

Newsletter

HIV/AIDS Awareness Month



December 2006

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National Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Day is December 1. It is especially important for us to recognize this day, because statistics show that on average one Aboriginal person a day becomes newly infected with HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) the virus that causes AIDS.

We can no longer ignore the possibility that it can happen in our community. It is imperative that we take steps to educate our people with current and accurate information. Our community members require the knowledge that will enable them to take the steps they need in order to prevent the spread of this incurable disease.

Plan an activity to put a spotlight on the issue. Get your community involved. Invite guest speakers who are knowledgeable about HIV/AIDS. Plan a community dinner. Distribute information in pamphlets, or flyers. Create a display in the community clinic or school. Get students involved in creating their own posters and perhaps even make it a contest. Make it a rewarding learning experience.

Maria Blackhawk is available to assist in planning or facilitating an activity and to provide you with pamphlets, reports, fact sheets and information about products that are being used for prevention. She is also able to assist you in obtaining guest speakers to attend your community event. The number of speakers is limited so secure a spokesperson soon.

Whether your community chooses to have a large event or not, the important thing is to bring the issue to the community's attention.

KAHAC's HIV/AIDS Program can provide:

- workshops ranging from 1 hour to 3 day sessions (adaptable to audience age, gender, specific needs, ie. prenatal, youth, sex education, etc.)
- information booth for health fairs, community events or other public events
- program overview for community health staff
- basic HIV/AIDS PowerPoint presentation with 8 slides in a simple, easy to understand format that is easy to grasp, even for young people with limited knowledge of sexual health. These slides explain HIV transmission, CD4 destruction, and AIDS.
- pamphlets, fact sheets, and posters
- overview of promotional products (prevention of transmission of STI's such as HIV and other STD's)
- samples of male/female condoms, oral dams
- games and visual aids that appeal to young audiences such as a CD4 stop-motion slide show, and word games etc.
- list of guest speakers to suit target audience such as youth, students, parents, or seniors groups
- list of guest speakers to focus on mode of transmission such as unprotected sex, injection drug use (IDU), prenatal mother to child, and direct blood to blood contact

The Health Access Centre's catchment area includes the following organizational partners and communities:

NeChee Friendship Center	Wauzhushk Onigum FN
Kenora Metis Council	Wabigoon FN
Wesawkwete Zone One	Wabaseemoong FN
Grassy Narrows FN	Washagamis Bay
Lac Seul FN	Waubaskang FN
Naotkamegwanning FN	Northwest Angle 33 FN
Shoal Lake 40 FN	Iskatewizaagegan No. 39
Ochiichagwe'babigo'ining FN	Northwest Angle 37 FN

According to Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, "Some studies have shown that as many as twenty percent of 16,000 AIDS cases in this country may be Aboriginal." This means that approximately 320 Aboriginal persons at this time, have AIDS.

CAAN also states, "First Nations AIDS cases are younger than non-Aboriginal AIDS cases. 30% of all newly documented cases among First Nations Peoples are under 30 years old, with almost one in four cases being female (compared to one in thirteen among non-Aboriginal persons). Some studies have shown that as many as twenty percent of 16,000 AIDS cases in this country may be Aboriginal."

Population of Canada as of July 2006 is 32,623,500. Indian 1,000,890. Metis 307,845. Total of both 1,308,735. Our people make up 24.9% of the population of Canada.

Maria Blackhawk, HIV/AIDS Coordinator

December 2006

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 SM @ Clinic
4 Dr @ Clinic JR @ SL39 SM @ WD LED,MM @ Clinic LAM,LS,JM @ DA - AM LAM,LS,JM @ Metis - PM	5 Dr @ Clinic - AM JR,AA @ SL39 BP @ OBK LED,SM @ Clinic SL @ Keewatin Public School MM @ RP JM @ Clinic - AM	6 BP @ Clinic SL @ Healthy Families! AA @ WD MM @ DA LED @ NWA - PM	7 JR @ Clinic BP @ WD LED,AA @ GN MM @ WFB LAM,LS,JM @ Minaki - AM LAM,LS,JM @ WD - PM JM @ Fellowship	8 Dr @ Clinic SM @ Minaki RW @ Thomas Aquinas
11 Dr @ Clinic JR @ SL39 SM @ DA JM,MM @ Clinic LED @ Wabigoon	12 Dr @ Clinic JR @ SL39/SL40 BP,SM @ OBK AA @ SL40 MM @ RP LED @ Clinic LAM,LS,JM @ Nechee - AM	13 AA,JR @ WD BP @ Clinic SM @ WFB MM @ DA LAM, LS, JM @ WFB - AM LAM,LS,JM @ NWA - PM JM @ Clinic - PM	14 JR @ Clinic BP @ WD LED,AA @ GN MM @ WFB LAM,LS,JM @ RP - AM LAM,LS,JM @ OBK - PM	15 Dr @ Clinic JM @ Clinic
18 Dr @ Clinic JR,SM @ SL39 SL @ Nechee MM @ Clinic - AM JM,LED @ Clinic	19 Dr @ Clinic JR @ SL39/SL40 AA,BP @ OBK SM @ GN SL @ Migisi MM @ Clinic - AM	20 SM,BP @ Clinic SL @ Healthy Families MM @ Clinic - AM LED @ NWA JM @ Clinic	21 Dr @ Clinic - PM BP @ Minaki SM @ Clinic SL @ Keewatin Public School MM @ Clinic - AM LED @ GN JM @ Fellowship	22 Dr @ Clinic - AM SM @ Clinic SL @ Kahac MM @ Clinic - AM
25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27 MM @ Clinic	28 MM @ Clinic	29 MM @ Clinic

Downtown Client Parking

Clients of the downtown satellite clinic may park across the street on the south side of the lane in the gravelled parking lot while attending appointments at the clinic.

Vehicles may use the driveway at the clinic for client drop-off or as parking for handicapped clients while at the clinic.

Please do not park in the laneway; you may be fined or towed by the city.

**Aangwaamizig ewe giwi
mogoosha giizhigak
"Take care this Christmas"**

SM	Stacy Morgan, Nutritionist
MM	Malcolm McCormick, Nurse Practitioner
LED	Lee Ann Desrochers, Nurse Practitioner
JR	Jennifer Roberts, Nurse Practitioner
BP	Barb Pernsky, Nurse Practitioner
JH	Dr. John Hammett
MT	Dr. Michelle Thomas
AA	Allan Anderson, Dental Health Educator
RW	Randy White, Traditional Health Coordinator
IC	Ida Copenace, FASD Consultant
SL	Serena Lewis, FASD Consultant
MB	Maria Blackhawk, HIV/AIDS Coordinator
JM	Judith McLeod, Diabetes Educator
LS	Leticia Santos, Diabetes Educator
LAM	Lauri-Ann Marshall, Diabetes Educator

Communities

GN	Grassy Narrows	WD	Whitedog
NWA33A	Dogpaw Lake	WFB	Whitefish Bay
NW	Angle Inlet	SL39	Shoal Lake 39
SL40	Shoal Lake 40	RP	Rat Portage
NWA37A	Regina Bay	DA	Dalles
NWA37B	Windigo Island	WAB	Wabigoon Hall, Wesawkwete
OBK	Obashkaandagaang		

STAFF