



Volunteer Bulletin

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FEBRUARY 2006

Agency Plans for the Year

Welcome back for what promises to be another exciting and eventful year at AIDS Vancouver! Looking ahead we are enthusiastic about finalizing both our Strategic Plan and Communication Plan. These two necessary 'building blocks' will aid in our construction and implementation of our operational plan. Importantly, the Strategic Plan will provide us with measures to assess the impact of our activities. This significant tool will allow us to confirm that what we are in fact doing is what we say we are doing.

In 2006 we intend to build on our successes and strengths to date in an effort to provide clients with a comprehensive range of services. We endeavour to continue to provide the extensive list of services that we currently offer, while identifying and reaching out to populations that may be underserved.

As we plan on expanding our library to include an information resource center, we are excited about our partnership with four of the largest HIV/AIDS libraries in the country through project *Connect*. This will enable clients and community members to access a wellspring of information and resources.

While remaining to work collaboratively with our traditional partners in the HIV/AIDS community, we will continue to pursue new initiatives and sources of funding to better and more effectively develop our services and programs, particularly in the areas of prevention, care and support and information resources.

In August the XVI International AIDS Conference will be held in Toronto. It has been 10 years since this important event was held in Vancouver and only the second time it has been convened in Canada. AV aims to be an active participant in many of the events, both through sharing our experiences, as well as learning from others around the world.

We are confident that we will be able to accomplish these objectives in large measure due to the support and generosity of our volunteers. Through the gifts of your interests and skills, we hope to continue to build and grow. Together, I am sure we will have another remarkable year here at AV.

With warm regards,
William Booth
Executive Director

Spring For Life is Recruiting Volunteers!

Spring For Life is a national HIV/AIDS fundraising and awareness campaign held in major cities across Canada. In Vancouver, all proceeds raised from this event go to AIDS Vancouver, Friends For Life and YouthCO.



**Outreach Volunteers are needed to sell gerbera daisies in downtown Vancouver locations
March 24, 25, and 27-31, 2006.**

We are looking for volunteers who are:

- Friendly, outgoing and comfortable working with diverse people
- able to responsibly handle cash transactions
- interested in raising public awareness about HIV/AIDS
- able to lift up to 20 pounds
- able to commit 4 to 8 hours of volunteer time during the event

We are also looking for several Volunteer Drivers to transport flowers to and from various downtown event locations. Drivers must have a valid driver's license and have access to a vehicle. Drivers will be reimbursed for their mileage.

**Orientation sessions will be held
March 14 and March 16, 2006.**

For more information or to volunteer -
contact LINDSAY: LTallman@interchange.ubc.ca

Holiday Grocery 2005



Well another Holiday Grocery has come and gone.

This year's event was a HUGE success. Each client walked out with three bags of nutritious and festive food. The training room was beautifully decorated and the food filled the room with a festive sight: cereals, fruits, vegetables, and hams. It was wonderful to see.

Over 900 bags were distributed during the two day event, which is an increase from last year.

I would like to send out a special acknowledgement to:

Our Holiday Grocery Volunteers:

- Grocery Program volunteers who did a fantastic job. They worked tirelessly to get everything ready, over the weeks, prior and during the event. They richly deserve our congratulations for a job well done.
- Agency staff, volunteers, friends and family members who assisted during the event.
- Pacific Palisades Hotel staff – a team of energetic staff. Their support is greatly appreciated!



Our Generous Sponsors:

- Pacific Palisades Hotel
- Gilead Sciences
- St. Paul's Hospital
- SFU Co-op Staff
- Nester's Market
- The Chateau Granville Hotel
- Vancouver Food Bank

Thanks again everyone for a fun and festive event, and I look forward to working with all of you next year!

Sincerely,
Willow Lloyd, Grocery Coordinator



Library: Information by email and on-line

NEW ACQUISITIONS

October—December 2005

Find out about the books and videos recently acquired by the PARC Library! This list of titles is sorted by subject and whenever possible, the address of the electronic version is provided. Would you like to receive this list by email? You can subscribe by calling us (604-893-2294) or sending an email to library@aidsvancouver.org. Your email address will not be used for any other purpose and will not be sold or passed on to any other organization.



