

### Get Screened Oakland: The Highlights

#### **"Examen de VIH. Gratis." 50 people screened at Cinco De Mayo Commemorations**

(May 4) With condoms, brochures, sweet treats, giveaways, and a small army of Spanish speaking HIV test counselors, Oakland's annual Cinco de Mayo festival was celebrated in style at the community HIV testing booth. Beginning at 10:00 a.m. and working non-stop until 4:00 p.m., staff members from La Clinica de la Raza, CAL-PEP, Alameda County Medical Center, Alameda County Office of AIDS, Asian Health Service, Brighter Beginnings, and Get Screened Oakland distributed 20, 000 to 25,000 condoms and brochures about HIV testing.

Following a procession of cars, local celebrities (including Oakland City Council Chair Ignacio de la Fuente), beauty queens, bands, and caballeros on stallions, thousands of passersby—individuals, couples and families—stopped at the booth to talk about HIV, pick up information and condoms, ask about other sexually transmitted diseases, and find out where HIV tests are performed during the week. Trading in his sun visor for a Mexican style el rancho hat, Benito Hernandez encouraged everyone to "toma la prueba, sientate y espera ls resultados, vinga minutos. Gratis." Fifty festival goers took him up on the offer. One test had a preliminary positive result.

Angel Fabian, HIV Prevention Program Manager for La Clinica, coordinated the HIV outreach screening with staff from Get Screened Oakland. Thank you Lavelle, Carlton, Carla, Koji, Benito, Betto, Alvaro, Daniela, Damon, Dynell and Angel for making the activities at Cinco de Mayo such a success.

*Strolling International Boulevard, the Cinco de Mayo festival goers ate tamales, tacos, pupusas, and tropical fruit, listened to a variety of musical performances; and participated in the try-your-luck raffles, dart games, ring tosses, and bronco riding contests, among other carnival games and amusement.*

#### **HIV Providers meet to discuss HIV and LGBT Issues**

April 8) HIV service providers met to discuss the needs of Oakland's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community. Get Screened Oakland convened the meeting as one in a series of outreach meetings to discuss HIV and the needs of Oakland's diverse LGBT community.

Conversation began with individuals who deliver HIV prevention, care, and mental health services presenting some of the issues that have been raised during past outreach meetings. The issues were as follows:

- Difficulty reaching the intended potential client group
- Absence of a visible HIV-focused LGBT community in the East Bay
- Limited community support services for African American men who have sex with men (MSM)
- Lack of HIV mental health services for African American MSM
- Lack of mental health and community support services for Oakland's Latino LGBT community
- Absence of a community meeting place/social support network and sanctuary for MSM of color, where issues can be examined
- Insufficient cultural sensitivity in all areas of HIV service delivery for LGBT persons of color

Meeting participants agreed that a few local services offer interventions that effectively address the needs identified by MSM seeking services and those providing them. However, more are needed—as are new resources and funding to support their development.

In a discussion of the differences between service delivery for people of color and for whites, conversation first centered on the "isms" and the need for organizations to address racism, homophobia, and stigma on both an agency and program level—especially in the areas of accessibility, program content, marketing, and messaging. Participants then shared some of their experiences responding to issues of racism and homophobia within HIV and LGBT communities as well as communities of color. They suggested ways for service providers to make strategic changes that reflect today's diverse realities. Areas in need of enhancement include the following: staffing at all levels; program design and description; marketing messages, providers of marketing services, program collaborations across communities of color; and overall cultural competence.

When strategic changes in staffing were explored, participants pointed out that it is not just a matter of hiring people of color; it is also a matter of hiring staff who reflect all aspects of the community at every level of an organization. The challenges and unease about working with diverse populations who have diverse needs are serious issues to work through, and organizations and their staffs must be prepared to participate in the hard work that is required over the long term. And if the goal is to make it "O.K." for diverse populations to address their HIV-related health concerns while using local services, organizations must show a serious commitment to working out issues of diversity and cultural competence.

The meeting concluded with the consensus that some immediate steps must be taken, since HIV remains a serious public health issue. People living with or at risk of HIV infection are looking for places to go. How to expand and enhance currently existing services and how to develop new ones that are user-friendly are the next challenges. Representatives from La Clinica de la Raza, Alameda County Medical Center, Pacific Center, and Alameda County Office of AIDS, as well as members of the Alameda County LGBT community and people living with HIV attended the meeting. Follow-up meetings are being planned.

