

FOCUS GROUP FOR HIV POSITIVE GAY MEN

The Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies with the University of Delaware are searching for 6-8 HIV positive gay men to participate in a focus group. Topics of discussion will concentrate on gay culture, sex, drug use, and HIV issues. Participants will be paid \$30 and confidentiality is assured. The focus group will be held at TCPC on June 22, 2004 from 5:30-7:00pm. For info and eligibility requirements, contact Jason Weaver or Dr. Steven Kurtz at the University of Delaware Research Center at 305-529-1911

FOREIGNAID.COM DONOR DIRECTORY ONLINE

ForeignAid.com Donor Directory Online is a new service dedicated to helping non-profits. Founded in January 2003, ForeignAid.com's mission is to build the capacity of high-impact international development nonprofits by providing information to connect nonprofits with donors and resources worldwide. In addition to providing the names and contact information of more than 600 foundations and donors actively making grants to international causes, the ForeignAid.com Donor Directory Online provides detailed information about each donor's demographic focus, program interests, application process, and grant history.

COUNTY TRANSIT FREE AFTER 65th BIRTHDAY

According to the Miami-Dade Transit department, only people under the age of 65 who receive Social Security benefits have to renew their "Golden Passport" every year. Once you reach 65, you will receive a permanent card for free transit on Metrorail and county buses.

DIVORCE AND THE POOR: TOO FEW LAWYERS

Affording a divorce lawyer can be extremely challenging for the poor. Pam Stack, director of Save a Life Campaign, has suggested contacting the Put

NEED PEER, GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING?

ARE YOU A RYAN WHITE CLIENT?

TCPC receives reimbursement from Ryan White Title I for psychosocial counseling for group, peer or individual counseling. If you or a family member are interested, please have your case manager send us a referral.

Something Back Project operated by the Dade County Bar Association. People with a civil matter who need legal assistance can call 305-579-5733, ext. 2248. Located at 123 NW First Ave. in downtown Miami. Intake every Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 to 11am.

NINE CHARGED WITH MEDICARE FRAUD

Nine people – including three doctors – were indicted recently in a \$5 million Medicare fraud scheme at two South Beach clinics that fraudulently dispensed HIV medications. Clinic owners Leonardo Javier Bolanos and Robert Peter Sauve were arrested along with physicians Jorge Humberto Forcada, Clark Carlton Mitchell and Jose Joaquin Vega and four clinic employees. Prosecutors claim the Bolanos Institute and Lefebvre Institute fraudulently billed Medicare for alleged intravenous infusion treatments involving the HIV medications Neupogen and Procrit. According to the indictment, the treatments were not provided to patients or not medically necessary.

HIV/AIDS CASES RISING AMONG OLDER WOMEN

The Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that AIDS cases among Americans over 50 have quintupled since 1995, up from 16,300 in 1995 to 90,600 in 2003. Today, seniors represent an estimated 14 percent of total AIDS cases and senior women represent 18 percent of female AIDS cases. The Centers also found that menopause can lead to vaginal dryness, contributing to abrasions and small tears during sex that boost the chance of HIV transmission. With weight loss, fatigue, skin rashes, and other HIV symptoms mimicking those of old age, many older women are not diagnosed until they have full-blown AIDS. And with their immune systems compromised by age, older women can have trouble fighting off pneumonia and other secondary infections. Since many have been socialized to think of sex as embarrassing or secretive, many are reticent about their condition, putting them in greater jeopardy because they are less likely to be coaxed or prodded into treatment. Go to www.hivoverfifty.org or www.hivwisdom.org.

DONATE USED HEALTH EQUIPMENT

If you have health equipment in good condition and you are willing to donate, there are organizations waiting to receive such items. Contact The Florida Alliance for Assistive Services (FAAST), which main-

NEW HIV/HCV CO-INFECTION (HEPATITIS) SUPPORT GROUP

HIV/HCV Co-infection support group will meet every Monday from 7-8:30 at Positive Connections. This group is for folks dealing with a hepatitis and HIV. Facilitated by Roy Conner, LCSW, CAP, Cht, Ncac1, ICADC. Funded by Ryan White Title I.

tains a list of people with disabilities who need equipment and matches them with prospective donors. Call 305-762-1464 for more information. Or try the Center for Independent Living of South Florida at 305-751-8025. It serves low-income people with disabilities and accepts equipment as well as furniture and household items in good condition.

HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC IN THE U.S.

Since the first cases of what would later become known as AIDS were reported in the United States in June 1981, almost 1.5 million people in the U.S. have been infected with HIV, including more than 500,000 who have already died. An updated fact sheet is available that presents an overview of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the U.S., including trends over time, a current profile of AIDS cases, and the impact of the epidemic on particular populations. Go to www.kff.org/hiv/aids/3029-03.cfm.

CAREGIVER.COM NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE

Caregiver Media Group is a leading provider of information, support and guidance for family and professional caregivers. It produces Today's Caregiver magazine, the first national magazine dedicated to caregivers, the "Sharing Wisdom Caregivers Conferences", and the web site, www.caregiver.com, which includes topic specific newsletters, online

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HELP TCPC SAVE MONEY

In order to save TCPC \$1200 a month, we would like to eliminate the expense of printing and mailing of the newsletter to folks who have computer access with email addresses. Call 305-891-2066 or email us at email@positiveconnections.org and inform us of your name and address and the email address you would like the newsletter sent to. We will then remove you from the mailing list and all correspondence will be thru the internet. Thanks for your cooperation in this request.

