



# PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

ADVOCACY & SERVICES SINCE 1995

The Network  
News  
2018  
October  
Issue #220

OREGON HIV CASE MANAGEMENT

## How's Open Enrollment Going?

CMS Marketplace [Applications & Forms](#)  
CMS [Outreach and Education Resources](#)  
[Marketplace.CMS.gov Page](#)



Looking for an event to join on December 1st  
Check out [www.worldaidsdaynw.org](http://www.worldaidsdaynw.org)

## Next Meeting

**November 13**

**9-10:30 a.m.**  
**800 NE Oregon**

**Stacy Borke,**  
**MSW**  
**Senior Director**  
**of Program**  
**Transition**  
**Project**



Testing is easy. Prevention works. Treatment saves lives.



The time is Now.  
**WORLD AIDS DAY**  
DECEMBER 1

Learn more at [WorldAidsDayNW.org](http://WorldAidsDayNW.org)



## BE THE FIRST TO KNOW: ONLINE COLA INCREASES

We are constantly expanding our online services to give you freedom and control when doing business with us. Our new online cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) notices are another example of our commitment in this area. Soon, you'll be the first to know your new benefit amount!

Later this year, we will post the Social Security COLA notices online for retirement, survivors, and disability beneficiaries with a *my Social Security* account. The COLA announcement usually occurs in October, but final benefit amounts won't be calculated and available until December, when we send COLA notices that contain the benefit amount for the next calendar year.

These COLA notices will now be available to view and save via the Message Center inside *my Social Security*. The Message Center is a secure, convenient portal where you can receive sensitive communications we don't send through email or text.

This year, you will still receive your COLA notice by mail. In the future, you will be able to choose whether you receive your notice online instead of on paper.

Online notices will not be available to representative payees, individuals with foreign mailing addresses, or those who pay higher Medicare premiums due to their income. We plan to expand the availability of COLA notices to additional online customers in the future.

Remember, our services are always free of charge. No government agency or reputable company will solicit your personal information by email or request advanced fees for services in the form of wire transfers or gift cards. Avoid falling victim to fraudulent internet "phishing" schemes by not revealing personal information, selecting malicious links, or opening malicious attachments. You can learn more about the ways we protect your investment, personal information, and *my Social Security* account at <https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/security.html>.

Be the first to know. Sign up for or log in to your personal *my Social Security* account today at <https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount> and choose email or text under "Message Center Preferences" to receive your COLA notice online!

Regional Public Affairs Office

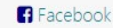
Community Outreach

Social Security Administration

[SEA.ORC.RPA@ssa.gov](mailto:SEA.ORC.RPA@ssa.gov)

## Helping folks access PrEP?

Here are some resources that could be helpful



### Welcome!

NASTAD PrEP Cost Calculator

If you are considering PrEP for HIV prevention, this site can help you pick the best marketplace health plan for you.

Open Enrollment started on November 1<sup>st</sup>.  
You can use this tool now to preview and compare available health plans.

### Here are the steps:

1. Provide some basic info for the search
2. View the health plans available
3. Enroll in the best plan

[Continue](#)

By continuing you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) of this website.

And of course this great resource from the [Oregon AETC](#)



### Click here to find a PrEP provider in Oregon and Washington

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, is a way for people who do not have HIV but who are at substantial risk of getting it to prevent HIV infection by taking a pill every day. The pill (brand name Truvada) contains two medicines (tenofovir and emtricitabine) that are used in combination with other medicines to treat HIV. When someone is exposed to HIV through sex or injection drug use, these medicines can work to keep the virus from establishing a permanent infection.

**IF YOU ARE A PRESCRIBING CLINICIAN IN OREGON OR WASHINGTON AND WISH TO BE ADDED TO THE PREP PROVIDER LIST, [CLICK HERE](#).**



This is a once a year conference dedicated to the work of social work and HIV/AIDS.

Consider attending and sharing all the great work we do in Oregon!



## National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS

Hosted by the Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS (PASWHA).  
Managed by Collaborative Solutions, Inc.

# May 22-25, 2019

[www.nationalconferenceonsocialworkandhiv aids.com](http://www.nationalconferenceonsocialworkandhiv aids.com)

### Call for Abstracts Now Open!

We invite you to submit a presentation proposal for the 2019 Annual National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS, which will be held in Washington, DC! We expect nearly 100 presentations to be delivered that will focus on this year's theme.

Hosted through a partnership between the *Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS (PASWHA)* and *Collaborative Solutions*, this year's theme, "Social Work: Leadership. Change. Hope." will focus on the role of social workers as leaders for social change, ending HIV/AIDS, best practices, prevention, research, and giving a voice to the profession; while empowering those we serve to be heard.