### **Lawyers discuss and debate current issues in HIV and the Law**

(April 8-10) More than 125 lawyers, advocates, and public health experts from the U.S. and Canada gathered at the annual American Bar Association AIDS Coordinating Committee Conference, HIV/AIDS Law and Practice: From Local Client to Global Workplace. The biennial conference featured four plenary sessions, more than 20 workshops and roundtable discussions, two networking events, and several panel discussions. The session covered a range of themes, with titles that included: *Are Your Clients Ready?*; *Employer Obligations to HIV Positive Employees*; *Labor/Management Collaborations: A Brave New World to Paying for HIV Care and Treatment*; *Immigrating, Traveling, and Working Abroad with HIV*; and *Fighting HIV/AIDS: What is a Corporation's Responsibility?*

#### Opening Plenary

Attorney Shelley Hayes, Chair of the AIDS Coordinating Committee, welcomed attendees during the opening plenary. She challenged everyone to go beyond the usual discussions and to think about HIV in a different context: people are not only living with HIV, they are also remaining in the workforce. Acknowledging the ability of antiretroviral medications to keep people in good health, Ms. Hayes, explained that workplace protection, accommodation, and labor-management collaboration are emerging as key HIV-related legal issues. She remarked, "With 40,000 new cases of HIV in the United States each year and more than four million new cases around the world annually, tools for advocates are not enough to win the fight against AIDS. We need *every* tool in the box, crossing legal specialties and disciplines, to battle this pandemic.

Continuing, she highlighted aspects of this year's conference. "We are expanding our conference to include a new track focused on businesses and their lawyers to encourage them to add fighting HIV/AIDS to their lists of corporate responsibilities. We have asked physicians, public health professionals, social workers, and others to join us." She added, "In previous years, we have focused on providing legal tools to advocates for people living with HIV/AIDS to protect the rights of those individuals; however, small businesses as well as multinational corporations face critical challenges in combating the AIDS pandemic. During our time together, we will explore cutting edge legal issues in the workplace, examining key linkages and challenges between employers, employees, and HIV."

## Implementation of CDC HIV Testing Recommendations

Get Screened Oakland's director, Marsha Martin, DSW, participated in a panel discussion, entitled *States Respond to the CDC's* [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's] *Routine HIV Testing Recommendations: An Update for Practitioners*. The panel shared examples of state and municipal strategies to implement the recommendations. Joining Dr. Martin as panelists were Andre Rawls, JD, Psy.D, former Chief of the Illinois HIV/AIDS Section at the Illinois Department of Health, and Scott Schoettes, JD, Staff Attorney of Lambda Legal HIV Project.

Dr. Rawls reviewed the CDC recommendations and walked the attendees through the implementation process that Illinois is using. She said the state had to create legislation to authorize changes to current testing laws in order to make HIV testing more accessible to the public. Dr. Rawls also described the local advocacy process and the protections Illinois is prepared to offer alongside HIV tests.

Scott Schoettes discussed the privacy and protection concerns that must be addressed before implementation to ensure that individual rights will be protected. In his presentation, Mr. Schoettes gave an overview of the concerns about rights that Lambda Legal's HIV Project has raised. Additionally, Mr. Schoettes highlighted some of the fundamental principles to guide implementation:

- Patients' human rights and informed consent must be consistent with, not opposed to, the goal of expanding HIV testing.
- Everyone offered testing must be educated about HIV and the significance of positive and negative test results.
- People who test positive for HIV antibodies must be linked to care.

Dr. Martin, whose experience includes key roles in managing HIV testing programs in Washington, D.C. and Oakland, Calif., outlined some of the ways large scale HIV screening programs can be developed on a municipal level. In her remarks, she said that implementing the CDC's recommendations is not a simple administrative task. If municipalities are to make HIV testing a routine part of medical care—which is the primary objective of the CDC's recommendations—they will have to identify and handle myriad issues. For example, concerns and challenges will have to be identified and addressed. Collaborations will have to be established and cultivated, and strategic community investments will have to be secured and wisely deployed. What's more, Dr. Martin said that the process involves just as much “undoing” of the status quo as it does putting in place the elements for an effective system of routine testing. She then reviewed the steps, challenges, and opportunities involved in the D.C. model and described the current collaborative opportunities in Mayor Ronald V. Dellums' HIV testing initiative in Oakland.