There's something for everyone

CHECK OUT OUR SUPPORT GROUPS at the Center and NYC

Call or e-mail us to be put on our mailing list. Or better yet, sign up to receive the newsletter by e-mail. Want to help run a support group? Call us with your interest.

MIAMI SUPPORT GROUPS

HETEROSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP

Every Wednesday • 7-9 pm

HETERO & FAMILY & FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP

1st Wednesday of the month • 7-9 pm

HIV/HCV SUPPORT GROUP (HEPATITIS)

Every Monday • 7-8:30 pm

NEW

GAY SUPPORT GROUP

Every Tuesday • 7-9 pm

GRUPO DE APOYO EN ESPAÑOL

Every Monday • 7:45-9:45 pm

SPANISH FAMILY & FRIENDS

4th Monday of the month • 7:45-9:45 pm

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

4th Saturday of the month • 1-3 pm at TCPC

Luncheon provided by Pfizer/Agouron

GROUPS FUNDED BY RYAN WHITE TITLE I & CDBG/CITY OF N. MIAMI

NEW YORK

Hetero Support Group



Join our HIV heterosexual peer-led support group in NYC every Wednesday. 6-8 pm.

TCPC in collaboration with NATAP (National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project) offers services at NATAP, 580 Broadway, #1010, NYC.

For info & directions, call the 1-888-26-NATAP or the Center at 1-888-pos-conn(767-2666). Facilitator: Michael 201-921-4592.

For social activities, contact Susan 201-240-4098 or Alice 718-815-1930.

SAVE THESE DATES: Traveling Dinner 2nd Fridays (no dinner in June) and Monthly Social on the last Sunday of the month. See page 4.

(continued from page 1)

discussion lists, back issue articles of Today's Caregiver magazine, chat rooms and an online store. For more information about the newsletter, go to www.caregiver.com/newsletter_subscribe.htm

CHARITY WALKS THE TALK

There is a charity that collects and distributes shoes for children in need. The charity, "Shoes for the Soul," was founded in March 2002 by Karen Morrissey in Fort Lauderdale. It has collected more than 10,000 pairs of shoes for kids in need. Call 954-229-2344 or www.shoesforthesoul.org.

HEALTH STUDY PARTICIPANTS GET DISCOUNT FOR WORKSHOP

The Jaffe Institute is offering a special rate for those in financial need who participated in the March and May healing study and who wish to attend Dr. Ibrahim Jaffe's June 3-6 workshop, "Awakening the Heart to the Realization of God," in Fort Lauderdale. The rate, normally \$395, is lowered to \$225 for the healing study participants. Call 1-800-238-3060.

IMMIGRATION LAW INFO AVAILABLE

Those living with HIV/AIDS who have questions about immigration law can turn to Coane and Associates at 305-913-7533.

NEW FOOTWEAR OFFERS PAIN RELIEF

Z-Coil Footwear is the world's only footwear specifically engineered for foot, leg, and back pain relief. The unique design of Z-Coil combines a large coil under the heel with a rigid, full-length orthotic, helping reduce the force of impact while providing proper support. Call 305-981-0177 or 1-866-TRY-COILS. Or log on to www.springheals.com or www.zcoil.com

NEW HIV/AIDS CARE CENTER OPENS IN SOBE

New World Health Care Center is an HIV/AIDS Care Center with the highest standards of care, professionalism, compassion and confidentiality. 407 Lincoln Road, Suite 6K, on Miami Beach. Call 305-531-6682.

NEW RESOURCES FOR MENTAL HEALTH & HOMELESS PROVIDERS

Mental health and homeless providers have new tools for assistance. FirstStep is an easy-to-use, interactive tool for case managers, outreach workers, and others working with people who are homeless. The information can help assist providers' clients to access benefits from Federal mainstream benefit programs. Go to www.cms.hhs.gov/medicaid/homeless/firststep/index.html. In addition, the National Organizations Concerned with Mental Health, Housing, and Homelessness is a handy reference guide to 124 federal agencies and national organizations concerned with the mental health treatment, housing, and support services needs of the homeless. 1-800-444-7415 or www.nrchmi.samhsa.gov.

FIGHT AIDS IN AFRICA

Humana is looking for volunteers to provide AIDS education, prevention, and community mobilization in Africa. Call 413-441-5126 or go to www.humana.org.

TCPC Staff and Administrative Volunteers

Sheri Kaplan <i>Executive Director</i>	Eddie Orozco Milly Valagros <i>Peer Counselor</i>	Jack Ridgeway <i>Grants Manager</i>
Robert Diaz <i>Finance Director</i>	Andrea Engle & Lenny Sullivan <i>HOPWA Housing Specialist</i>	Barbara Salim <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Elizabeth Hudson <i>Executive Assistant</i>		Tim Sharp <i>Receptionist</i>

Volunteers

Adam Miller	Millie Miranda	Alyne Hammer
Vivian Calo	Riva Saker	Guillermo Zambrano
Patricia Josue	Semone Simpson	

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ADVERTISING RATES FOR POSITIVE VOICES MONTHLY:

- BC size \$65
- 1/2 page \$175
- 1/4 page \$125
- Full page \$300
- 1/3 page \$150

Distribution 3500 + e-mail blast and website posting
Contact Sheri at TCPC 305-891-2066

Please Note: Opinions expressed in Positive Voices Monthly are not necessarily those of the staff, board of directors or membership of The Center for Positive Connections (TCPC), its supporters, sponsors or distributors. TCPC does not endorse or recommend any product, course of medical treatment, person or company. TCPC recommends that all medical treatment be discussed thoroughly and frankly with a licensed and fully informed medical practitioner or your family physician. We take care to be accurate with the information we present, but staff volunteers, TCPC and the institutions and personnel who provide us with information cannot guarantee accuracy or accept responsibility for any damages that arise from the use of this material.