We can see an end to the HIV epidemic in this generation!  
**Social Work: Leadership. Change. Hope.**

[CLICK HERE TO START](#)

[www.nationalconferenceonsocialworkandhiv aids.com](http://www.nationalconferenceonsocialworkandhiv aids.com)

## Public Charge– What is it and what is at risk?

(Some content borrowed from National Health Care for the Homeless Council email of 10/25)

On October 10<sup>th</sup> the Trump Administration published a proposed rule that would change a longstanding immigration policy for people seeking to enter the United States or apply for legal residency. “Public Charge” is a term used to determine if people are (or likely will be) dependent on the government as their main source of support. The existing rule looks only at cash assistance programs (such as SSI/SSDI, TANF, etc.), while the new proposal expands the provision to include participation in safety-net programs such as Medicaid, SNAP/food stamps, Section 8/housing vouchers, and other vital programs.

The [full text of the proposed rule](#) is published on the Federal Register, but you can also get information at [this FAQ](#).

Public comments on this rule are due **Monday, December 10**. It is vital that service organizations submit comments—however brief—in response to this proposed rule.

**Learn more about Public Charge and...**

[Medicaid](#) from the Kaiser Family Foundation

[Health Centers](#) from the National Association of Community Health Centers

[Housing Programs](#) from the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty

[Food Stamps/SNAP](#) from the Food Research and Action Center



[Here is a statement from NASTAD about the impact of Public Charge on HIV and Hepatitis](#)



[Protecting Immigrant Families](#) also has concise information on this dangerous proposed rule change



In an effort to remain aware of all of our programmatic and staff changes throughout the HIV community in Oregon we would like to collect and share that information

Programmatic & staff changes should be sent to [lagermes@ohsu.edu](mailto:lagermes@ohsu.edu) by the last Wednesday of the month. I will also be emailing agencies to obtain that information but if I miss you let me know.

### **Cascade AIDS Project**

#### **Welcomes:**

- Carlos Sanchez, HIV Prevention Specialist
- Sovanna Mao, Medical Assistant at PRISM
  
- Kristin Cedar has been promoted to Housing Services Team Lead – she will maintain her current caseload and will take on the supervision of the Housing Services Specialist and work on landlord/resource system management.

### **MULTNOMAH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

#### **Welcomes:**

- Lonnie Ferguson, Social Work Intern September 2018-June 2019

### **WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

#### **Welcomes**

- Raul Diestra, Bilingual DIS and HIV Outreach Specialist. Raul will be working with persons newly diagnosed with HIV and those that have fallen out of care. Raul will assist PLWH with access to timely treatment and other needed services. He can be reached at 503-846-8321.

### **RUSSEL STREET DENTAL CLINIC**

#### **Welcomes**

Haidee Alvarez, new front desk person and she speaks Spanish

### **HIV ALLIANCE**

#### **Welcomes**

New care coordinators:

- Hilary Bons
- Cory McGuire

## **Mental Health and Addictions ABC Program (Addiction Benefits Coordination)**

### ***What is Addictions Benefit Coordination?***

Addictions Benefit Coordination (ABC) serves residents who need help accessing treatment for substance use disorder (SUD). The team supports residents by helping them understand their treatment needs and options, including:

- Outpatient substance use disorder treatment
  - Residential treatment
  - Medication-assisted treatment
- Ongoing recovery support services

### ***Who is Eligible?***

The ABC team serves clients living in Multnomah County who are having substance use disorder issues and having trouble accessing care. Eligible clients must also be one of the following:

- Enrolled in Health Share of Oregon
- Enrolled in Medicare
- Uninsured

### ***How can I refer someone?***

The ABC team can serve anyone who's eligible and consents to speak with an ABC team member. The client must be experiencing SUD issues and having trouble accessing care, no matter what stage of change they're in.

To refer a client, email the ABC Team for a referral form [abcteam@multco.us](mailto:abcteam@multco.us) ([link sends e-mail](#)).

### **Staff**

Laura Paz Whitmore full time Ryan White Coordinator (503) 307-3176

Valerie Warden .2 FTE Ryan White Coordinator (503)953-0501

### **Our House**

Saying Farewell to Elwood on November 15th who is going to be working on the County HIV Clinic.

They are replacing this position. Posting is available [here](#). Resumes can be sent to [mhartzog@ourhouseofportland.org](mailto:mhartzog@ourhouseofportland.org).

### **Quest Center for Integrative Health**

[Hiring a HIV and Recovery Peer Position \( open until Friday, November 30th\).](#)

**Thank you for all your updates!!**

This newsletter is published by  
[OHSU/ Partnership Project](#).

Our thanks to OHA HIV Care and Treatment Program for website posting distribution of the newsletter.

The editor is Julia Lager-Mesulam.

Comments/questions about this publication should be directed to:

Julia Lager-Mesulam at [lagermes@ohsu.edu](mailto:lagermes@ohsu.edu),  
or call (503) 230-1202, FAX (503) 230-1213,  
5525 SE Milwaukie Ave. Portland, OR 97202

This issue, and issues from January 2011 on, can be found electronically [here](#)