



The Homepage

September
2006

An Information, Issues, and Events Newsletter
for Clients and Friends of the Foundation

Permanent Housing Options Abound at OCASF!

By George Smith, Housing Supervisor

AIDS Services Foundation Orange County provides many housing options to clients already receiving services from one of the Orange County HIV Service Agencies. Our program is funded by HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS), and administered through the County of Orange Health Care Agency.

In the previous two OCASF newsletters, we discussed Emergency Financial Assistance and Emergency/Transitional Housing. This month we will be highlighting the Permanent Housing Programs such as Short-Term Assistance for Rent (STAR) and the Rental Assistance Program (RAP). We will also discuss the other housing programs available to persons with HIV/AIDS in Orange County. (cont'd page 2)



Permanent Housing Programs

By George Smith, Housing Supervisor

► Short-Term Assistance for Rent (STAR)

STAR is an emergency rental assistance program that pays a rental subsidy directly to your landlord on a quarterly basis. The assistance is up to \$500 every three months for a household of one or two, and up to \$700 every three months for a household of three or more.

- You must be disabled due to HIV and have an income at or below 50% of the area median income of Orange County.
- You must also have lived in your residence for at least 60 days. Contact your case manager to get on the wait list.

► Rental Assistance Program (RAP)

RAP is sponsored by ASF and the City of Santa Ana to provide ongoing monthly rental assistance to persons who are disabled due to HIV and have an income at or below 50% of the area median income of Orange County.

► Casa Alegre Apartments

Studio apartments in Anaheim for homeless individuals with HIV/AIDS who are also disabled due to any condition.

- Income must be at or below 35% area median income for Orange County.
- Contact the ASF Housing Department to get on the wait list. Applicants must either be a U.S. citizen or a legal resident.

Luncheon Toasts the Efforts of Volunteers

By Frank Romero, Volunteer Coordinator

On Saturday, July 15, 2006, OCASF held its 20th Annual Volunteer Luncheon at the Hacienda Restaurant in Santa Ana. Every year, the exciting gathering provides the ASF staff and the Board of Directors the opportunity to formally thank all of our volunteers for their service, caring, and dedication.

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Volunteer Luncheon (from page 1)

This year, the luncheon drew record attendance with 111 volunteers and guests. Each volunteer received the official 2006 ASF Volunteer Pin and enjoyed a champagne reception followed by a delicious buffet. During the event, an ongoing slide show depicted volunteer life at ASF.



Volunteers are an appreciated and essential component to making OCASF a successful organization. For the 2005—2006 fiscal year, over 18,156 hours were donated. That's over 10 full time employees!



There are many ways in which you, too, can volunteer with us here at OCASF. You are welcome to visit a listing of opportunities at www.ocasf.org. You may also contact Frank Romero, Volunteer Coordinator, by phone at (949) 809-5771 or by email at fromero@ocasf.org.

We Couldn't Do It Without Our Volunteers!

- ▶ **5 Years of Service:** Jorge Castaneda, Mike Chiara, Joan Crawford, Susanna Hugelshofer, Rich Johnson, Steve & Martha Sue Thorington.
- ▶ **10 Years of Caring:** Frank Bianchini, Judy Fluour-Runels, Bonnie Jobe, Janice Johnson, Steve Kuklovsky, Ana & David Merino, Frank Turro, & Shelly Virkstis.
- ▶ **15 Years of Dedication:** Phil Aragon, Joan Bender, Fannie Freedman, Holly Martens, and Dr. Jorge Rodriguez.
- ▶ **20 Years of Caring:** Karen Ellis.

Housing Programs, continued from page 1

▶ **Hagan Place**

Independent living, one-bedroom apartments in Laguna Beach for men and women disabled due to HIV/AIDS. Managed by Solari Enterprises, Inc.

- Income at or below 50% of the area median income of Orange County, and have a letter of diagnosis indicating disabled. Credit/criminal/rental history will be checked.
- To apply, call the manager at Hagan Place at (949) 376-3033 to get on the wait list.

▶ **Shelter Plus Care**

Shelter Plus Care is a permanent supportive housing program that provides rental assistance to low-income, homeless individuals with specific disabilities (HIV/AIDS, chronic substance abuse, serious and persistent mental illness, dual diagnosis). Shelter Plus Care is a Federal Grant Program and is applied for through HUD's yearly SuperNOFA application process.

- Applicants are referred by their case manager, and must participate in a plan developed with their case manager to address barriers to independent living in order to assist the client in maintaining their housing. There is no wait list for this program. Openings are announced when funding is made available. The provider agencies are made aware of the openings and can assist you in the application process.

For more information on any of OCASF's Housing Programs, contact George Smith by phone at (949) 809-5789 or by email at gsmith@ocasf.org.

