

AHP

OF THE
AIDS
HEALTH
PROJECT

events and services



JANUARY-MARCH 2012

The UCSF AIDS Health Project provides culturally sensitive counseling and education to stop the spread of HIV infection, and to help people face the emotional, psychological, and social challenges of living with HIV disease.

AHP Expands HIV Counseling and Testing Program: Increased Focus on HIV Status Awareness

As many as 20 percent of San Franciscans who have HIV do not know it, which means that they do not know that they might want to seek medical consultation or that they might transmit HIV to their partners. This startling statistic has led AHP to dramatically expand

at least every six months. "Since 1985, when AHP developed the city's first HIV counseling and testing program and the first large-scale anonymous HIV counseling and testing program in the United States, HCAT has provided more than 150,000 HIV test results," recounted HCAT Manager Barb Adler,

Twenty percent of San Franciscans who have HIV don't know it. This startling statistic has led AHP to dramatically expand its HIV Counseling and Testing Program as part of an ambitious plan to increase HIV status awareness community-wide.

its HIV Counseling and Testing (HCAT) Program as part of the San Francisco Department of Health's ambitious plan to increase HIV status awareness community-wide.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified HIV status awareness as a prevention priority, and the San Francisco HIV Prevention Planning Council now recommends that individuals at high risk for acquiring HIV test

LMFT. "HCAT's services have always been focused on getting information and support to clients at the time and in the place that helps them protect themselves and their partners. Now, we are where we need to be more often and in more places."

To achieve this goal and meet the increased demand for testing, HCAT has expanded its hours and outreach. Testing is now available six days a week,



AHP's HIV Counseling and Testing (HCAT) Services

**Free HIV Test—
results in 20 minutes!**

Come by during drop-in hours or call us to make an appointment or to learn about our other testing locations

Drop-In Hours

Wednesday-Friday
Noon to 5:00 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM to Noon

Evening times available
by appointment

1930 Market Street
@ Laguna

**CALL
415-502-TEST**



during daytime, evening, and late-night hours. In addition, HCAT is partnering with the Department of Public Health to provide additional referral services that assist newly diagnosed clients to access medical treatment, housing,

psychosocial support, and case management. These referrals also include partner notification services for those needing assistance in disclosing their status to sexual and injection partners.

continued on the reverse

To learn more about any of these groups, call 415-476-3902 and ask for the triage staff person. TTY number 415-476-3587. Most groups require an assessment process. Drop-in groups do not require an assessment or RSVP.

For People Regardless of HIV Status

ASAP (AIDS Substance Abuse Program) Drop-In Group for People with Substance Use Concerns
Thursdays, 10:30 am to noon. First-time attendees need to arrive 15 minutes early.

Sex & Sobriety*
A 14-week group focusing on topics such as navigating sober sexuality and attaining emotional intimacy. For gay men with at least six months of current, continuous sobriety from their drug(s) of choice.

SNAP Talk!
Thursdays, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at SF LGBT Center, 1800 Market Street. A drop-in group for gay and bisexual men in their 20s and 30s who are newcomers to the city and want to talk and get support about adjusting to life here.

Drugs, Alcohol, and Creative Arts Group
An 8-week group focusing on expressive arts (drawing, bodywork, meditation, and more) for anyone with current substance use concerns.

Aging*
A 14-week group for gay and bisexual men age 50 and up to talk about issues of aging in their lives.

Men's Group*
Ongoing group for gay and bisexual men exploring issues of mental and physical wellness.

Queer Women's Disability & Chronic Illness Group*
Ongoing group for lesbian, bisexual, queer and trans women to discuss their health challenges, learn self-care strategies, process common emotions, and explore strategies for working with health care providers.

Transgender Support Group*
On-going group for transgender and gender variant people who want to explore their gender, relationship issues, self esteem, and mental and physical well being. Open to all genders.


* Membership in groups marked with an asterisk (★) is limited based on income and insurance restrictions.

For HIV-Positive People and People with AIDS

Living and Thriving with HIV Support Groups
Ongoing groups to talk about relationships, dating, sex, aging, being positive in San Francisco, medical issues, and more. Ongoing groups require 3-month commitment.


New Positives Support Group
A 14-week group for people who have recently tested positive or who are new to dealing with their infection.

Drop-In Group for HIV-Positive People and People with AIDS
Mondays, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. General support group for anyone living with HIV.

Support Group for People Considering Returning to Work
For HIV-positive people who want to discuss the possibility of returning to work. 


HIV Status Awareness, continued from front

AHP's new outreach campaign aims to increase its community presence and take advantage of both social and print media opportunities. BART and MUNI station ads, to be posted this winter, will promote awareness of AHP's Testing Hotline: 415-502-TEST (8738). Community members can call to get information about our services and answers to questions about HIV and AIDS, the meaning of test results, how specific behaviors transmit HIV

and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and how to reduce HIV risk. HCAT has also debuted on both Twitter (@502TEST) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/415.502.TEST), where we post regular updates about services and other related news and events. To find out more about HCAT and how to get a test, call us at 415-502-TEST or go to AHP's web site—www.ucsf-ahp.org—and click on "Getting a Test" in the navigation bar. 

Commemorative Art Installation at AIDS Health Project

In 1997 Bay Area artist Dennis Peak created a mosaic art installation at the AHP Services Center. Peak cast each tile in clay and glazed it with a person's name, giving life to the mosaic's image—the "face of AHP"—and offering those in our community a way to honor, remember, and memorialize the names of family and friends who have touched their lives.

AHP offers the opportunity to name individual tiles in the mosaic for \$500 with discounts for additional tiles. Proceeds help AHP meet its ever-growing needs. For additional information, please contact Jose Portillo at 415-502-7276 or jose.portillo@ucsf.edu. 

LOOKING BACK / LOOKING FORWARD

15TH ANNUAL ART FOR AIDS A GREAT SUCCESS

AHP's 15th annual **Art for AIDS** auction raised more than \$193,000 on Friday, September 23. The auction, staged at the beautiful **Galleria at the San Francisco Design Center**, offered 170 works of modern and contemporary art during an evening of active silent and live auction bidding.

High bidders took home works by local and world-renowned artists such as **Bean Finneran, Paul Gibson, Kristine Mayes, Rex Ray, Catherine Mackey, Jock Sturges, and David Smith Harrison** to name just a few. Guests enjoyed a live performance by the very talented singer and artist **Franc D'Ambrosio** (the Phantom of the Opera) paired with fantastic food from **Anchor & Hope Restaurant, Canela Bistro Bar, Dolores Park Cafe, First Crush, Gelateria Naia, Garibaldi's, Laurel Court Restaurant and Bar, Kara's Cupcakes, Marinita's, Tres, 'wichcraft, Tommy Toy's Cuisine Chinoise**, great wine, and **Ketel One** cocktails.

A big **thank you** to the generous artists, performers, restaurants, and beverage purveyors who donated to the event! Eighty extraordinary volunteers and all of the AHP staff helped to make this year's auction a grand success.

If you couldn't make it to the event, view the art and learn more about **Art for AIDS** at www.artforaids.org. 