Here are some highlights from the conference's morning plenary sessions on Wednesday, April 9, and Thursday, April 10:

### Wednesday, April 10

This plenary comprised two presentations: *HIV in the Workplace: Global Demographics in 2008 and Beyond* by Dr. Allen Herman, MD, PhD, who is a native of South Africa and the founding Dean of the National School of Public Health of the Republic of South Africa, and *What's New? Federal Initiatives and Proposed Legislation* by Chris Cagle, PhD, who serves as Associate Director of Policy and Planning at CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention

Dr. Herman gave an update of the global epidemic, presenting the latest numbers (from 2005) of people living with HIV/AIDS by geographic region. He then turned his focus to the epidemic and workforce needs of the U.S. Because the numbers of people living with HIV in the U.S. will increase over the next decade, partnerships between public health, advocates, and lawyers will have to be expanded in order to increase community support and legal protections, he said.

The estimates Dr. Herman provided on the numbers of people living with HIV/AIDS by geographic region appear on the following page.

## Number of HIV Infections Per Region

Oceania: 78,000	North America: 1,300,000
North Africa & Middle East: 440,000	Eastern Europe & Central Asia: 1,500,000
East Asia: 680,000	Latin America: 1,600,000
Western & Central Europe: 720,000	South & South-east Asia: 7,600,000
United States: 1,200,000	Sub-Saharan Africa: 24,500,000

Dr. Cagle's presentation included an overview of the CDC division that works on HIV: the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, TB and STD. In addition, she provided an HIV epidemiological profile of the U.S., using data from 2006.

The rates of infection for women and men by race/ethnicity appear in the chart below:

Race/Ethnicity	Female	Male
American Indian/ Alaskan Natives	4.6	17.7
Asians	3.2	13.5
Blacks	56.2	119.1
Hispanics	15.1	50.9
Whites	2.9	16.7

Number infected per 100,000 persons

To respond to the growing number of HIV cases, the CDC has developed a new initiative called the Heightened National Response, Dr. Cagle reported. This new initiative has four key goals:

1. Increase HIV awareness.
2. Increase testing and engagement in HIV care.
3. Expand community response.
4. Develop new and more effective HIV prevention strategies.

Another aspect of the new heightened response is the national HIV partnership strategy. Through this strategy, the CDC is enlisting the support of many national organizations to make HIV testing a routine part of health care. Partners range from national HIV organizations to health care insurers and professional health care provider organizations. Dr. Cagle concluded her remarks by reviewing the CDC guidelines and describing new funding mechanisms to support the new focus on HIV testing at CDC, the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the Office of Population Affairs.

### PEPFAR Update from Ambassador Dybul

Ambassador Mark Dybul was scheduled to address the conference, but the American Airlines crisis prevented him from attending. He did, however, send summary of progress made through the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). What follows is an excerpt from that report.

“With an original commitment of \$15 billion across 5 years, and a final funding level of \$18.8 billion, PEPFAR is the largest international health initiative in history dedicated to a single disease. On many fronts, the progress to date has been remarkable... with only 50,000 people in sub-Saharan Africa receiving HIV related treatment in 2001, PEPFAR has supported HIV counseling and testing for over 33 million people, supported care for more than 6.6 million people infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, including 2.7 million orphans and vulnerable children. Through September 2007, PEPFAR partnerships have supported antiretroviral treatment (ART) for approximately 1.45 million men, women, and children – approximately 1.36 million of whom live in the 15 PEPFAR focus countries and 1.33 million of whom are in sub-Saharan Africa....PEPFAR treatment is estimated to

save nearly 3.2 million adult years of life through September 2009. For more information about PEPFAR, go to [www.pepfar.gov](http://www.pepfar.gov).

### Special Issues in HIV

Recognizing the importance of orienting attendees to the special needs of those who are most affected by HIV, the conference coordinators offered a special issues plenary on Thursday, April 11. The plenary offered the following presentations: *Immigrating, Traveling and Working Abroad with HIV* by John Nechman, JD, of Katine & Nechman in Houston, Tex.; *Unique Concerns of Native Americans* by Warren Jimenez, Executive Director of the Native American AIDS Prevention Center in Denver, Co.; *Women and Girls* by Francis E. Ashe-Goins, RN, MPH, of the Office of Women's Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, DC; and *HIV in Latino Communities* by Dennis DeLeon, JD, President of the Latino Commission on AIDS in New York, N.Y.