LIST OF INDEXED JOURNALS

The library receives on a regular basis around 50 different journals and newsletters. 31 of these titles are indexed in order to access information

quickly and more precisely. These journals explore HIV/AIDS related issues, ranging from scholarly peer-reviewed research journals to journals and newsletters written from a consumer health perspective. Find more information about our journals in this list, available in the library. You can also receive it by email.

ONLINE CATALOGUE

Since August 2005, the PARC Library's online catalogue has received almost 2,000 visits. Check it out! Features include a simple keyword search form as well as an advanced search form with indexes for complex queries that give you access to over 4,000 book titles, over 650 video titles, and articles from more than 30 journals

Prevention and Awareness

AIDS Vancouver's three HIV Prevention and Awareness Educators are Olivier Ferlatte, Michael Mancinelli and Mandip Kharod. We welcome this opportunity to share with AIDS Vancouver volunteers a little bit of what we have been up to.

The Educators have been busy revising AIDS Vancouver's educational workshops that we provide to volunteers and the community at large. Updated workshops on HIV the Basics, Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infections will be ready and available for delivery soon. We are also in the process of researching and updating information on HIV and various population groups for the agency website.

The Educators have been working with Community Outreach Team volunteers to raise awareness and provide information at various community outreach events. World AIDS Day was a busy day at a number of local colleges and universities. Agency staff and volunteers showed up in significant numbers to distribute materials, conduct a survey, and just to chat with students about their concerns and opinions on issues related to HIV/AIDS.

The number of workshop requests from groups in the community continues to be impressive. Prevention staff have facilitated discussions with such groups as the Immigrant Services Society, women prisoner groups, churches, post-secondary students and treatment and recovery centre clients.

Educators have also been attending various conferences on HIV, harm reduction, sexual health and other related issues. These conferences have provided the opportunity to share information about the agency, to learn about issues and topics relevant to

our work, and to network with colleagues in similar fields.

Finally, participation on a number of community committees and coalition groups has also been a priority for the Educator team. Such coalitions include:

- Keeping the Door Open - a multi-stakeholder group looking at issues of drug policy
- GaMMa - the Gay Men's Methamphetamine Group
- The National Blueprint for Action on HIV and Women in Canada

The Educators look forward to meeting and working with AV volunteers on all these exciting initiatives and more!

Michael Mancinelli, Mandip Kharod and Olivier Ferlatte
HIV Prevention and Awareness Educators

**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER
WEEK,
April 23 to April 29**

**The theme for this year is
"Volunteers Grow
Community"**

**A heartfelt thank you goes
out to the volunteers of
AIDS Vancouver for the
work they do – helping
out, giving back and
having fun.**

**Watch for your
Recognition Event
Invitation coming soon!**



A staff picnic in Emery Barnes park provided a chance for staff from all of our sites to get together and network

Submission Deadline: May 1st, 2006

AIDS Vancouver Volunteer Resources Program Philosophy:

Volunteer Resources strives to build organizational commitment and competency by providing meaningful and relevant volunteer opportunities that support and enhance the mission of AIDS Vancouver. Paid and unpaid staff work together to alleviate vulnerabilities to HIV/AIDS.

Production of this resource has been made possible through a financial contribution from the AIDS Community Action Program, the Public Health Agency of Canada.

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the official policies of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Volunteer Opportunities

Boys R Us
Care Teams
Gay Men's Meth Outreach Project
Gayway - Gayze Contributing Editor
Gayway - Gayze Editorial Board Member
Gayway - Photographer/Illustrator

Gayway Distributor
Gayway Press Corp
Grocery Program (Set up, Distribution or Delivery)
Professional Counselling Program
Spring for Life Driver
Spring for Life Outreach Team

If interested please call our Information line at: **604-893-2266**

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