

## NORTHWEST newsbriefs

and by most physicians with a heavy percentage of gay and bi male patients.

Mitchell Zahn, HIV prevention manager of the Oregon Department of Human Services HIV/STD/TB Program, emphasizes the importance of regional efforts in health promotion.

"MSM in the Portland area travel across counties and even across the state line for recreation and sexual contacts, so it's important that all the health departments of these counties are involved and work together to put together a campaign aimed at these men," he said. "On the state level, too, a number of different programs have collaborated—immunizations, STD and HIV prevention—with the counties to develop the hepatitis A and B immunization promotion campaign. The rise in syphilis among MSM in the Portland area underscores the importance for MSM to protect themselves against sexually transmitted infections that can be prevented."

To find a health care provider and arrange for vaccination, call the Oregon HIV/STD Hotline at 800-777-2437 or visit [www.gaycity.org](http://www.gaycity.org) or [www.hepclinics.com](http://www.hepclinics.com).

### GIVE THANKS

The predominantly gay Metropolitan Community Church of Portland will present "Let Us Give Thanks: An Ecumenical Thanksgiving Day Service & Dinner" Nov. 27 at 2400 N.E. Broadway.

The worship service will begin at 11 a.m. followed by dinner at noon in the Social Hall. Meats, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing and beverages will be provided; salads, side dishes, breads and desserts are welcome and will be assigned alphabetically.

In addition, Catholic Charities AIDS Ministry and All Saints Catholic Church will play host to a holiday meal for people living with HIV at 3847 N.E. Glisan St. Appetizers will be served at noon followed by dinner at 1 p.m.

To make reservations call 503-281-8868 (MCC) or 503-963-8102 (Catholic Charities).

### EQUITY FOUNDATION RECEIVES \$100,000

Equity Foundation announced Oct. 21 that it is the recipient of a \$100,000 grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust. The funds will be used to hire a development and marketing coordinator to grow the nonprofit's resources, educate the public and move donors toward inspired philanthropy.

"Equity has experienced tremendous growth over the last 14 years, so it was critical that we obtain additional resources to help us move to the next level," executive director Linda Traeger said. "We see this gift from the Meyer Memorial Trust as a vote of confidence that Equity has the leadership and the vision to effectively promote philanthropy and support our community."

Equity's goal is to add more than 1,000 new names to its database and raise about 1 million new dollars during the three-year grant period. With a new resource development professional on staff, it plans to increase board training and participation in fund-raising efforts; expand outreach and education efforts; engage donors in monthly, multiyear, major gift and planned giving programs; and grow its Donor-Advised Fund program.

"In today's economic climate, more nonprofits are struggling for adequate support," Traeger said. "The Meyer grant gives Equity greater capacity to meet community needs and fund programs that share our mission of promoting diversity and human dignity."

Equity was founded in 1989 by a group of gay men and lesbians to promote philanthropy and

support nonprofit organizations in Oregon. Since then it has raised more than \$3.3 million and granted out \$1.5 million.

For more information visit [www.equityfoundation.org](http://www.equityfoundation.org).



PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

Longtime feminist activist Jesse Winter coordinates volunteers for the Hambleton Project, a support network for lesbians with cancer and other life-threatening conditions

### SUPPORT NETWORK HIRES VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Hambleton Project, a support network for lesbians with cancer and other life-threatening conditions, has hired a new volunteer coordinator.

Jesse Winter has been employed in social services for her entire professional life. A long-time feminist activist, she has worked with patients at Seattle's Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and American Cancer Society.

Hambleton held a successful fund-raiser Oct. 11 at Unleash Yourself in which pet owners could have their photographs taken with their furry friends. The event brought in \$780 to support the organization's programs.

The project's next fund-raiser is the Mindful Gifts Fair on Dec. 13 at Bridgeport United Church of Christ, 621 N.E. 76th Ave. This innovative event encourages shoppers to support their favorite nonprofit by giving donations in the names of the people on their shopping list rather than buying consumer products for the holidays.

For more information or to volunteer, call 503-335-6591 or visit [www.hambletonproject.org](http://www.hambletonproject.org).

### HIV/AIDS PROGRAMS RECEIVE \$5,000 GRANTS

The PGE Foundation has awarded \$5,000 grants to two Portland programs so they can effectively collaborate in their efforts to address counseling needs of families living with HIV/AIDS.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's HIV Day Center provides hot meals, telephones, mail drop, computers with Internet access, washer and dryer, opportunities to socialize, recreational therapy and mental health counseling. Women's Intercommunity AIDS Resource offers guidance and counseling, advocacy, education, peer programs, prevention and referrals.

A total of 24 nonprofits across the state

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