The speakers gave summaries of their respective issue. They also encouraged attendees to develop a solid understanding of the programmatic, funding, and advocacy services that must be available in order to successfully respond to each issue and affected population. The theme of improving cultural competence within the health care provider community, in general, and AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs), in particular, was voiced by all of the speakers. Dennis DeLeon, a longtime HIV advocate, concluded the plenary by challenging the audience to do more to help minority and national organizations develop the necessary capacity and competence to serve today's HIV client

## OAKLAND COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Ambassador Stephen Lewis, former Special Envoy on AIDS in Africa, speaks at V-Day Commemoration**

(April 11-12) V-Day, a global movement to end violence against women and girls, raises funds and awareness through benefit productions of the award winning play, *The Vagina Monologues*. Now in its tenth year, the V-Day movement has raised over \$50 million and educated millions of people about violence against women and efforts to end it. In observance of V-Day, Ambassador Stephen Lewis, former Special Envoy to United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Kofi Annan and current Co-Director of the international organization AIDS-Free World, spoke at *Superdome/ Superlove*, a V-day commemoration, speak out, and international fundraising event in New Orleans, La..

Ambassador Lewis was among more than 75 invited speakers and performers, who included such national celebrities as Oprah Winfrey, Suze Orman, Jane Fonda, Salma Hayek, Johnnetta Cole, Donna Karan, Jennifer Hudson, Faith Hill, and Charmaine Neville. There were also several international speakers. They included Kenyan Agnes Pareyio and Denis Mukwege, a Congolese Doctor, as well as Anal Mahmoud, Afaf Jabiri, Nadine Abou Zaki, and Hibaaq Osman, who spoke as representatives of women in the Middle East and Arab states.

While speaking, Ambassador Lewis drew on his experience crisscrossing Africa, where he has seen the combined devastation of HIV and violence against women. He told of women and men he had met who were recently out of war torn regions where rape and HIV flourished unabated. He also praised the work of the countless doctors, nurses, and volunteers who are working against all odds to save lives affected by both HIV and violence. Upon leaving the UN system, Ambassador Lewis recommended that a woman be appointed to replace him. Through such an appointment, the impact of these dual epidemics on women and communities worldwide might receive more attention. He also said the U.N. should do more in response to these challenges, and the U.S., in turn, should encourage greater U.N. assistance and help its member states to bring world focus to issues related to HIV and violence against women. Marsha Martin, DSW, Director of Get Screened Oakland, attended Mr. Lewis' presentation. Afterward, she was able to speak with him about his HIV work and inform him of Oakland's efforts to routinize HIV screening.

In 2008, local activists in the U.S. and around the world produced more than 4,000 V-Day events. The New Orleans activities, which not only featured "revolutionary" speakers, but also slam poets, singers, performers, storytellers, and art and wellness programs, were dedicated to the women of the city and the Gulf Coast region. The observance honored their strength and resilience in the face of Hurricane Katrina's destruction.

The "V" in V-Day stands for victory, valentine, and vagina. To learn even more about V-Day, go to [www.vday.org](http://www.vday.org).

## **Planning of Oakland's National HIV Testing Day commemoration continues**

(May 1) Representatives from state, county, and local agencies working on HIV-related issues met with representatives from Abbott Laboratories and Walgreens in the Mayor's office to discuss next steps for National HIV Testing Day on June 27.

National HIV Testing Day (NHTD) is an annual campaign coordinated by the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) to encourage individuals to receive HIV counseling and testing. Across the country, thousands of voluntary HIV counseling and testing sites, state and local health departments, and community-based HIV/AIDS service providers will participate in NHTD activities, holding health fairs, providing community and media outreach, hosting special testing-related events, and operating for extended hours.

In Oakland, planning is underway to commemorate National HIV Testing Day at the Eastmont Mall. The organizations planning this year's event have agreed to expand the program to include a health fair, a barbeque, a cultural program, and a small farmers market.

What follows are some of the ideas currently under consideration for the health fair. They are categorized by organizing area.

### Services

HIV Testing, cancer screenings, blood pressure screenings, nutrition, and dental, acupuncture, and massage services. In addition, organizations delivering HIV/AIDS and other health services will provide educational information

### Food & Beverages

Hot dogs, hamburgers, fruit, cookies, chips, water, and juice.

### Cultural Center

To include art exhibits with works by local artists, as well as performances by dance groups, drumming circles, and spoken word.

### Raffles

Individuals who are tested will have an opportunity to enter. Prizes to include iPods, gift certificates, specialty baskets, and more.

### Marketing

Flyers, palm cards, and posters to be developed for circulation. Additional promotions to appear on AC Transit, BART, Clearchannel Radio, Clearchannel Outdoor, Univision and in local newspapers

### Outreach

Distribution centers under consideration for health fair information include community-based organizations, churches, city/county agencies, senior centers, etc.

This is the thirteenth year of National HIV Testing Day. For Oakland, June 27 also marks the first anniversary of Mayor Ronald V. Dellums' initiative, Get Screened Oakland.

## **OTHER HIV NEWS**

### **Joint-initiative of Florida Department of Health and AME Church to increase church-based HIV testing**

(April 15) HIV disease is the top cause of death for black men and women aged 25 to 44 years old. While only 14% of the population, blacks represented 54% of the state's reported AIDS cases in 2007. Despite this disproportionate toll, "African Americans were not exactly breaking down the doors of the health department to be HIV-tested," Mellita Mills-Kendrick, a regional AIDS coordinator in the state, told the *Orlando Sentinel*.

To encourage greater knowledge of HIV status within the African American community, Florida's Department of Health is launching a joint initiative with the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church to establish at least one HIV testing site in a place of worship in every county of the state.

For years, HIV outreach workers have tried to offer testing in environments other than sterile and impersonal health clinics. For example, health workers in Florida's Polk County have provided HIV testing in Laundromats, convenience stores, and beauty salons, launching a campaign to train beauticians in HIV outreach. In Daytona Beach, the Stewart-Marchman Foundation partners with restaurants to offer coupons for free meals to people who receive oral rapid HIV tests.

In the past, however, the Department of Health has been "standoffish as far as the churches are concerned," James O'Williams, Sr., one of AME Church's regional leaders, remarked. "But these are our family members, and the church should be part of the healing process."

This conviction prompted Mr. O'Williams to attend a recent training session on testing, where he discussed street terms for sex and drugs along with other volunteers—including 59 year-old Harriet Nelson. According to the *Orlando Sentinel*, Ms. Nelson is more accustomed to organizing choirs and senior-citizen aerobics classes than talking about condoms. "But these are the real facts," she stated. "We do need to be familiar with the slang words."

Churches' interest in supporting greater HIV awareness does not stop at Florida's borders. According to The Balm in Gilead, a Virginia-based organization that works to involve black churches in the response to HIV in the U.S. and abroad, churches that offer HIV outreach now number in the thousands. What's more, an increasing number of churches are offering on-site testing, The Balm's Domestic Program Director, Makeba D'Abreu, said.

In Atlanta, GA, Reverend Raphael Warnock, the Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church where Martin Luther King, Jr. used to preach, took an HIV test in front of the congregation. In his work to raise consciousness about HIV disease, Rev. Warnock targets what he calls the unholy trinity of silence, shame, and stigma.

"Stigma has to do with culture and values," he explained to the *Orlando Sentinel*. "Ministers can do more to undermine the stigma piece than anybody else."

*Source: "Black Churches shun stigma of AIDS, take on job of testing"; by Jackson, Rachel; Orlando Sentinel; April 15, 2008*

### **mtvU & Kaiser Family Foundation launch POSorNOT.com to challenge stigma, reduce spread of HIV**

(April 30) mtvU, MTV's Peabody and Emmy Award-winning college network, and the Kaiser Family Foundation, in partnership with POZ Magazine, have unveiled "Pos or Not"—an online game that confronts players' stereotypes. The goal of the game is to break down the barriers that may prevent open discussions about HIV/AIDS, getting tested, and using protection.

During the game, players are introduced to individual profiles and photographs of young people from across the U.S. In their profiles, each person shares a few personal details on their lives, such as what they do on the weekends or their favorite kind of music. Players must then guess the HIV status of each person. This exercise intends to dispel myths and misconceptions about HIV and AIDS by having players confront their own HIV stereotypes as they guess whether a profiled participant is HIV-positive or -negative.

