

FAHASS

Fredericksburg Area HIV/AIDS Support Services
Quarterly Newsletter

In this issue:

- Executive Director's Welcome
- Prevention Spotlight
- Care Services
- CAB Information
- Upcoming Events

From the Executive Director

Welcome! We hope this newsletter will serve as an additional method to keep our clients, stakeholders, and community up-to-date with changes at FAHASS, as well as upcoming events we have planned throughout the year. With 26 events planned, 2019 is shaping up to be one of our busiest years ever! With greater client and community participation, we expect even more events to be added to our calendar. Hope to see you there!

— Joseph Lyttle

Prevention Department Spotlight



Well, it's OFFICIAL...FAHASS prevention has a new home (well, another location). FAHASS's Prevention Department is now located at 4701 Market Street location in Suite B. We will still be offering testing at our 415 Elm Street location on Tuesdays and Wednesdays along with appointments on Fridays. We will still be offering testing every other Saturdays at Elm Street as well.

March 10th is National Women and Girls HIV AIDS Awareness Day and we will be working with the Women of Valor Empowerment Network (WOVEN) to support women and girls infected and affected by HIV. Please contact Donna Powell or Jasmine Ford for more details. Also in March, National Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is observed on March 20th. It is extremely important that we acknowledge those that have been infected and affected with HIV and to increase the knowledge with hopes of reducing the number of new cases of HIV infection in our community.

We are pleased to announce a new HIV prevention project entitled the Mpowerment Project. It is a prevention program specifically designed to address the needs of young gay and bisexual men of color between the ages of 16-30. We are looking to have a core group of young men that are willing to help shape a healthy community for themselves, build positive social connections, and support their friends to have safer sex. If you are a go-getter and enjoy planning fun-filled events, please contact Lorenzo Sherman or Jemall Stuart. A good time is sure to be had by all through game night, karaoke night, chat & chew, just to name a few of the events that have been planned.

We have some exciting things planned for 2019 so stay tuned.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

— Coretta Scott King

CAB Updates

My name is John Albert Nolan, born March 24, 1967 (52 soon). I have been living in Fredericksburg, Va. since 2015. At such time I have been a member of the FAHASS family. Through case management and friendships, I have completely accepted that I have been living with HIV for 35 years (July 2019). Through trials and tribulations I have come to understand the various aspects of the virus. With this understanding and knowledge, I set forth to educate today's youth.

As a consumer and a member of FAHASS CAB (Consumer Advisory Board), I am looking to be a voice of empowerment and advocacy for HIV/AIDS. My future plans include being able to provide/create peer to peer social programs towards prevention. In doing so, I am looking to work with Agencies, local organizations, and individuals to assist in advocacy for their healthcare needs.



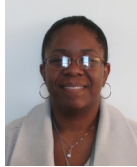
FAHASS Staff Photo at our Winter Wonderland Gala

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Other Agency News

Welcome Erika Jones, Care Services Program Manager!



“I am an MSW and a West Virginia University alum. On October 2018, I became the new Care Services Program Manager of FAHASS. I am afforded the opportunity to work with passionate and dedicated, Medical and Non-medical Case Manager, who serve a population that often times are overlooked. I am learning and growing in my knowledge and experience within the HIV/Aids Community. Our team is impacting client’s lives in hopes of improving their circumstances.”

Welcome Josh Helsley, Psychosocial Programs Coordinator!



“I’m originally from just outside Richmond, Virginia, but I’m soon relocating to the Fredericksburg area after finishing my last semester at UMW in order to be closer to the community that I’ll be working with. I’m a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community, and I am eager to help educate and better the area I live in.”

Care Services News

Care Services is continuing to move forward with assisting clients and the greater community with HIV/Aids support services as well as counseling and support groups, throughout the month of February.

Past February Events:

The Consumer Advisory Board, CAB, will be collaboratively hosting a **“Falling in Love with Self”** dinner. There will be a discussion on how to take care of one’s self and in turn be able to be health for others around.

FRLHC (Fredericksburg Region Latinx Health Coalition) will be hosting its first Community Leader and Community members outreach, and Understanding Medical Terminology Class, events, starting on the second week of February. The goal of FRLHC is to connect, support, and empower the Latinx community through service and identifying need with in the local population.

Upcoming March Events:

The Consumer Advisory Board, CAB, will be collaboratively hosting a **St. Patrick’s Day** client dinner with FAHASS staff. There will be a brief presentation by Viiv Health Care services, followed by fun games and activities for the clients.

FRLHC (Fredericksburg Region Latinx Health Coalition) will have its final classes for the first session of the Understanding Medical Terminology course. Additionally, a Latinx event will also be hosted.

Upcoming April Events:

Care Services will be hosting a Health Fair on the 17th of April. We will be out in the community meeting with members of the community and working with other agencies to provide information about our services as well as provide linkage to other services that may be identified. Our goal is to reach the public and let them know that we are here and provide assistance in areas that they may be able to take advantage of.

“Strength does not come from winning.

Your struggles develop your

strengths. When you go through

hardships and

decide not to

surrender, that is strength.”

– Arnold

Schwarzenegger



FAHASS Staff Photo at our Glow Party