

PATF NPAPATF-PERSPECTIVES Pittsburgh **AIDS** Task Force

e-Perspectives

Issue 09/May 2011

In This Issue

[Pittsburgh Faith Community "Sounds the Alarm" in response to HIV/AIDS](#)

[PATF to host East End Community Health Fair](#)

[Girl Talk Project to Educate Teens, Parents about HIV and Sex](#)

[New study shows reduction in HIV transmission](#)

[Farewell to PATF Development Director](#)



PATF thanks our Red Ribbon Champions for their support of our 25 for 25 Campaign:

Amy Baker
Susan Boyle
Joseph Certo
Allen D. Christian
Harold Dixler
Eloise Downing
Tom Downing
Scott Ervin
Nachum Golan & Steve

Dear Susan,

Welcome to **e-Perspectives**, a monthly e-newsletter that highlights current and upcoming Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force events, accomplishments and programs, as well as national and international HIV/AIDS information. Through **e-Perspectives**, we keep you posted on all that PATF does to improve the health and quality of life for people living with HIV/AIDS in southwestern Pennsylvania. A sincere thank-you for your support and interest in PATF.

Have questions or comments about **e-Perspectives**? Please contact editor Susan Orr at sorr@patf.org or 412-345-0596.

Pittsburgh faith community "sounds the alarm" *Conference focused on HIV/AIDS and associated stigmas*



PATF FAITH Initiative Coordinator Tony Anderson; the Rev. Edwin C. Sanders II, founder of Metropolitan Interdenominational Church of Nashville, TN; and Dr. Mary Buckley, Interim Director - Metro Urban Institute, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

The second annual "The Pittsburgh Faith Community Responds to HIV/AIDS in the African-American Community" symposium on May 12 brought together social workers, health professionals, members of the faith community, and people afflicted by HIV/AIDS to talk about HIV/AIDS in the African-American community.

The symposium's goal was to get the faith community involved in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS and the stigmas associated with it. The day's highlights included keynote speaker, the Rev. Edwin C. Sanders II, who earned national acclaim for founding a church in the

Hough
Marjorie C.
Greenberger
Keri Harmicar
Mary & Bill Hawk
Michael Hellman
Steve Herforth & Peter
Karloovich
William A. Hower
Joan F. Humphrey
Mary Irwin-Scott
Sara Luby
Janice & Ernie Meade
Jennifer Nielsen
Susan Orr
Melissa Perkins
Bart A. Rauluk
John Riley
Toni Schlemmer
Angela Scotto
Deborah Scotto
Ronald F. Smutny
Jack Toomey
Tammi Ventura
Roger C. Westman
Jerry & Mary Ann Zapf

Find us on Facebook 

Follow us on 

[More About PATF](#)



Join the
e-Perspectives
mailing list by
contacting

sorr@patf.org or
call 412-345-0596

Forward
e-Perspectives

1980s that welcomed people with HIV/AIDS. That church, Metropolitan Interdenominational Church of Nashville, TN, is the only church in the United States with a primary care clinic that focuses solely on HIV/AIDS services.

In addition to Sanders' presentation, the full-day program addressed the unique role of the faith community in prompting HIV testing and HIV prevention, as well as identifying how to collaborate with health services provided for persons living with HIV. Other highlights included speaker Debra Dennison talking about how to break stigmas regarding HIV/AIDS. Smaller interactive workshops included *An Overview of AIDS/HIV* and *HIV and Older Adults: An Aging and Growing Population*.

The day was sponsored by Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force, Southwestern Pennsylvania AIDS Planning Coalition, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, The PA Prevention Project, The Pennsylvania/MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center, and University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health/Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology.



Conference brochures



Dorcus Baker, Site Director, Johns Hopkins University, LPS, Pennsylvania MidAtlantic AIDS Education Training Center

PATF to Host East End Community Health Fair June 24
Event aims to bring together community health agencies to promote awareness, conduct screenings, and inform the public

The East Liberty Presbyterian Church – located across the street from PATF – will be the site of the East End Community Health Fair on Friday, June 24, 12-3 p.m.

to a friend!

Open to the public, the event aims to create greater health awareness for the East End community by engaging many of the local social service agencies, clinics, and businesses in a day to promote health, conduct screenings and distribute literature. PATF will be offering HIV testing.

There will be 25 agencies in attendance, including the American Cancer Society and the American Heart and Stroke Association. There also will be Tae Kwon Do, yoga, and fire safety demonstrations along with blood pressure, hearing and eyesight, and heart health screenings. Children can enjoy face painting, scavenger hunts, and coloring.

For more information, call 412-345-0585 or email aanderson@patf.org

Girl Talk to host parent event in June

Project to educate teens, parents about HIV and sex

The Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force's Girl Talk Project will host its first Parent Education Event Saturday, June 18 at PATF. The event aims to facilitate conversation between teenagers and their parents and caregivers.

The event will feature guest speakers on a variety of topics, including personal perspectives on sexuality and orientation, HIV and other STD info, and PATF's Girlfriends Project.

Aimed at young women ages 13-18, the Girl Talk Project is PATF's latest health education initiative. Girl Talk features in-home educational parties organized by teens; the party focuses on HIV and STD awareness, domestic violence awareness, and proper use of condoms. Hosts and attendees are offered anonymous HIV testing and incentives for attending or hosting a party.

For more information about the Parent Education Event or the Girl Talk Project, please contact Tiffani Thompson, Girl Talk Coordinator, at TThompson@PATF.org or 412-345-7456, ext. 572.

New Study Shows Reduction in HIV Transmission

Trial conducted with more than 1,700 couples

A recent clinical trial concluded that HIV patients who took anti-retroviral drugs immediately after learning their diagnosis were 96 percent less likely to pass the disease on to their partners.

The study, known as HPTN 052, was conducted in 13 countries and with more than 1,700 couples. Each couple had a partner with HIV and the other without. The infected partners were randomly assigned to either start the anti-retroviral drugs immediately or wait until the disease progressed. Those in the first group were less likely to pass it on to their partner.

The certainty of the findings allowed for the study to end early and its conclusions to be released ahead of schedule.

For more information:

<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/news/newsreleases/2011/Pages/HPTN052.aspx>

Farewell to PATF Development Director

Bockovich served organization for 6-plus years

PATF sends its heartfelt best wishes to longtime Development Director Mary Bockovich, whose last day with our organization is Tuesday, May 31. Mary will join Family Links as its new Director of Development and Marketing. The best of luck to you, Mary – we appreciate all you have done to support our mission, and we'll miss you!

Ron Smutny, who has been with PATF for two years, will assume the role of Interim Director of Development. Please feel free to contact Ron at rsmutny@patf.org or 412-345-0593.

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to sorr@patf.org by sorr@patf.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force | 5913 Penn Ave. | Pittsburgh | PA | 15206