periods occur within 60 days of a qualifying life event such as: a job loss, death of a spouse, birth of a child, became a new resident of the state, released from incarceration, etc. For a complete list of qualifying events, contact Covered CA (see contact information below).

There are Four Levels of Coverage: *Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze:*

Speak to an enrollment counselor who can help choose a plan and level of coverage that would best cover your specific health care and financial needs.

- **Enhanced Silver Plan** - Individuals who earn between 138% and 200% (\$16,105 – \$23,340 for individuals)* of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) will have the lowest out-of-pocket costs by choosing a plan with this level of coverage.
- **Platinum Plans** - Individuals who earn more than 200% FPL* and up to \$50,000 can minimize their out-of-pocket costs by selecting a plan with this level of coverage.

**Based on 2014 FPL*

Contact a Covered CA Certified Enrollment Counselor for details.

Income has to be more than:	For a family size of:
\$16,105	1
\$21,707	2
\$27,310	3
\$32,913	4

Is Your Doctor in the Network?

Contact your doctor's office to find out if they are in the Covered CA network or if they plan to join the network. If not, you can visit the Covered CA website to find a suitable doctor in your area.

If you enroll in a health care plan through Covered CA and qualify for ADAP:

- **ADAP will be able to help with your drug co-pays and deductibles** for drugs on the ADAP formulary that are dispensed from a pharmacy that is in-network for the Covered CA health insurance plan and ADAP.
- **OA-HIPP may be able to pay your monthly insurance premiums** for clients who are co-enrolled in ADAP and take the maximum federal subsidy.

Penalties if you don't get coverage: ACA requires adults enroll in a public or private health insurance or face a federal financial penalty.

- In 2015, the fine will be 2 percent of yearly income above the tax filing threshold of \$10,150 for an individual or \$325 per person, whichever is more. For adults with children, the fine for a child without coverage will be \$47.50.
- By 2016, the fine will be 2.5 percent of yearly income above the tax filing threshold or \$695 per person, whichever is more.
- Fines will be enforced by the Internal Revenue Service based on the number of months without coverage.

For more information visit the Covered CA website at: www.CoveredCA.com or call (800) 300-1506 where you can:

- Apply for private insurance or Medi-Cal; and
- Find a location for a Covered CA Certified Enrollment Counselor or a County Human Services Agency to apply in person.

For assistance enrolling in Covered California or Medi-Cal, please contact Cares Community Health at 916-443-3299 for a Benefits and Enrollment Counseling appointment.

Basic HIV Statistics from the Center for Disease Control

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/statistics.html>

Q. How many people become infected with HIV each year in the United States?

- A. About 50,000 people get infected with HIV each year. In 2010, there were around 47,500 new HIV infections in the United States.

Q. How many people are living with HIV in the United States?

- A. About 1.1 million people in the United States were living with HIV at the end of 2010, the most recent year this information was available. Of those people, about 16% do not know they are infected.

Q. How does CDC know who is infected but does not know it?

- A. CDC estimates the number of people living with HIV (called *prevalence*) by using a scientific model. This model helps CDC estimate the number of new HIV infections and how many people are infected but don't know it. HIV prevalence is the number of people living with HIV infection at a given time, such as at the end of a given year.

Q: How does HIV affect different groups of people?

- A. There are different ways to answer this question.

If we look at HIV infection by race and ethnicity, we see that African Americans are most affected by HIV. In 2010, African Americans made up only 12% of the US population, but had 44% of all new HIV infections. Additionally, Hispanic/Latinos are also strongly affected. They make up 17% of the US population, but had 21% of all new HIV infections.

If we look at HIV infections by how people got the virus (*transmission category*), we see that men who have sex with men (MSM) are most at risk. In 2010, MSM had 63% of all new HIV infections, even though they made up only around 2% of the population. Individuals infected through heterosexual sex made up 25% of all new HIV infections in 2010.

There are also variations by age. Young people, aged 13-24 are especially affected by HIV. They comprised 16% of the US population, but accounted for 26% of all new HIV infections in 2010. All young people are not equally at risk, however. Young MSM, for example, accounted for 72% of all new infections in people aged 13-24, and young, African American MSM are even more severely affected.



Cares Community Health offers free STD/HIV Testing Services on the following days/times:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Advance Health Care Directives

There may come a time when you are unable to speak for yourself regarding your own health care. If so, who do you want making the decisions for you? To ensure your wishes regarding *your* healthcare are heard, you can execute an Advance Health Care Directive in the event you become incapacitated.

Advance Health Care Directives (AHCD) allows *you* to appoint a health care agent and prepare instructions for *your* healthcare. Appointing a health care agent gives the legal authority to the individual whom you select, to make *decisions for you regarding your healthcare* should you be no longer able to speak for yourself. Likewise, instructions for health care are written instructions specifically for your future health care needs.

