Dear Colleague:

Join me and nearly 500 other AIDS-care social workers this May in the beautiful City of Denver for our 26th Annual National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS. This year’s theme will examine the information that social workers need to know as we enter a new era in HIV/AIDS care. For example, how does the concept of the “HIV/AIDS Treatment Cascade” help social workers identify gaps in care, treatment retention, etc.? How will HRSA’s interest in encouraging service delivery by trained “medical case managers” impact our profession? Will HIV/AIDS be treated like a chronic disease in the future? Can technology enhance aspects of our work in new and emerging ways? How will the Affordable Care Act and the National HIV/AIDS Strategy impact care in the future? Can we expect the Ryan White Program to change in the years ahead? If so, what might it look like?

We will focus on these types of issues during more than 100 varied presentations that will be offered in General Sessions, Poster Sessions, Individual Workshops, Brief Reports and Conversations on Best Practices. We’ll also be offering (for the fourth consecutive year) our highly successful twelve-hour Intensive Institute on Medical Case Management for those interested in this emerging area of practice. In addition to these formal learning experiences we are planning several other events as well. These include our Thursday evening opening reception and Friday luncheon seminar (both sponsored by Gilead Sciences) as well as informal light breakfasts on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

We extend a special invitation to members of the Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS (PASWHA) to attend the Conference. If you are a PASWHA member you can receive a $25.00 discount on our “Standard Registration” fee. This flier will provide more details about the Conference schedule, a preview of some of the presentations to be offered and also information on how you can register. If you have any questions please contact me directly...my phone number and e-mail can be found below. I hope to see you in Denver this May!

Sincerely,

Vincent J. Lynch, MSW, Ph.D.
Conference Founder and Chair
617.552.4038; lynchv@bc.edu

This four-day annual conference has been held on a continuous basis for 26 years, organized by Boston College Graduate School of Social Work. This program is made possible, in part, through the generosity of Gilead Sciences.
OUR PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT A GLANCE:

THURSDAY, MAY 22

3:00 - 8:00  Exhibits and Registration Open
5:30 - 7:00  Poster Session
7:00 - 8:00  Opening Reception

FRIDAY, MAY 23 & SATURDAY MAY 24

7:30 - 8:10  Continental Breakfast
8:15 - 6:00  Exhibits and Registration Open
8:15 - 6:30  Conference Sessions (General Session and Concurrent Presentations)

Please note: On Friday Gilead Sciences will host a luncheon seminar for all attendees.

SUNDAY, MAY 25

7:30 - 8:15  Continental Breakfast
8:30 - 12:20  Concurrent Conversations on Best Practices
12:30 - 1:00  Closing General Session

GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

GENERAL ISSUES
Continuing Education Credits:
All who attend will receive a Certificate and Attendance and 24.0 social work continuing education credits from Boston College.

Hotel Reservations:
Guest rooms at the beautiful and centrally located Hyatt Regency Denver-at Colorado Convention Center will be available at a special conference rate of $139 per night (single or double occupancy). All conference events will be at this hotel, located at 650 15th St. in downtown Denver. Reserve your room early. Space is limited at this special rate! You can phone Hyatt Reservations toll free at 888.421.1442; ask for the special “Boston College AIDS Conference” rate. You can also register online by using Hyatt’s “Passkey Reservations” system. To do so please go to: https://resweb.passkey.com/go/bcac2014

Conference Registration Fee Procedures and Policies:
If you elect to use the online conference registration option, payment must be made by credit card. You may also register by mail (using check payment only). If you need to cancel your conference registration please e-mail lynchv@bc.edu by May 17, 2014. No refund requests can be processed after that date. Please see the Conference Registration Form in this flier for more information about how to proceed with making your Conference registration.

Exhibits and Advertising:
Consider reserving an exhibit table for your organization and/or advertising space in our Conference Program Book. These are affordable ways to get your information and message out to a national audience of AIDS-care social workers! Please e-mail lynchv@bc.edu for more information.

Personal Emergencies:
In the event of an unanticipated personal emergency our conference staff, as well as the hotel staff, can assist you in locating resources. However, we are not able to provide assistance directly (e.g.- financial, medical care, etc.).

Information for People Living with HIV/AIDS:
Scott Kramer will organize a meeting of all attendees who are living with HIV/AIDS. More details will appear in the Conference Program Book. Also, through the generosity of the Manuel Fimbres Project we have a limited number of conference registration fee waivers available for those living with HIV/AIDS. To request such a fee waiver please e-mail lynchv@bc.edu

Optional Pre-Conference Workshop
On Thursday May 22 from 1:00-4:15, NASW’s HIV/AIDS Spectrum Project will offer an optional pre-conference workshop on: “Addressing Ethical Dilemmas in an Era of Complex Practice Issues: HIV/AIDS as a Case Study”. The workshop will address legal and ethical issues as well as individual and institutional attitudes that may affect service delivery. A multi-dimensional ethical decision-making framework for HIV social workers will also be presented. Faculty: Marla Corwin, LCSW, CAC III and Jill Sabatine, LCSW. The workshop will award 3.0 CEU hours from NASW. There is a $20 CEU processing fee; $15 for NASW members. The location will be nearby the Hyatt (TBD). To register and for more details, e-mail: hivspectrum@naswdc.org (include your name, e-mail and phone number).