"Pos or Not' has the powerful effect of allowing young people across the country to learn more about those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and in doing so hopefully form a more personal understanding of the disease," explained Tina Hoff, Vice President and Director of Entertainment Media Partnerships at the Kaiser Family Foundation.

When an individual is positive, players receive information on the circumstances in which the person learned his/her HIV status. These circumstances include learning of one's infection after the birth of a child, testing motivated by calls from ex-lovers, and long-postponed HIV tests. HIV negative participants share how the disease has touched their lives, claiming boyfriends, girlfriends, mothers and best friends. Every individual stresses that HIV affects everyone and that the only way to truly know your own or some else's HIV status is by getting tested. In addition, players are invited to add their own profiles to the game to help underscore that there's no way to tell a person's HIV status from how they look or what they do.

"Pos or Not" was inspired by the winners of the "Change the Course of HIV Challenge," a nationwide competition that asked

college students to propose a viral, Web-based game that would creatively engage people to help combat the spread of HIV/AIDS. The winning concept was submitted by a team from the Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy and included designers Brendan McLeod and Matthew Laurence, programmers Chris Camilleri and Gabriel Montagne, and artist Chip Lundell.

"'Pos or Not' was created to shatter myths, challenge assumptions and promote responsible sexual behavior – and we salute every participant, as well as the team of college students who conceived the game, for breathing life into it," said Stephen Friedman, General Manager of mtvU.

College students not only helped to conceive "Pos or Not," but they are also pioneering the future of digital activism every day, so mtvU, the Kaiser Family Foundation and POZ Magazine are calling on users to imagine ways to make the game easier to share and to increase the influence of its message. Anyone with a vision for how "Pos or Not" can be effectively executed on other platforms (mobile, social networks, etc.), remixed, or in any way serve as an even more powerful call to action on the HIV/AIDS epidemic are encouraged to send ideas to [MyIdeas@PosorNot.com](mailto:MyIdeas@PosorNot.com). mtvU and the Kaiser Family Foundation are committing to incorporate the best concepts into future versions of the game – or a completely re-imagined iteration – so it continues to evolve and reach more people.



## **Community Calendar 2008**

### *Upcoming Events and Dates to Keep in Mind*

#### **May**

- Th. 5/22 - Su. 5/25      Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders in HIV/AIDS Social Work...Today: the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS.; Washington, DC. For more information contact Vincent J. Lynch, Boston College 617-552-4038 or [lynch@bc.edu](mailto:lynch@bc.edu).
- Th. 5.29 - F. 5/30      Leaders Act! National Mobilization Partnership reconvenes; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA. For more information, go to [www.cdc.gov/HIV/topics/AA/CDC.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/HIV/topics/AA/CDC.htm).

#### **June**

- Tu. 6/10      Faith Leaders Summit on HIV, Cancer, Health and Wellness; Marriott Hotel, 12th and Broadway, Oakland, CA. For More information contact Damon Powell, 510-238-3141.
- F. 6/13      21st Annual East Bay HIV Update; 8:15 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Samuel Merritt Educational Center, 400 Hawthorne Ave. For more information, call 510-204-3884.
- W. 6/11 - Sa. 6/14      HIV Prevention Leadership Summit; Detroit, MI; For more information, send e-mail to [conferences@nmac.org](mailto:conferences@nmac.org) or call 202-483-6622; abstracts due 1/10/08.
- Th. 6/19 - F. 6/20      Promoting Healthier Lives, HIV/AIDS Prevention Conference, Courtyard Marriott, Emeryville, CA. For more information, contact Shelley Stinson, Alameda County Office of AIDS, 510-873-6500
- F. 6/27      National HIV Testing Day & Get Screened Oakland First Anniversary Eastmont Health Fair, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

#### **August**

- M. 8/3 - Su. 8/8      XVII International AIDS Conference 2008, Mexico City, Mexico; Theme: Universal Action Now.

#### **September**

- Th. 9/18 - 9/21      U.S. Conference on AIDS; Miami, FL. For more information, send e-mail to [conference@nmac.org](mailto:conference@nmac.org) or call 202-483-6622.