JOBS

- The Health Council of South Florida, Inc. is seeking an administrative assistant to provide multitasked administrative support, prepare and format reports, prepare correspondence and mail merge documents, and maintain files. Fax cover letter/resume to Priscilla Pouchet at 305-592-0589.
- The Village has openings for behavioral health techs, a regional prevention center coordinator, a communications coordinator, a physician assistant, and a program coordinator. Fax resume/cover letter to 305-576-1348 or email to humanresources@village-south.com. For info: 305-573-3784 or visit the website at www.villagesouth.com.

SPECIAL EVENTS & CONFERENCES

- **HEALING SESSION WITH CRISTOVAO BRILHO –June 15-22, 2004:** Attend a healing session with internationally-renowned Brazilian metaphysician Cristovao Brilho, recently named one of the best healers in the world that works with light beings from another dimension to balance your energy and help free you from disease. For times and locations, call 786-295-9778 or go to www.cristovaobrilho.com.br.
- **2004 XV INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE – July 11-16, 2004,** Bangkok, Thailand. IAS Headquarters, PO Box 4249, Fulkungagatan 49, SE-102 65 Stockholm, Sweden. 8-556-970-59. www.ias.se/aids2004.com • Email: aids2004@ids2004.org
- **2004 MINORITY WOMEN'S HEALTH SUMMIT – AUGUST 12-15:** The National Minority AIDS Council holds its annual HIV/AIDS health summit, "Women of Color Taking Action for a Healthier Life: Progress, Partnership and Possibilities," at the JW Marriott Hotel in Washington, D.C. Focus on exploring prevention strategies, promoting dialogue among policy makers, and recommending action-oriented strategies to increase positive health and education. Call 1-800-994-WOMAN (9662) or fax Elizabeth David at 202-690-7172.
- **FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON THE CHALLENGES & BENEFITS OF INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE –AUGUST 14-18, 2004:** HealthQuest and the Maui Wellness Institute will present its first conference on integrative medicine at the Wailea Marriott Resort in Maui, Hawaii. Call 1-800-874-1996 or go to www.healthquesttravel.com.
- **7th ANNUAL STAYING ALIVE CONFERENCE – SEPTEMBER 10-12:** The National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) will hold its annual conference in Atlanta, GA this year. Subject: "Advocacy, Attitudes, Persons with HIV/AIDS and Support Groups." Call (202) 898-0414 or log on to www.napwa.org. E-mails may be sent to cdebnam@napwa.org.

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS RESPONSIBILITY

If you are registered for a social event or an educational dinner lecture or have an appointment for a holistic service, you MUST give 24 hour notice if you need to cancel. People who DO NOT CANCEL and who are NO SHOWS for appointments or events will be placed on stand-by for future appointments and services and will be UNABLE TO MAKE ANOTHER APPOINTMENT FOR 3 WEEKS. An appointment is considered cancelled if a person is more than 15 minutes late. Due to the popularity of our services and the limited number of volunteer therapists, this policy is needed. Please be courteous to other members as well as our practitioners. REMEMBER: KEEP OR CANCEL!

See front page for policy changes effective January 1, 2004

...AT THE CENTER FOR POSITIVE CONNECTIONS

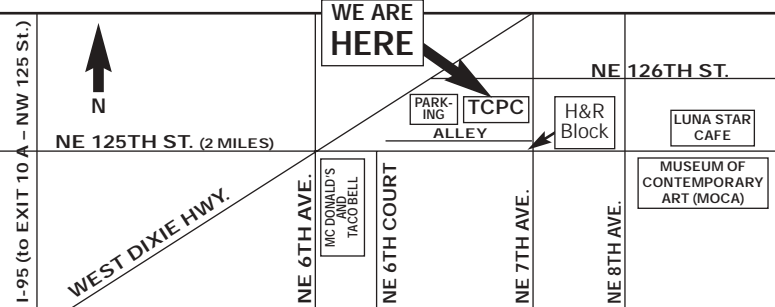
All new and current clients using our services must provide documentation of HIV status, income level and residency. Please bring your documents the next time you stop by for services. We need this documentation in order to fulfill required federal guidelines from the City and County for the services provided here at the center. The government requires that all client files contain proof of status, income and residency.

Please remember to bring in these documents so we can serve you and also get reimbursed for the services we provide. However if you are not comfortable with this request we will be happy to continue providing services to you but we will not be reimbursed for the services we provided you.

All Ryan White Clients and Case Managers – See boxed story on page 1

Volunteers greatly needed and appreciated at the center. If you have a few hours to spare, come by and give us a hand. You will help us to continue helping YOU and OTHERS WHO USE OUR CENTER. Hours are flexible.

HOURS OF OPERATION Monday through Friday 9am-9pm
 12570 NE 7th Ave., Suite 104, N. Miami 33161 • 305-891-2066 • fax 305-891-5053
 toll-free 888-pos-conn (767-2666) • pozconnect@aol.com • www.positiveconnections.org



AROUND THE CENTER – MIAMI AND NEW YORK

Welcome new practitioners

Massage – Welcome “Moe” Sztyleman, LMT. Moe graduated from Educating Hands School of Massage in 1987. He specializes in therapeutic, medical and sports massage. He has studied neuromuscular massage, Myofascial release, Mattes stretching techniques and CranioSacral therapy. He has worked in spa settings, chiropractor’s offices and has spent almost five years working on pre-post operative patients at Florida Sports Medicine Center in Miami. He has been a previous massage instructor at Educating Hands and Spacecoast Massage Institute in Cocoa Beach. At the Center Mondays 7-9pm.

