

SE Ohio CARE Consortium

Monthly Newsletter, February 2010

It is the mission of the Southeast Ohio CARE Consortium to ensure that there are adequate services to meet the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS.

Calendar of Events

February 22: Final day to apply to OAC for Youth Leadership Summit, Columbus
March 3, 1 PM: Consortium Monthly Meeting in Athens at O'Bleness Hospital
March 12-14: Youth Leadership Summit in Columbus, for ages 18-25, free hotel/food
March 24: Consumer dinner Zanesville: to RSVP, call OAC – 800-226-5554

Welcome New Case Managers!!!!

Lisa Murphy at The Woodlands
Bonnie McKinney at Portsmouth H.D.

Goodbye and Good Luck to **Jim Jarrell**, who leaves The Woodlands for new challenges.

Why Serve on the Consortium?

Consortium 9C and the OAC believe that PLWHA are best able to describe their needs and provide feedback about HIV services – what's working and what's not. PLWHA can identify barriers to services from the client's perspective and help create effective solutions along with others.

What Does Serving on a Consortium Mean?

Serving means that PLWHA who are consortium members try to represent the views of all those in their community. It can be hard at times. They must ask themselves, "Am I giving input from all in my community, or am I only representing myself?"

Balance Billed Again!

Clients should also be aware that *even if they are approved by their case manager to see a non-Part B provider*, clients could still be responsible for any unpaid balance on their bill. **When in doubt**, always check with your case manager to see if a doctor, dentist, lab, etc. is an authorized provider under the Ryan White Care Program and check to see what your responsibilities are if the provider is not in the Part B program.



Let's Help Each Other

Consortium 9C has some of the highest rates in the state for people without health insurance, and we also

have high numbers of PLWHA who still have unmet needs for primary health care, such as regular CD4 counts and anti-retroviral therapy. Ryan White CARE Services are designed to help people get the HIV care they need.

Right now there are approximately 225 people in case management with one of four agencies in 9C, but there are 100s of folks in 9C who aren't getting the assistance they are eligible for.

Please let your friends and neighbors who are positive know that they can get help by contacting the Ohio AIDS Coalition 1-800-226-5554 or Stephen Simko, 9C coordinator. *The care is there!*



WANT HELP QUITTING TOBACCO?

Check these resources for help:

American Lung Association
1-800-LUNG-USA (5864872)
www.lungusa.org

National Cancer Institute
1-800-4-CANCER (422-6237)
www.cancer.gov

Nicotine Anonymous
1-415-750-0328
www.nicotine-anonymous.org

Tobacco Info/Prevent. Source (TIPS)
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
www.cdc.gov/tobacco

\$\$Worth Repeating\$\$

Consortium members voted in January to raise the incentive amounts for PLWHA who attend a consortium meeting or activity: \$15, \$20, or \$30 depending on which county you live in and where the meeting is.

Did you know?

Funding for the Ryan White CARE Services Program runs annually from April through March 31. We are approaching the end of Year 19 of the program. Year 20 officially begins on April 1 2010.

There are 11 consortiums around the state, planning groups of PLWHA and care providers: 1C is Cleveland and five counties; 2C is Columbus and seven counties. 9C is Southeast Ohio, all twenty counties and the biggest in area of all.

Coordinator Contact Information

Stephen Simko can be reached at simko@ohioaidscoalition.org or at 740-274-0592.

For more information on Southeast Ohio CARE Consortium:

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