

# COMMISSION BEGINS "FIRST 100 DAYS" AIDS AGENDA DEVELOPMENT

The National Commission on AIDS held hearings in Washington, D.C. November 17 where some of the nation's authorities on AIDS and public health began developing specific recommendations for immediate consideration by the Clinton Administration and the 103rd Congress.

The Commission's objective was to select from the backlog of studies, analyses and related recommendations those issues where a national consensus exists, where action could be taken quickly, and where the new Congress and Administration could move responsibly, without the need for lengthy new rounds of review.

"In this critical transition time we hope to congregate some of the best minds in American health care to activate AIDS policy recommendations," said June E. Osborn, M.D., Chair of the National Commission.

"In recent years much thought has been devoted to what needs to be done, but it must be put into realistic, administrative planning terms. We'll be hearing from people who know how to fuse policy and application," she added.

David E. Rogers, M.D., Vice Chairman of the Commission, said, "The day he was elected President, Governor Clinton said, first, that AIDS was among the nation's 'problems too long ignored.' He is exactly right. There exists a logjam in initiatives, many with near unanimous support in the medical, research and public health communities, that the new President and Congress could swiftly implement, in some cases with the stroke of a pen.

"Through our hearing process, polling of experts, review of written submissions and review of this Commission's three years of study, we hope to cull out those actions that have a critical mass of support. We'll deliver our written report to President-elect Clinton, and the new Congress, before Inauguration Day," Dr. Rogers added.

On November 17 the Commission heard from a spectrum of authorities in AIDS and government health management. Witnesses included: Joseph Califano, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW)

under former President Carter; Joycelyn Elders, M.D., Director, Arkansas Dept. of Health, and President, Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO); Mathilde Krim, M.D., Ph.D., Chairman of the Board, American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR); A. Cornelius Baker, Public Policy Director of the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS; Sandra

McDonald, Board Member, National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC); Mark Harrington, Treatment Action Group (TAG); and Sandra Thurman, Executive Director, AID Atlanta, among others.

In addition to the hearing data, the Commission also reviewed written submissions from all interested parties that were received by November 23.

Hearing topics included not only government leadership and organizational structure at the executive branch and cabinet levels, but also issues surrounding patient care and prevention of transmission as well as biomedical and behavioral research.

The Commission is taking this initiative under its statutory authority to report to the President

and Congress "such recommendations for legislation and administrative action, as the Commission deems appropriate..." (P.L. 100-607).

The Commission, by outlining specific courses of action, is also responding to the intent of the new Administration to direct more federal resources into leadership, research, prevention, treatment access, and the

struggle against discrimination, as Gov. Clinton said in a major address on AIDS on Oct. 29, 1992.

In that speech Gov. Clinton also said, "We have still not done enough as a nation to stop the spread of AIDS or to help those who are living with it."

From the hearing testimony, written contributions and review of earlier reports, the Commission's goal is to produce a national consensus document that has value as an AIDS policy blueprint for the next Administration and Congress, to be delivered early in January of 1993.

The National Commission on AIDS is an independent body created by federal statute to advise Congress and the President on development of "a consistent national policy" concerning the HIV epidemic.

The 15-member Commission includes five voting members appointed by the Senate, five appointed by the House, and two appointed by the President. By statute three Cabinet members are non-voting members of the Commission. They are the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

## HEALTH

### CLARK COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT HAS IMMUNIZATION CLINICS AT LIBRARIES

The Clark County Health District conducts monthly free, walk-in Immunization Clinics for ages 2 months to 21 years of age at the Green Valley, Las Vegas, Spring Valley and Sunrise libraries.

Clinic is in session at the

GreenValley Library, 2797 GreenValley Parkway, in the Sunset Room the first and third Friday of every month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Well-baby care checks are available by appointment only for ages 2 months to 5 years of age.

### CPR WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

The Stewart/Mojave Sports Center, 275 N. Mojave Rd., will offer a CPR workshop, Saturday, December 5 at 11:30 a.m. The 90-minute seminar, designed for teens and adults includes certification. Registration continues through the day of the event at a cost of \$12. Participants must register in person. The seminar will be taught by CPR Plus and is sponsored by the City of Las Vegas. Call 229-6563 for further information.

Las Vegas Library's, 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., clinic is in session the first Tuesday of each month in the programming room from 9 a.m. to noon.

Spring Valley Library's, 4280 S. Jones Boulevard, clinic is in session the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from noon to 4 p.m. Well-baby care check are also available at the Spring Valley Library.

Sunrise library, 5400 Harris, conducts its monthly immuniza-

tion clinic the first Monday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Clinic is in session at the West Las Vegas Library, 951 Lake Mead Blvd., the third Friday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Well-baby care checks are available by appointment only for ages 2 months to 5 years of age. Call 383-1309 for further information on all library immunization clinics.

No Matter What Shape You're In,  
Anyone Can Get The AIDS Virus.



These days, people all over America are working on their bodies. These are active people with active social lives. If that sounds like your lifestyle, think about this: One workout that can protect you from the AIDS virus is just to be responsible and not to take risks when it comes to sex.

For more information about AIDS, call 1-800-842-AIDS. Nevada AIDS Hotline

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