Intensive Institute on Medical Case Management (MCM):
This highly popular 12-hour training will be offered for the fourth consecutive year during Friday and Saturday. Space is limited and pre-registration is required (see registration form). It is endorsed by the Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS (PASWHA) and is designed to meet this HRSA requirement: Medical Case Management services must be provided by trained professionals, including both medically credentialed and other health care staff (HAB Policy Notice 10-02). Topics to be covered include: Best Practices, Trauma Informed Care, Motivational Interviewing, Health Literacy, Adherence and Self Care. The Medical Case Management Certificate is available upon completion of additional online trainings offered by the faculty members of the MCM Institute.

Faculty: Melinda Marasch, LCSW, MSW and Michelle Dodwin, LCSW, MSW, both from Denver, CO.
A PREVIEW OF CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

Below you will find a description of our opening invitational general session as well as a PARTIAL list of contributed presentations that have been accepted as of December 31, 2013. Contributed presentations will be scheduled in one of these four categories: “90-minute Poster Session”, “75-minute Workshops”, “50-minute Conversations on Best Practices” and 20-minute “Brief Reports”.

A) The Opening General Session, Friday, May 23, 8:15-9:15 AM
(1) The Willis Green, Jr. Memorial General Session on HIV Practice Issues:
Topic: “YOU Are the New Era in HIV/AIDS Care”
Invited Panelists: Melinda Marasch, LCSW, Aspire Training and Consulting, Denver, CO; Lucy Cords, LCSW, NO/AIDS Task Force, New Orleans, LA and Marla Corwin, LCSW, CAP III, Mountain Plains AIDS Education & Training Center, Aurora, CO

B) Partial List of Posters, Workshops, Conversations on Best Practices and Brief Reports:

“From Ryan White to the Affordable Care Act: Lessons in Growth for One ASO.”
Sarah Fanucci and Scott Bertani, Bellingham, WA; Carrie Peterson, Everett, WA.


“How AIDS Organizations Can Leverage Technology.”
Brad Ball and Norm Warren, Salt Lake City, UT.

“Improving Outcomes to Increase Access to Care, Treatment and Resources in Support of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy Care Continuum.” Marla A. Corwin, Aurora, CO; Mary Kay Diakite, New York, NY; Larry S. Yurow, Wilmington, DE.

“Re-thinking Non-Profits: Seeking Sustainability.” Fungiasi Nota, Sharon Hill, PA.

“Influencing Politicians in the New Era of HIV/AIDS Care.” Jim Manning, Columbia, SC.

“Evaluating Change in Community-Based Settings: How Do Technologies Blend with ASOs’ Grassroots Origins?” Michael G. Lee, St. Paul, MN.

“Visual Service Plans: Creating Better Outcomes with Diagram-Based Logic Models.”
Makarios Tabor, Columbia, SC.

“Strengths-based Case Management for HIV Medical Care Linkage and Retention Among Rural Women of Color: Applications and Lessons Learned.” Karen Phillips, Anniston, AL.

“A New Approach to Service Delivery: Managing More Patients with Fewer Resources.”
Kate A. Bass, Duluth, GA.

“Sustained HIV Seronegativity Among Black MSMs In New York City: the Neg4Life Pilot Study.” Jagadisa-devasri Dacus, New York, NY.

“Sero-Discordant Couples: Co-Creating Relational Dialogues.”
Patricia Miller, Calgary, Alberta, Ontario.


“HIV Infection, Basic Biology and Implications for Social Workers.”
Lucy Bradley-Springer, Aurora, CO.

“HIV Case Management: Narrative Approaches for Person-Centered Care.”
Jennifer Haley, Santa Fe, NM.

Rusty Bennett, Birmingham, AL and Randall Russell, Seattle, WA.

“Evaluating Programs for People Living with HIV/AIDS: Challenges and Lessons Learned.”
Amanda Raker and Matthew Feldman, New York, NY.

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A PARTIAL PREVIEW... CONTINUED:

“Practice Approaches for Retention in Care and Medication Adherence: Using Motivational Interviewing, Strengths Based Messaging and Evidence Based Tools.” Marla A. Corwin, Aurora, CO.

“‘How to Survive a Plague’: A Documentary Viewing and Discussion.” Scott Kramer, New York, NY and Jeff Driskell, Salem, MA.

“Children, Teens and Families Living with HIV.” Mary McLees Lane, Wilson, NC.

“Promotion of Latina Health: Intersectionality of Intimate Partner Violence and Risk for HIV/AIDS.” Michele A. Rountree, Austin, TX.


“Strategic Partnerships: How to Play Nice in the Sandbox.” Melissa Sellevaag, Washington, DC.

“Using Memoirs and Novels to Teach Advocacy and Counsel Clients.” Lisa E. Cox, Galloway, NJ.

“Cultural Competence: Going Beyond Intellectual Understanding to Reflections on Our ‘Gut-level’ Reactions to Diverse Clients.” Gail Ukockis, Columbus, OH.

“The Successes and Challenges of Implementing a Linkage to Care Intervention.” Alison Meier, Madison, WI.


“Integration of HIV Testing and Linkage into Crisis Services and Community Mental Health Services.” Sally Ann Bjornholm and Edgar Wiggins, Baltimore, MD.

“Information is Powerful Medicine—An Innovative Approach to Advancing Health Information Privacy and Civil Rights Enforcement.” Velveta Howell, Ian Shipps, Hyla Schreurs, and Andrea Oliver - Denver, CO.

“Connecting Housing, Healthcare and Mainstream Systems: Learning from the Successes and Challenges of the Integrated Housing and Health Plans (HOPWA Special Projects of National Significance).” Rusty Bennett, Birmingham, AL.


“Rethinking Quality.” