

AIDS: The Preventable Epidemic Curriculum For Grades 4-12

"AIDS: The Preventable Epidemic", a draft curriculum for grades 4-12 has been made available by the Oregon Health Division AIDS Program for use in Oregon schools. The curriculum was developed following consultation with the State Department of Education and committees representing various grade levels and school districts in Oregon. The project was funded by the Oregon Legislature.

The AIDS curriculum is being introduced to school districts in Oregon during two-day workshops, to be completed by April, 1988. The teachers are being asked to critically evaluate and work with the curriculum this school year, before the final version is printed in the fall.

The curriculum emphasizes the need for everyone to adopt a healthy lifestyle by avoiding risky behaviors and identifying and practicing healthy behaviors.

Separate lesson plans have been developed for grades 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Students will learn how AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases are spread, how they are not spread, how to avoid becoming infected, as well as the need for treatment and understanding of those who have become ill.

Parental involvement is a key component in the success of the curriculum. School districts are encouraged to invite parents to examine the curriculum, and whenever possible to communicate with their children at home to reinforce the curriculum's messages. Local health department staff are participating in the training workshop, and are identified in the curriculum as a resource for further AIDS-related information.

First Oregon Teacher Corps Awards

The Oregon State Scholarship Commission announced February 10, 1988, that eighty students at Oregon colleges will each receive awards of \$2000 as the first recipients chosen under the new Oregon Teacher Corps Scholarship/Loan Program. The Oregon Teacher Corps program was created by the Oregon Legislature in 1987 to encourage highly qualified men and women to teach in Oregon's elementary and high schools. For a recipient who teaches at least three years out of the five-year period after being certified, the award will be converted to a scholarship. If the recipient does not teach for the minimum period, the award will be treated as a loan, and will need to be repaid, with interest.

"Encouraging Oregon's best to become teachers is one of the most important things we can do to promote educational excellence, and give the teaching profession the support and recognition that it deserves," observed House Speaker Vera Katz. Speaker Katz was co-chair, along with Senate President John Kitzhaber, of the Joint Interim Education Committee, which recommended the creation of the program to the 1987 Legislature.

Oregon Teacher Corps awardees must be Oregon residents who were in the top 20% of their high school graduating classes (or who have demonstrated comparable academic achievement in college). They must be currently enrolled in teacher cer-

tification programs at colleges or universities in Oregon. Among applicants who meet these standards, additional consideration is given to members of minority groups, to those who intend to teach in hard-to-serve geographical areas in Oregon, and to those seeking teaching certificate endorsement in subjects with a scarcity of trained teachers. Presently there are scarcities in Oregon in three subject areas: Advanced Mathematics, Physical Sciences (Chemistry and Physics), and the Teaching of Handicapped Learners.

Of the eighty students awarded for 1987-88, eleven (14%) are members of minority groups, and thirty-one (39%) are seeking certification in scarce endorsement subjects.

Thirty-five of the awardees should receive their certificates in the 1987-88 academic year, while forty-five will return to school in 1988-89. Returning students can renew their awards, provided that they make satisfactory academic progress and remain enrolled in a qualified certification program.

In addition to providing for returning students, available funds will make it possible to award approximately eighty-five new students in 1988-89. Application materials for 1988-89 will be distributed to teacher education departments of participating community colleges, colleges and universities later in the spring.

Artists Sought for AIE Program

The Salem Art Association is seeking applicants for the 1988-89 Art-In-Education Program for the Salem-Keizer Schools and public schools throughout Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties. One and two week residencies will be sponsored.

Artists working in the following media are invited to apply: poetry/writing, acting, drawing, painting, printmaking, papermaking, sculpture, fibers, architecture, and folk arts. A stipend of \$450 per week will be paid to the artists. Scheduling of the residencies is flexible.

Applications are available at the Bush Barn Art Center, 600 Mission

Street SE, Salem, OR 97302, or Mid-Valley Arts Council, 265 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301, or Oregon Arts Commission, 835 Summer St. NE, Salem, OR 97301. A brief resume, references, documentation of work (10 slides or photographs, examples of published work, one tape, etc.) plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of materials must accompany applications. Deadline for return of the completed applications is March 15th, 1988. Mail or hand-deliver to the Art-In-Education Program, Salem Art Association, 600 Mission Street SE, Salem, OR 97302.



