



MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON

March 13, 2006

Local events will promote National LGBT Health Awareness Week

Contact: Matthew Lashua, Multnomah County Commissioner Maria Rojo de Steffey's Office
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Multnomah County will recognize National LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) Health Awareness Week, March 12-18, 2006, to raise awareness of the unique health concerns and disparities among lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. The goals of the event organizers are to inform the public about the health challenges facing LGBT people and to increase understanding among medical and health care professionals. A March 9, 2006 Multnomah County Board Proclamation officially recognized the week of March 13, 2006 as LGBT Health Awareness Week in Multnomah County.

"LGBT people have unique health concerns and often face financial, personal and cultural barriers when attempting to access health care," states Multnomah County Commissioner Maria Rojo de Steffey. "Our intent is to support opportunities for education and frank discussion through LGBT Health Awareness Week activities."

The following events are open to the public:

LGBT Health Awareness Week Panel

Monday, March 13, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Multnomah Building

501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., first floor Board Room

Portland, OR

Multnomah County will host a panel on LGBT health issues, featuring community-based programs doing innovative work. The event is free and light refreshments will be served. Panel participants include:

- Breathe Free
- Brother to Brother
- Cascade AIDS Project
- Elder Resource Alliance
- Hambleton Project
- Kaiser Permanente
- Multnomah County Diversity and Quality Team
- Multnomah County HIV and Hepatitis C Community Programs
- Outside In
- Q Center
- Senior Housing and Retirement Enterprises
- Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center

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LGBT Health Awareness Week, continued

Smokeless

LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning) community forum on smoking and secondhand smoke

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Studio 1050, 1050 SE Water St.

Portland, OR

Doors open 6:00 p.m. Community forum 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and performances from 9:00 p.m. to midnight. The event is free before 9:00 p.m. with a \$5-10 sliding scale after 9:00 p.m. Activities include tables with representatives from LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning) and health organizations, and a town hall style community discussion about smoking and secondhand smoke in bars aimed at reaching LGBTQ bar owners, performers, and event planners. Performances by local LGBTQ artists will include Ashleigh Flynn.

Smokeless is organized by:

- American Lung Association of Oregon
- Breathe Free (a program of the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center)
- IRCO (Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization)/Asian Family Center's Asian Pacific Islander Health Network
- Multnomah County HIV and Hepatitis C Programs
- Multnomah County Tobacco Prevention Program
- Oregon Breast and Cervical Cancer Programs
- Oregon Department of Human Services Health Services, Tobacco Prevention and Education Program
- Trans/Identity Resource Center of Outside In