



From Our Point of View...

Newly Released Appleseed Report Calls for Increased Availability of Substance Abuse Treatment to Prevent Spread of HIV

“Increase the availability of substance abuse treatment programs in the District.”

This is one of the conclusions of the DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice in its latest report grading the city’s response to HIV/AIDS as a public health crisis. In fact, the District received a D+ for its near failure to make substance abuse treatment available to help prevent the spread of HIV among injection drug users. The report called substance abuse treatment “a proven HIV prevention mechanism.”

While the latest District household survey of substance abuse is outdated—taken in 2000—the numbers from that year are staggering. They showed that one in 10 residents in the District is suffering from substance abuse...alcohol or other drugs. More recent Department of Corrections’ records indicate substance abuse still is rampant. According to Appleseed, those records show that “94% of all individuals committed to DOC during the period October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2006, reported a history of alcohol and/or substance abuse...”

Substance abuse treatment not only prevents drug use and but also arms individuals with crucial information about HIV prevention and personal health responsibility.

Substance abuse treatment was one of eleven areas relevant to bringing the spread HIV/AIDS under control that received grades in the report released in mid-December. To read the entire report dated 12/16/06, [click here](#). Also, you will be able to read the first report card dated 3/23/06. You will see that the city has made progress in some areas; no progress has been made, however, in funding for substance abuse treatment.

The Appleseed project of tracking the HIV/AIDS crisis in the Nation’s Capital and pressing the city to do everything possible to stop the spread of the disease is great work on behalf of the people. The people must also work to hold city government accountable for protecting our public health. It is unconscionable that city leaders have information that substance abuse treatment can prevent HIV/AIDS and seem not to be using that information for the public good.

We urge you to take action. Contact the mayor and every city council person to demand that substance abuse treatment be made a priority prevention weapon in the fight against HIV/AIDS. We support and ask you to also voice support for Appleseed recommendations to:

- Fund and complete a new household survey to determine level of substance use in the District
- Increase funding for substance abuse treatment by \$12 million
- Use some of the dollars from future tobacco settlement allocations to fund substance abuse treatment

In addition to becoming an advocate for treatment, know your own HIV status. Get tested. Find a location convenient for you from the list of DC Department of Health HIV testing sites listed below.

Finally, please remember the following frightening statistics and discuss with your family, friends, and co-workers:

- **The Nation’s Capital has the highest rate of new AIDS cases of any major U.S. city**
- **One in 50 District residents is living with AIDS**
- **As many as one in 20 District residents is infected with HIV.**

There is something for each of us to do in this fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS.

DC Department of Health

HIV Testing Sites

Northeast DC

Testing Site	Address	Phone	Hours
Unity Health Care	1201 Brentwood Road	(202) 832-8818	8:15 am - 4:45 pm (Mon - Fri) (Free) 1 pm - 3 pm (Fri)
Deaf Reach (Appt. only)	3521 12th Street	(202) 832-6681	9 am - 5 pm (Mon - Fri)
DC Department of Health Administration for HIV Policy and Programs	64 New York Avenue, 5th Floor	(202) 671-4900	Rapid Testing performed 10 am - 3 pm by appointment only (Mon - Thurs)
Planned Parenthood (Northeast)	3987 A Minnesota Avenue, NE	(202) 388-4770	9 am - 5 pm (Mon - Fri) 10 am - 2 pm (Sat)

Northwest DC

Testing Site	Address	Phone	Hours
Andromeda	1400 Decatur Street	(202) 291-4707	9 am - 5 pm (Mon - Sat)
Carl Vogel Center	1012 14th Street Suite 700	(202) 638-0750	4 pm - 7pm (Mon, Walk-in) 4 pm - 6 pm (Wed) 4 pm - 5 pm (Thurs -Fri)
La Clinica del Pueblo	2831 15th Street	(202) 462-4788	9 am - 5 pm (Mon, Tues, Fri) 9 am - 9 pm (Wed, Thurs) 10 am - 2 pm (Sat)
Planned Parenthood	1108 16th Street	(202) 347-8512	9 am - 4:30 pm (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri) 8:30 am - 4:30 pm (Thurs) 9 am - 2 pm (Sat)
University of the District of Columbia - Health Services (Faculty & Students only)	4200 Connecticut Avenue, Building 44, Room A33	(202) 274-5030	9:30 am - 6 pm (Mon - Fri)
Us Helping Us	3636 Georgia Avenue	(202) 446-1100	10 am - 4 pm (Mon - Thurs)
Whitman-Walker Clinic	1701 14th Street	(202) 939-7690	9:30 am - 6:30 pm (Mon) 9:30 am - 7 pm (Wed) 9:30 am - 4:30 pm (Tues, Thurs, Fri)
Women's Collective	1436 U Street, Suite 200	(202) 483-7003	9 am - 5 pm (Mon-Fri)

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Southeast DC

Testing Site	Address	Phone	Hours
Anacostia Neighborhood Health	1328 W Street	(202) 610-7160	8:15 am - 8 pm (Mon, Wed, Fri) 8:15 am - 4:45 pm (Thurs) Free Rapid Testing 1 pm - 3 pm (Fri)
Department of Health Southeast STD Clinic	1900 Massachusetts Avenue, Building 8	(202) 698-4050	8:15 am - 3:15 pm (Mon - Fri)
Family and Medical Counseling Center	2041 MLK Jr Avenue, Suite 8	(202) 889-7900	8:30 am - 5:30 pm (Mon - Fri)
Max Robinson Center	2301 MLK Jr Avenue	(202) 678-8877 TTY: (202) 562-1178	9:30 am - 6:30 pm (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri) 9:30 am - 6 pm (Wed) 9:30 am - 4:30 pm (Sat)
Metro Teen AIDS	651 Pennsylvania Avenue	(202) 543-9355	10 am - 6 pm (Mon, Wed, Thurs) 10 am - 8 pm (Tues)

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Southwest DC

Testing Site	Address	Phone	Hours
Unity Health Care Southwest Clinic	850 Delaware Avenue	(202) 548-4520	8:15 am - 4:45 pm (Mon - Fri)

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