Foot Reflexology or massage – Welcome **Amanda Gezt**, a graduating student at Educating Hands School of Massage. She will be available by appointment at the center on Mondays from 11-3pm.

Reiki/Energy Work – Welcome **Diana Ramirez**, a wellness consultant for Kiana Energy in Miami Beach that focuses on Reiki and Energy work in Mind, Body, and Spirit. From an early age Diana had noticed that she had a gift of healing with her hands. She decided to dedicate a year of her life to learning more about healing to expand her knowledge of Reiki, Meditation, and other energy therapies. Through her studies of spirituality, she also decided to dedicate herself to working with friends and family and help them find their balance of energy. Her gift has increased with time and has compelled her to help others that seek for her and her talents and produced great results. She will be available by appointment at the center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-7pm.



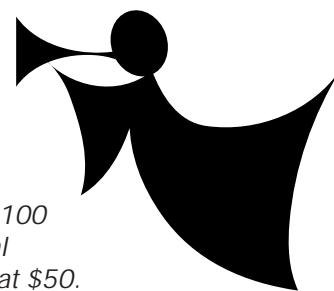
Congratulations NY Positive Connections satellite location.

Their weekly support group is still going strong after two years. They meet Wednesday at NAPAP office in Soho at 580 Broadway # 1010.

Thank you Michael and Stephen Halfor doing such a great job with the support group. Thanks Alice, Susan and Diane for launching the successful monthly social gatherings.

They are always looking for a helping hand. If you live in the tri-state area and have a background in social work, psychology or mental health counseling or support group facilitation and would consider helping to volunteer to facilitate the group so Michael can take a break as needed call the Miami office at 1-888-767-2666 and ask for Sheri.

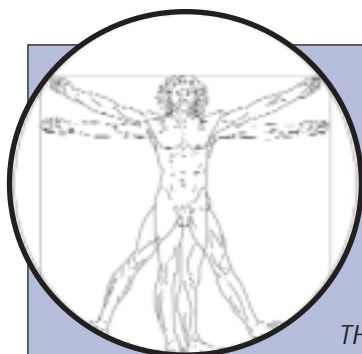
Angel Program



Through this new “quality of life” program, The Center for Positive Connections will be able to provide 100 HIV+ clients of TCPC with a practical personal or household item valued at \$50. TCPC staff will meet monthly to review this application and decide on which HIV individuals qualify for this “ANGEL” gift for the month.

The client will be accompanied by a staff member to the store to assist in the purchase; this is especially helpful to those who must rely on public transportation. The staff member will pay for the purchases at check out. Stop by the center today to fill out an application.

Sponsored by Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS



Holistic Services available for you everyday

Take active participation in your own healing. Move beyond your daily regimen and learn to incorporate alternative/complementary methods of therapy into your routine to treat the body as a whole.

The Center for Positive Connections has the services you need!

BODY TALK • MESSAGES • HYPNOSIS • RESET & TRAGER THERAPY • CRANIAL SACRAL THERAPY • IRIDOLOGY • MEDITATION • ACUPUNCTURE • REIKI • CHIROPRACTOR • LYMPH DRAINAGE • ENERGY THERAPY • YOGA • TRINITY HEALING

For details on our services call 305-891-2066. All services are provided by volunteer professionals. Suggested donation of \$3-10 per session is greatly appreciated.

VOLUNTEER PRACTITIONERS NEEDED.

JUNE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

RESERVE AT 305-891-2066

Sunday, June 6 • 3pm

An Afternoon of Irish Dance



Performing Arts Network, 13126 W Dixie Hwy.

A family performance including Lecture/ Demonstration, the History of Irish Dance, performances of The Breffini Irish Dancers repertory, and workshops for those who would like to experience hands-on of this beautiful dance form.

Only 5 tickets available. For additional tickets call 305-899-7730

Sponsored by Performing Arts Network and MAC AIDS FUND

Saturday, June 12th • 4pm-ish

Movie Matinee



3701 NE 163rd Street (Intracoastal Mall) North Miami Beach

TCPC will be hosting an afternoon at the movies, meeting at Sunrise Theatres, located at Intracoastal Mall, at about 4pm. A minimum of 20 people. For further information or to reserve a spot, call TCPC at 305-891-2066, we will have a better idea of movie times for that week as the date gets closer. We can go to dinner at Outback Steakhouse following the movie (dinner expense on your own).

Sponsored by the MAC AIDS Fund

Saturday, June 19 • 2pm

Children's Library Series • World Premiere new children's work and Mark Twain's

JUMPING FROG OF CALAVERAS COUNTY



Coral Gables Public Library, 3443 Segovia, Coral Gables.

Mark Twain's beloved classic short story comes to life through music, narration and dance, presented by the Momentum Dance Company. This is the fourth program in the Children's Library Series. A must-see for the entire family. This event is Free so make sure to arrive early. For information call 305-442-8706.