Sunday evening, Feb. 14, 1988, The Portland Chapter of Links, Inc., presented the Eleventh Annual "Starlight Cotillion" at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts. Presented were the 1988 debutantes (L-R Backrow) Jenine Macon, Chelsea Unthank, Tracy Clegg, Morenika Smart; (L-R Middle Row) Joy St. John, Wallenda McNeal, April Rentie, Lorraine Steen, Vivian McCollum, (Front) Cathleen Caldwell. Photo by Richard J. Brown

Tips on Gardening With Children

Spring is officially still a few weeks away, but it's not too early to begin thinking about your garden. This year, why not include children in your plans?

Having a garden of their own is a good way for children to learn about plants, and about where food comes from. It can also help develop a responsible awareness about watering, weeding and other chores.

A free brochure: "Children's Gardens - Tips for Parents" may be of help.

The tips, written to help children of pre-school to teen age, cover ten topics to help make gardening safe, successful, and fun. The topics include everything from choice of vegetables through harvesting and processing the crop.

Copies of the brochure are available at any Children's World child care center or from any Daybridge Learning Center. Call 661-2974 for the nearest location. The brochure may also be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: 3200 N.E. Hogan, Gresham, OR 97030.

Last Minute Tax Return Filers Should File Now

Oregonians who usually file their Federal income tax returns on, or just before, April 15 should instead try to file a month or two earlier the Portland Internal Revenue Service said.

Those expecting a refund may find that filing earlier results in a quicker receipt of their refund check, according to the IRS.

Last-minute filers may also discover that filing earlier and under more relaxed conditions will help them file a more accurate and complete return.

Filing early will also give Oregonians the opportunity to do their tax planning earlier. The taxpayer can use his or her 1987 income tax return as a guide in projecting next year's income and tax liability.

OHSU Cardiologists Study Drug Treatment for Heart Failure

Cardiologists at the OHSU are taking part in a \$1.5 million drug treatment study for heart failure. The five-year study is one of the largest collective studies ever assembled, according to Dr. Barry Greeberg, director of University Hospital's Coronary Care Unit. Two dozen medical centers throughout North America are participating.

"We are evaluating a new drug to see if it will prolong or improve the quality of life for patients who have been diagnosed with heart failure," said Greenberg who is principal investigator for the project at OHSU. The drug relieves many of the symptoms suffered by patients whose hearts are not working properly. Some 2 million Americans suffer from heart failure with about 250,000 new cases diagnosed each year. The mortality rate is often 50 percent within five years of diagnosis.

"We anticipate that this study will demonstrate that early treatment will cause significant delay in the progression of congestive heart failure and ultimately improve patient survival," said Greenberg. There is still room for Portland-area patients in the study at OHSU. More information is available from the OHSU Division of Cardiology, 279-8750.

OHSU Successful at Preventing Sudden Cardiac Deaths in Children

For years, physicians have been able to recognize and treat children born with heart defects. But not until recently have they been able to define and treat abnormal heart rhythms and sudden cardiac deaths.

Armed with years of treating adults with arrhythmias, cardiologists now are applying that knowledge and techniques to help save children's lives. Young people, like adults, can have hearts that beat either too fast or too slow.

Pacemakers - for years implanted only in adults, now are being used to treat young people with "slow" hearts. Until recently, the bulky size of pacemakers made it nearly impossible to implant in the small chests of children. But in the past five years, the devices have shrunk from the size of a hockey puck to that of a teaspoon.

Nearly 100 children have received pacemaker implantation at the OHSU, one of the larger efforts in the country.

Rapid heart rates in children traditionally have been more difficult to evaluate and treat. Post-operative heart irregularities pose particular problems for pediatric cardiologists. Arrhythmias can arise in 90 percent of some cases and many of those can be life threatening.

In addition, a congenital defect known as Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome, which occurs in one of every 500 children, may carry a risk of sudden death and a lifetime of medical care.

"At one time, heart rhythm problems with children were a very serious problem," Dr. Mike Silka, pediatric cardiologist at OHSU, says. "Now, we're solving the problems."

Surgical techniques to divide the extra electrical circuit that causes this syndrome have recently been perfected at OHSU, and applied to patients at high risk for sudden death. Other surgical therapies in children for a "racing" heart have included an automatic implantable defibrillator and dividing nerves leading to the heart.

Know the warning signs of a heart attack! 1. Uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of your chest lasting two minutes or longer. 2. Pain may spread to the shoulders, neck or arms. 3. Severe pain, dizziness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath may also occur. If you show these symptoms, the American Heart Association says "Get help immediately!"

PORTLAND OBSERVER

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Members and friends of the Muslim Community Center of Portland gathered Sunday, Feb. 14, at the Northeast YWCA for a Valentine's Day Community Tea. Scheduled speakers were Comm. Dick Bogle and Dennis Payne. Photo by Richard J. Brown

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