

New Team Members

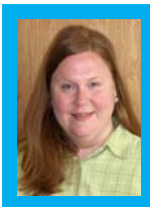


Adriana Garza
Prevention
Specialist

Adriana Garza started working in the HIV field as an outreach worker in 2001 for Community Health Awareness Group (CHAG) and then became an HIV test counselor in 2002. During her tenure at CHAG Adriana (Adi for short) gave community presentations about risk behavior, and the importance of testing for drug treatment centers as well as clinics and homeless shelters. She participated in the rapid testing demonstration project for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and became one of the first counselors to be certified in rapid testing. Adi is currently studying to receive her addiction specialist certification. She grew up and still lives on the southwest side of Detroit with her husband and two children.

You can reach Adi Garza at agarza@aidsprevention.org or 248-545-1435 ext. 106.

Heidi Lovy joined the MAPP team in June as Development Director. A 1993 graduate of Wayne State University, Heidi launched her professional writing career while a student, working as an intern for the Royal Oak Daily Tribune. After college Heidi worked in the public



Heidi Lovy
Development
Director

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Program Rebirth

Recent grants and new staff are allowing us to renew two programs.

SexEd4U is an outreach project that targets gay and bisexual men on the Internet through chat rooms and web sites with safer sex information, risk reduction techniques and HIV/AIDS education. Funding cuts in 2006 ended the innovative program but new grants from the AT&T Foundation and the M.A.C. AIDS Fund enabled MAPP to reinstate it this year with a new web site, The House Of Prevention.

The two grants have allowed MAPP Program & Event Manager Robert Thomas to recreate this program adding an appealing and interactive website using professional web design assistance. The new site allows for live chat and discussion groups with daily topics for registered users.

This great new outreach tool, www.thehouseofprevention.com, went on-line May 2, and was celebrated with a successful launch party and "roll out" held at Club 9 in downtown Ferndale. Over 100 people from all over the metro area attended.

The mixed crowd at Club 9 enjoyed an evening of give-aways, dancing, a drag show, house music and fun.

"We think it was a hit, said Robert. "I would say superb," said MAPP Program Director Royale Theus. At the event between 70 and 80 individuals signed up for e-mail notices for the new website.

"**La Comunidad**" is another project recently reinstated. This program targeted Latino and Hispanic gay and bisexual men from 2001 until 2006 with culturally competent and sensitive HIV/AIDS prevention information for that community across southern Michigan. Funds have been partially restored through reorganization at MAPP, with support from the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Section of the MDCH. Prevention Specialist Adriana Garza, our new Spanish-speaking staff member, began the work of re-addressing this population in May.

"We are going to be doing focus groups to identify leadership in the community. With the information we gather at the focus groups we will then plan for a town hall meeting," said Adi.

MAPP was able to hire Ray Magdaleno as a part-time project coordinator in June with additional funds provided by an Arcus Foundation grant.



AT&T paid a special visit to MAPP in February to meet program staff and get an overview of the new Internet Outreach program, made possible in part by the AT&T Foundation.

Front row: Gail Torreano, president of AT&T Michigan next to MAPP CEO Craig Covey; back row Jihannh Jones, Royale Theus and AT&T's Carmen Johnson, director of External Affairs next to Robert Thomas.



Events Provide Testing Opportunities

This year's Pride Festival, held in downtown Ferndale on June 1, proved to be a great opportunity for attendees to get an HIV test. MAPP volunteers with signs drew in twenty-eight people to get tested with MAPP certified test counselors, using private space provided by Affirmations.

MAPP has two events planned for National Testing Day. On June 20, a testing party for youth only (ages 13 - 18) will be held at Affirmations in Ferndale. The actual Testing Day kick-off event on June 27 will be held at the R.E.C. Boyz Green Room in Detroit, at the offices of AIDS Partnership Michigan (APM). This collaboration with APM will be a day long ice cream social, from 10 am to 8 pm, with testing for anyone who wants to get tested, with give aways and food. The theme is Two Agencies, One Mission: Get Tested.

MAPP Staff Update

Continued from front page

relations department at Henry Ford Health System. She then moved onto to become the managing editor for C & G Newspapers, one of the largest chains of weekly papers in the state. From there she delved into the nonprofit sector with the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit and then directed Common Ground Sanctuary's Art in the Park for more than six years. Heidi's first book, "A Parent's Guide to Southeastern Michigan," was published in 2003. Most recently, she successfully wrote grants for the Detroit Institute of Arts and United Cerebral Palsy of Metropolitan Detroit. Heidi is looking forward to garnering new funding opportunities for MAPP and all of its programs and events. Contact Heidi at hlovy@aidsprevention.org, or 248-545-1435 ext. 104.



Ray Magdaleno is a very familiar face at the MAPP office. He has been a La Comunidad volunteer since 2001 and is now the part-time project coordinator. Ray's contact: rmagdaleno@aidsprevention.org.

*Ray Magdaleno
Project Coordinator*

Staying in the BLACK

In addition to the program specific grants, \$25,000 from AT&T Foundation, \$18,000 from M.A.C. AIDS Fund, and \$20,000 each for two years from the Arcus Foundation, MAPP has done extremely well garnering local support for our work. Last December's inaugural fundraiser by Tapper's, Precious Lives/Precious Metals is expected to net \$120,000; MAPP will receive 30% of proceeds. This February's Ferndale Bud Light Blues Festival was successful in spite of lower pig donations. Sponsorships were up and Dino's rib tent did extremely well raising \$9,300.00. Festival proceeds will include \$16,000.00 for MAPP.



*Wayne
Stallworth
Prevention
Specialist*

Wayne Anthony Stallworth Jr. began his work in the HIV field in 2004 as a volunteer at MPowerment Detroit, where he facilitated his first group discussion to African American men who have sex with other men. Wayne also did outreach in various venues where this unique population congregated. Wanting to do more, he joined the Michigan AIDS Fund sponsored AmeriCorps Team and worked for the Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion on the Mobile Care Unit. When his assignment ended with the AmeriCorps program, he began working as an outreach representative at the Horizons Project a program of the Adolescent Medicine Division of Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. Wayne is a native of Detroit, growing up on the eastside. He can be reached at wstallworth@aidsprevention.org or 248-545-1435 ext. 114.

Staff Kudos

Program Director Royale Theus was selected as a community member of the Michigan HIV/AIDS Council in March.

Calendar of Events

Save the Date

Art Works for Life

Sunday, September 14

The Ritz Carlton Dearborn

*To receive an invitation, call
248-545-1435*

MAPP News is a publication of the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project and made possible by special events fundraising.
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