Sponsored by Momentum Dance Company and MAC AIDS FUND

Saturday, June 19 • 8pm

Gay Men Chorus presents

Still Standing: The Music of Elton John



541 Lincoln Theatre, South Beach

A performance by the South Beach Gay Men's Chorus featuring the extensive song repertoire of the legendary artist Elton John. Only 10 tickets are available. For additional tickets call 305-604-8787.

Sponsored by South Beach Gay Men Chorus and MAC AIDS FUND

Friday, June 25 • 8pm

Spirit



Amaturo Theater Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW 5th Ave., Fort Lauderdale

The Fort Lauderdale Gay Men's Chorus will be putting on a performance entitled "Spirit" as part of their Pride Concerts the weekend of June 25 - June 26. Only 5 tickets are available. For additional tickets call 954-462-0222

Sponsored by The Fort Lauderdale Gay Men's Chorus and MAC AIDS FUND.

Sunday, June 27 • 2pm

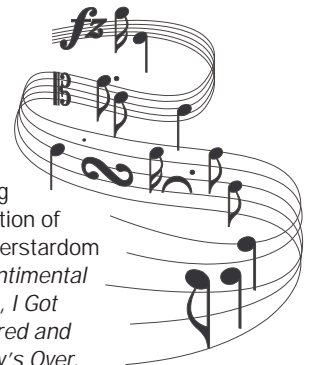
Day After Day

Stagedoor Theatre, 8036 W. Sample Road

The life and music of Doris Day is the only musical about America's film and recording icon that is endorsed as a true representation of her life from her humble beginnings to superstardom with all your favorite Doris Day hits like *Sentimental Journey*, *Que Sera Sera*, *Jeepers Creepers*, *I Got The Sun in The Mornin'*, *Bewitched*, *Bothered and Bewildered*, *I Enjoy Being A Girl*, *The Party's Over*, *When I Fall in Love*, *It's Magic*, *With a Song in My Heart*, *I Only Have Eyes For You*, and many more. Only 10 tickets. For additional tickets call 954-344-7765

Sponsored Stage Door Theatre and MAC AIDS FUND

Coming in July: *The Water Coolers*, *Actors Playhouse*



NEW YORK TRAVELING DINNERS AND SOCIALS

"AROUND THE WORLD IN 12 MONTHS"

The NY Support Group's monthly traveling dinner party continues. Do you like to try new and different food? Every second Friday of the month we travel to a different ethnic restaurant with other group members to socialize, enjoy fine dining, and make new friends. You must RSVP timely for the reservations are held with a personal credit card. It's NY - remember!

No Traveling Dinner this month. But look for us in July!!

Previous stops included visits to Italy, Morocco, and Thailand. Call Susan at 201-240-4098 or Dianne 646-220-4886 or Alice: 718-815-1930. NO EMAILS PLEASE.

NEW YORK SOCIALS: Each month we also provide a Social Event for the Tri-State area. Events take place on the last Sunday of the month. Space is limited for these events and reservations need to be secured as well. You must RSVP timely for the reservations are held with a personal credit card. Remember it's NY!!!!

Sunday, June 27 • Row Row Row a Boat...

in Central Park with an optional brunch at the boathouse restaurant. We've visited the zoo, hit the bowling lanes and enjoyed an afternoon at the movies. RSVP. Call Susan at 201-240-4098 or Dianne at 646-220-4886 to for details.



June
Educational
Dinner Lectures

*For the infected
& affected HIV+
Community*

**Dinner will be
Served**

Remember: It is necessary that you call to register at least 48 hours prior to the workshop date so that we may order catering and provide educational packets. Seating is limited to 20.

DISCLAIMER: The information presented by the speakers for our educational lectures do not reflect the opinion of the Center, its staff or its Board of Directors or sponsors.

**Lectures sponsored by
The Green Family
Foundation**

Thursday, June 17

Practical Therapies to Harmonize Energies

6:30-7pm Dinner • Workshop 7-9pm

All human beings have an energetic system which supports the physical body. When it becomes disharmonized, it will damage the many electrical parts in our body, making us ill. By attending this lecture, participants will have a better understanding of how to harmonize and balance out the frequencies of energies in one's body for healing. Stella is being brought back due to the overwhelming positive evaluation feedback from participants from her lecture given last year. Don't miss this opportunity to really learn about healing the body in many aspects.



Participants will walk away with understanding:

- the use of meditation and practical exercises to eliminate anger, fear, worry, sadness, and grief
- which therapies can measure the condition of the energetic system: through Radiesthesia, holistic kinesiology, the pendulum and VAS (vascular autonomic signal)
- how the dermatron and voice analysis machine can detect illness
- floral therapy: how flower essence can help balance out our emotional and mental state
- The Ki method-through these simple techniques you will learn how to regain and balance your own energy system through electrical meridians.
- tips for emergency situation-learn Stella's natural home remedies for simple problems

Presented by Rev. Luz Stella Yamuni, Stella specializes in Electro-magnetic health research, is a Reiki master and a mediation teacher. In 1982 Stella first encountered Dr. Wendell Hoffman, an expert in Radiesthesia and measuring energies. Then trained with Hanna Kroger and learned healing with energies and Radiesthesia. She is certified with the International Ki-Kitutsu Association and is trained in the KI Method of healing. She is also trained from the Second International Congress of Alternative Medicine in Guatemala, the Pan American Institute of Bioenergetics Medicine (Acupuncture without needles), and the Hemo-toxicology School of North America trained by Dr. O' Byrne.

Tuesday, June 29

AIDS 104 Course

Workshop 6-10pm

Dinner will be served at 5:30pm.