Positive "U"

Every Wednesday from 10:30am - 12:00 pm with lunch

- ♥ **Wednesday, September 6th: Street Drugs and HIV**
Join Martin Salas Director of Health Education in the presentation of this workshop. Learn about how street drugs interact with HIV.
- ♥ **Wednesday, September 13th: Cooking ideas with Dave Merino**
Fun & cooking with Pantry items.
- ♥ **Wednesday, September 20th: Coping with difficult times**
Join Rev. Deborah Barrett from the Zen Center Orange County while she presents this unique topic. Find out how Spirituality can apply to your life when going through difficulties.
- ♥ **Wednesday, September 27th: Brian from Bristol Meyers Squibb**
will be with us again this month to provide another interesting workshop.

Viviendo Positivamente

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 10:30 - 12:00 with lunch

- * **Alcoholism and HIV:** Sariah, ASF Health Educator, will be presenting this workshop. Come and learn how alcoholism relates to HIV.
- * **Understanding your Labs:** Join Michael Roy from Gilead Sciences in the presentation of this very useful workshop. Come and learn about how to read your lab results.

Positive Women

On **Thursday September 7th** we will have Dr. Sue Reddy talking to us about HIV + women's issues. This meeting will be **ONLY** for women. It will start at 11:30 a.m. and will end at 1:00 p.m. **Lunch will be provided.** The program will be in English. Spanish simultaneous translation will be available to all women who need it. **No children please.** Please contact Sariah at 949-809-8772.

What's Up?!? at OCASF

Support Groups

Choices

Wednesdays 12:30pm—2:00pm

A support group for individuals diagnosed with HIV/AIDS who are experiencing problems with drugs or alcohol. Held at ASF. For more information, call Judy Fluour-Runels at (949) 809-5795.

Kids Club

Thursdays 4:00-5:30pm. Tutoring 5:30-7:00pm

A closed 8-week support group for kids 6-14 with a parent or family member with HIV/AIDS. Meets at ASF. Call Laurie Barber at (949) 809-5710 for more information.

Spanish Language Women's Support Groups

► *1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday of the month*

Open to HIV+ women & other women affected by HIV/AIDS. Call Juanita Trevino at (949) 809-5799 for more information.

► **First Wednesday** of the month from 6:00 to 7:30pm, at HCA (17th St. Clinic) Room 149B, 1725 W. 17th St., Santa Ana.

► **Third Tuesday** of the month from 10:30 to 12:30 pm, at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 12702 Ninth St., Garden Grove.

Spanish HIV+ Support Group

Mondays 5:30-7:30pm

Open to all Spanish-speaking HIV+ people. At the 17th St. Clinic, Methadone Education Rm. (Room 149-B), 1725 W. 17th St., Santa Ana. Call Dr. Silvia Vaughn at (949) 809-5798 for more information.

Spanish Mental Health Group

1st & 3rd Tues. 12:30- 2:30pm

Open to Spanish-speaking clients to receive support and improve their mental health status. At ASF call Dr. Silvia at (949) 809-5798.

Workshops : Life Skills

Group C

Last Wednesday of every month, 6:00—8:00pm

Group C is a support group that provides information and support to those infected and affected by Hepatitis C. At the Orange County Health Care Agency, 1725 W. 17th St, Room 149-B, Santa Ana. Call Anita at (949) 809-8770 for more information.

Positive "U"

Every Wednesday, 10:30—12:00pm

A different topic each session presented in English followed by a free lunch here at the ASF office! No admittance after 10:45. For more information, please contact Carmen at (949) 809-5781.

Viviendo Positivamente

1st & 3rd Tuesday, 10:30—12:00pm

A different topic each session presented in Spanish followed by a free lunch at ASF! No admittance after 10:45. For more information, please contact Carmen at (949) 809-5781.

Wellness Education

Workout Group

For more info or to sign up for an initial evaluation, call (949) 809-5771.

Hair Salon

The Hair Salon has been temporarily discontinued. We hope to start up again in the fall with new volunteer stylists.

Social Activities

African-American Living Room

4th Friday of the month, 12:30—2:30pm

A social group open to all African-American clients. For more information, or for the group location, please contact Wendy at (949) 809-5732. The AALR group is still in need of ACTORS. Contact your case manager for more details.

AALR Play Rehearsal

2nd Friday of the month, 12:30—2:30pm

Positive Life Force

Positive Life Force is an English-speaking social group for positive gay men of all ages. Men come together to meet new people and make new friends. We are currently looking to recruit a few good men for the PLF Core Group. For more information, please call or call Joe at (949) 809-8774 or email at positivelifeforce@ocasf.org.

How to Reach Us

Office Address:

17982 Sky Park Circle, Suite J
Irvine, CA 92614

Main Number:

(949) 809-5700

FAX Number:

(949) 809-5779

Websites:


www.ocasf.org
www.aidswalk.org
www.ocasf.org/español

Email: asf@ocasf.org

September 2006

Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>ASF Food Pantry Hours: ▶ Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:00 noon—4:30 PM</p>	<p>Closed for Labor Day</p>	<p>10:30-12noon: Viviendo Positivamente 12:30-2:30pm: Spanish Mental Health.</p> 	<p>▶ Wednesdays & Fridays 9:00 AM —1:00 PM</p>			
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30