When selecting someone to be your health care agent, choose someone you trust. The person selected should understand your healthcare wishes and the responsibility of being a healthcare agent. Choosing someone who lives geographically close to you can be beneficial if your treatment continues for an extended period of time.



The individual whom you select for your health care agent does not have power over your finances. Should you wish to have someone handle your finances in the event you become unable to do so, you can prepare documents regarding your financial matters as well.

UNDERSTANDING HIV MEDICATIONS CONSUMER FORUM

September 17, 2014
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

UC Davis

Cancer Center Auditorium

4501 X Street #2, Sacramento, CA 95817

Food will be provided

Please RSVP with the HIV Health Services Planning Council Staff 916-876-5548

Or via e-mail at: HIV-HSPC@SacCounty.net



The Sacramento TGA's HIV Health Services Planning Council and Committee Meeting Schedules

- 1st Monday of Every Month:
(Except Holidays) **Affected Communities Committee:** 4:30—5:30 p.m. at Cares
Community Health, 1500 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95811.
Conference Room C/D
- 1st Tuesday of Every Month: **Prevention Committee:** 1:00—2:00 p.m. at the
Primary Care Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Conference Room 2020
- 1st Tuesday of Every Month: **Quality Advisory Committee:** 2:00—3:00 p.m. at the
Primary Care Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Conference Room 2020
- 1st Tuesday of Every Month: **Needs Assessment Committee:** 3:00—4:30 p.m. at the
Primary Care Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Conference Room 2020
- 2nd Monday of Every Month: **Priorities and Allocations Committee:** 10—12:00 p.m. at the
Primary Care Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Conference Room 2020
- 2nd Thursday of Every Month: **Executive Committee:** 3:00—5:00 p.m. at Cares
Community Health, 1500 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95811.
1st Floor Boardroom
- 4th Wednesday of Every Month: **HIV Health Services Planning Council:** 10—12 p.m. at the
(Except Nov/Dec: 12/10/14) Primary Care Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Conference Room 2020

Primary Care Parking: There is free parking on the LOWER LEVEL in the parking structure.

Cares Community Health Parking: There is limited parking in the Cares Community Health parking lot.
There is plenty of metered street parking. The cost is 25 cents per 12 minutes.



Back Page



The **POSITIVE ADVOCATE** Newsletter is a quarterly information and outreach project. We welcome submissions from the affected community. For additional information about the Affected Communities Committee (ACC), HIV Health Services Planning Council (HHSPC), or this newsletter, contact: Paula Gammell at 916-876-5548

www.sacramento-tga.com

The **Affected Communities Committee** addresses issues facing the HIV/AIDS community and advises the Planning Council on community affairs. The mission of the committee is to recruit, empower, and involve people living with HIV/AIDS in the strategic planning and advocacy of HIV/AIDS care and services. These goals will be accomplished with the assistance of the Council support staff toward the fulfillment of its mission. The committee encourages an environment of trust and safety in achieving its mission. The Committee meets the first Monday of the Month, except holidays, at Cares Community Health, Conference Room D, 1500 21st Street, Sacramento.

RYAN WHITE CARE ACT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Cares Community Health - is a private, nonprofit community health center serving the greater Sacramento area. They use a medical home model of care, including preventive care, routine checkups, immunizations and management of acute and chronic illnesses.
1500 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95811
916.443.3299

CommuniCare - HIV medical care and support services
500-B Jefferson Blvd, Suite 195
West Sacramento, CA 95605
916.403.2970 ****Yolo County Residents only ****

Harm Reduction Services - Medical case management, Outreach and Testing
2800 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95817
916.456.4849

Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation - HIV/AIDS services serving both El Dorado and Placer Counties
Main number: 530.889.2437
Placer County: 12183 Locksley Lane, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95602
El Dorado County: 550 Pleasant Valley Road, Suite 1C
Diamond Springs, CA 95619

Strategies for Change - Medical case management and substance abuse outpatient services.
4343 Williamsborough Drive, Sacramento, CA 95823
916.473.5764

Sunburst Projects - childcare, mental health, and medical case management
1025 19th Street, Suite 1A, Sacramento, CA 95811
916.440.0889

Well Space Health - Medical case management, mental health services, and substance abuse—detox services

- 1820 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95811 — 916.236.4700
- 8233 E. Stockton Blvd, Suite D, Sacramento, CA 95828
916.368.3080

UCDMC Pediatric Infectious Disease - HIV+ children
2516 Stockton Blvd, Ticon II, Sacramento, CA 95817
916.734.7618