In this workshop you will learn the basic ABC's of HIV/AIDS:

- The history and origin of HIV
- what is HIV; transmission, symptoms, progression
- statistics
- opportunistic infections
- treatments
- testing
- legal issues

Newly diagnosed, affected family and friends, peer educators, and volunteers are encouraged to attend. Certification will be given after you complete the course.

Presented by an representative of C.O.A.C.H.N. (Consulting On AIDS and Community Health Issues Now)



♥ KUDOS AWARD

• **Volunteer of the month – Alina Hammer** has been volunteering with the center for the past 6 months. She comes from California with all sorts of HIV support background and has dedicated coming to the center twice a week and also helps do outreach booths. She's a pleasure and a joy to have around. Please consider contributing a few hours a week, it makes you feel good to help others.

• **Practitioner of the month – Deborah Jones, PhD.** Deborah has been volunteering at the center since 1997, providing mental health counseling. She also goes to Zambia twice a year to help the African Villages and has received recognition for her international work.

• **Jeff Atlas** contributed 1000 self help books for a new expanded lending library, in memory of his brother. They will soon be set up into you to borrow.

• **New Life Expo Volunteers** who donated manpower to volunteer at the New Life Expo last month: Calvin, Alina, Louis, Millie, Sheri. We reached thousands with HIV education and prevention materials.

• **Starbucks Coffee of North Miami** – Donated coffee grinds for the coffee station.

• **Together We Can Foundation** – Thank you Louis Robinson for bringing non perishables food items and bread products to distribute to our members weekly.

• **WalMart** – Contributed \$500 unrestricted funds

• **Barry University Residential Life** contributed \$400 after Sheri's speaking presentation.

• Thank you **Miracle Journeys Magazine** for spearheading and hosting a Spring Bash Fundraiser for our center on Saturday, May 22nd at its studio 57 facility. Thanks to the following sponsor, volunteers, entertainment and art exhibitors, massage students and psychics. This event would not have been a success without the community coming together for a good cause. Hundreds were in attendance and a fabulous time was had by all till the wee hours in the morning. The party included a vegetarian buffet, open bar, 2 stages with 6 bands performing, chair massages, laser light show, psychic readings, vendors shopping area, and art showcases.



Snapshots from Miracle Journeys



Thanks to our Miracle Journeys Volunteers

Sponsors

- Bhoom Shanti Fashion & Home Décor
- Blue Skie Entertainment
- Celebrity Promotions
- Chronic Sonic
- Collector's Depot
- DC Langer Art
- Deep Touch Records
- Drishi Pliske
- Fernando Cid de Diego
- Fine Art Deco
- Fossil Watches
- Gomi Elite Vodka
- Govinda's Dining Café & Gifts
- HiHO Batik
- Miami River Productions
- Miami Today News
- Miami2night.com
- Miracle Journeys Magazine
- Pilar Restaurant
- Presidente Imported Beer

- Psyber Vision
- Red Bull
- Renaissance Bakery
- Robin Hill Co. Photography
- Scene Stealer Design
- School of Educating Hands
- Sidram Entertainment Solutions
- Social Miami.com
- Spirit Talk Radio Solutions
- StellaArtoisImported Beer
- Studio 57
- The Center for Positive Connections
- The Miami Herald
- ThinkHolic.com
- Uncle Wally's Wholesome Baked Goods

Entertainment Volunteers

- Alexis & Danielle
- Educating Hands School of Massage

- DJ Chilly
- Efrain Brinez
- Gayle Coursol
- Hope Littwin
- Huasipungo
- Inner Voice
- Kuyayky Music
- Lenny Sullivan (Psychic Reading)
- Michael Moses & Rivers of Time
- Rey Alejandro Montanez
- Trance Energy Yoga
- "DJ Buddy Bear" Michael Johnson

Volunteers

- Andrea Lee
- Aldolfo Mendez
- Alex Morgan
- Alina Hammer
- Daniel Chasen
- Demetrius Harryton
- Marcos Hartman
- Elizabeth Hudson

- Eric Hernandez
- Gary Summons
- Joe Nimeth
- Kelly Patterson
- Kim Cousins
- Larry Harris
- Louis Robinson
- Louis Vaccari
- Marcela Di Santos
- Marco Solano
- Marina Rao
- Otto Bauta
- Marla Warrington
- Michael DeCarlo
- Mike McDearmaid
- Robert Hyde
- Serafine Curz
- Sheri Kaplan
- Stephen Dorsdick
- Tony Lopez
- Vivian Calo
- Patricia Josue

SHIP'S ITINERARY:

- Wed., 9/1, departs Seward, Alaska at 9pm
- Thu., 9/2, cruise Prince William Sound and College Fjord (at sea)
- Fri., 9/3, Sitka (10am - 6pm)
- Sat., 9/4, Juneau (7am - 11pm)
- Sun., 9/5, Skagway (7am - 4:30pm) and cruise Lynn Canal
- Mon., 9/6, Ketchikan (11am - 8pm)
- Tue., 9/7, cruise Inside Passage (at sea)
- Wed., 9/8, arrive in Vancouver, BC, Canada at 8am

2003 CRUISE TESTIMONIALS

- It was the time of my life. I never had so much fun in a 7 day period. I danced the night away. I laughed so much my sides hurt. I will never forget all the wonderful people I met.
- Just seeing so many people who are also affected having such a great time. It let you know you are not alone. It also reinforces that there is a whole other side out there. You can still live and have fun.
- Going on a Positive Connections Retreat was the best thing I have done for myself. I don't feel so alone and enjoyed living my life for the first time in a long while. Thank you Positive Connections for changing my life!
- I was welcomed and invited to join with other people that opened up and shared themselves. I found out I was normal in what I was dealing with.
- This is a chance of a lifetime to really connect on all levels. I get the chills just writing this. That's how great it was and it always will be!!
- This was a great way to meet new friends that are challenged with this illness...relax and have great fun, and educate yourself on new and alternative medicines.
- The chance to be together with a group of people with the same common problems and to talk and interact is great...helps to recharge the batteries to continue the struggle when you get home.
- Everyone should experience the fun of a 7 day cruise once in their lifetime.
- The value of an HIV group getaway has a great positive influence. We can interact, open up, have fun, and feel a sense of normalcy in our lives.
- Being exposed to other HIV positive people is so refreshing. You can let your hair down and know that you are not alone.
- There was interaction. I made new friends and got closer with old ones.
- Everyone was just wonderful and it was fun to know that even if I went out alone on the ship that I would probably run into a knowing friend and I wasn't really alone.
- Trips like these give us that thrill and chase of finding your significant.
- It's great to know that I can still dirty dance and make love for 7 straight days.
- I got the chance to directly get involved and learn about others...I didn't give myself a chance to be timid.
- It was an intoxicating experience!



*Ship's Registry: Panama

Booking Now!

Positive Connections' Going North to Alaska on its 7th Annual Poz Cruise

September 1 to 8, 2004



Sail on Carnival Cruise Line's ship the Carnival Spirit for a seven-day RETREAT starting in Anchorage, Alaska and ending in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The cruise is for the HIV community, their friends and family across the U.S.

Our "7-Day Southbound Glacier Route" Alaskan port-of-call adventure includes cruising through animal habitats in Prince William Sound, gazing at 16 glaciers in College Fjord, learning about sea otters' plight for survival in Sitka, rafting Mendenhall Lake in Juneau, eating fresh fish at a salmon bake in Skagway and sighting black bears in Ketchikan.

Port-of-call tours are optional and payable at the Excursions Desk onboard. For tour detail, see our website www.positiveconnections.org.

We'll kick-off the cruise with a great pre-cruise party at a local downtown Anchorage hot spot. Details to follow.

Numerous on-board social gatherings are planned: cocktail party, group photograph, hot-tub party and farewell talent show. Each night we dine together in a sit down restaurant. After dinner, we can watch a revue in the cabaret lounge, listen to live music in piano bar, play the slots or dance till dawn in the disco.

Support groups will be available throughout the cruise. You will meet many new people and possibly meet your significant other.

FINAL PAYMENT DUE BY JUNE 17.
We have only 30 cabins reserved.

Airfare is not included in the cruise price but Northwest Airlines guaranteed a ten (10%) percent discount on other airlines' lowest quotes. Call Northwest Airlines at (800) 328-1111 and ask for World File #NM36Y.

Be careful when making your airline reservations. Allow time to transfer to and from airport. **Your return flight home from Vancouver should not depart before 11:30am on Sept. 8th.** If you choose not to buy airfare from Carnival, then you should buy an airport transfer from Anchorage to Seward. Each transfer cost **\$55 per person** because Seward is more than 60 miles south of Anchorage. In Vancouver, the transfer from the port to the airport costs **\$16**. Boarding begins at 1 pm, however, you should plan to arrive in Anchorage on Wed., Sept. 1, before 6pm. Remember, you must be aboard before 8pm because the ship departs at 9pm.

Arrive in Anchorage a few days early and join us for an exciting pre-cruise party. You can also stay a few days in Vancouver to continue vacationing after the cruise.

For those of you interested in visiting Denali National Park and Fairbanks, AK, Paul can arrange three and four night packages for an additional price.

SIGN UP NOW!

NEW CONTACT INFO
To reserve a spot or for more information call Paul Stalbaum at 954-761-1500 ext. 241 or 800-735-0401 ext. 241 or email him at paul@universal-travel.com.

You can also call the sponsoring agency - TCPC - at 305-891-2066 or 888-767-2666 or visit our website www.positiveconnections.org.

CANCELLATIONS:

A \$35 fee will be imposed if you cancel before June 17. Any cancellation received between June 18 and July 16 is subject to a \$385 per-person fee. There is a 50% penalty for cancellations between July 17 and August 17. There are no refunds for cancellations received after August 18.

HOW TO RESERVE: Special group rate reservations must be made through our travel agent, Paul Stalbaum at Universal Travel, 1425C SE 17th St. Ft. Lauderdale 33316. For info call Paul Stalbaum at 954-761-1500 ext. 241 or 800-735-0401 ext. 241 or email him at paul@universal-travel.com. Mention PozCruise when you make a reservation, so Paul gives you our group rate and includes you in our group activities.

PACKAGE INCLUDES: A seven-day cruise, nightly entertainment, all meals, one cocktail party and group photograph. There are more than a dozen bars and lounges including an Internet Café and ice-cream parlor. We have arranged for the entire group to dine together each night at 8:15pm.

PRICING: Cabin rates are per person for DOUBLE OCCUPANCY.











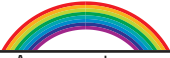




- Inside Cabin \$570 (triples or quads available).
- Outside Cabin \$820 (two lower beds, sitting area, large porthole, triples available).
- Balcony Cabin \$920 (two lower beds, sitting area, floor-to-ceiling glass door to a private balcony, triples and quads available).
- Triples and quads are available in most cabin categories and are confirmed when you make a deposit.
- Either a third or fourth person in each cabin is only \$360 p/p. Single cabins are available at twice the price the double occupancy. All staterooms have a private bathroom, vanity area, hair dryer, miniature bar, television, safe, radio and telephone.

These prices do not include alcoholic beverages, gratuity, shore excursions in ports of call, trip cancellation insurance and port-charge taxes. Prices are subject to change and availability.

PORT-CHARGE TAXES: An additional fee of \$251.42 per person must be paid at the time of final payment.

PASSPORT/BIRTH CERTIFICATE REQUIRED:

American citizens require a passport or a birth certificate with a government photo ID. Everyone else including Canadians must have a passport. If you are from outside the U.S., contact your consulate.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>See page 2 for information on advertising in our newsletter.</p> <p>WELCOME MOE ZYLIERMAN, CMT</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Acupuncture Energy Therapy <i>Gay Support Group 7-9pm</i></p> <p>WELCOME AMANDA GETZ, M.T.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Acupuncture Reiki • Mental Health Yoga 10:30-noon NYC HETERO GROUP 6-8 PM <i>Hetero Family & Friends Support Group • 7-9pm</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>Acupuncture Massage Energy Therapy Guided Karmic Meditation 7-9pm</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>Remember... Reservations are required for all activities 305-891-2066 And please call and cancel if you cannot attend.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Thanks to The Green Family Foundation and Adorno & Yoss for helping make this newsletter possible.</p>
<p>6</p> <p>"An Afternoon of Irish Dance" Performing Arts Network 3pm • 4 tickets</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>Massage Mental Health Trager • Body Talk New Group <i>Hep-C Co-infection 7:30-8:30pm</i> <i>Spanish Support Group 8-10pm</i></p>	<p>8</p> <p>Acupuncture Energy Therapy <i>Gay Support Group 7-9pm</i></p> 	<p>9</p> <p>Acupuncture Reiki • Mental Health Yoga 10:30-noon NYC HETERO GROUP 6-8 PM <i>Hetero • 7-9pm</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>Acupuncture Massage Trinity Healing 7-9pm By appt.</p> 	<p>11</p>  <p>NY Traveling Dinner No dinner this month. Check back in July!</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Movie Matinee 4pm • Intracoastal Theater Gay Life Expo <i>Miami Beach Convention Center • 9am-5pm</i></p>
<p>13</p> <p>Gay Life Expo <i>Miami Beach Convention Center • 9am-5pm</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>Massage • Trager Body Talk • Mental Health New Group <i>Hep-C Co-infection 7:30-8:30pm</i> <i>Spanish Support Group 8-10pm</i></p>	<p>15</p>  <p>Acupuncture Reiki • Energy Therapy <i>Gay Support Group 7-9pm</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>Acupuncture Reiki • Yoga Mental Health NYC HETERO GROUP 6-8 PM <i>Hetero Support Group 7-9pm</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>Acupuncture Massage • Energy Therapy DINNER LECTURE Practical Therapies to Harmonize Energies 6:30-9pm</p> 	<p>18</p>  <p>LOOK</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Jumping Frog of Calaveras County <i>Coral Gables Library • 2pm</i></p> <p>South Beach Gay Men's Chorus <i>Lincoln Theatre</i></p> 
<p>20</p> <p>We are a non-profit organization. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation now!</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Massage Mental Health Trager • Body Talk New Group <i>Hep-C Co-infection 7-8:30pm</i> <i>Spanish Support Group 8-10pm</i></p>	<p>22</p> <p>Acupuncture Reiki • Energy Therapy <i>Gay Support Group 7-9pm</i></p> 	<p>23</p> <p>Acupuncture Yoga Mental Health NYC HETERO GROUP 6-8 PM <i>Hetero Support Group 7-9pm</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p>Acupuncture Massage Energy Therapy</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Gay Men Chorus "Spirit" Amaturo Theatre • 8pm 15 Tickets</p>	<p>26</p> <p><i>Women's Support Group Luncheon 1-3pm</i></p> 
<p>27</p> <p>"Day After Day" Stage Door Theatre • 2pm 10 Tickets</p> <p>NY Social Central Park</p> 	<p>28</p> <p>Body Talk Massage Mental Health • Trager <i>Hep-C Co-infection 7-8:30pm</i> <i>Spanish Family & Friend Support Group 8-10pm</i></p>	<p>29</p> <p>Acupuncture Reiki • Energy Therapy <i>Gay Support Group • 7-9pm</i></p>  <p>DINNER LECTURE AIDS 104 6-10pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Acupuncture Mental Health • Yoga NYC HETERO GROUP 6-8 PM <i>Hetero Support Group 7-9pm</i></p> <p><i>This month's Birthdays Celebrations</i></p> 	<p>Help save the Center money by receiving this newsletter via e-mail. Sign up today</p>	<p>The Center for Positive Connections provides emotional, educational, social support & holistic services to the HIV infected community, targeting heterosexuals, newly diagnosed and affected family and friends. We serve those infected regardless of sex, race, economic status, religious beliefs or sexual orientation. Please bring proof of status and income to join and continue receiving services at TCPC. All activities are held at the Center unless otherwise indicated. Reservations are necessary for all events.</p>	

COMING UP: THE WATER COOLERS AT ACTORS PLAYHOUSE • AIDS CONFERENCE IN THAILAND
CHECK OUT THE DETAILS FOR OUR ALASKA CRUISE IN SEPTEMBER ON PAGE 7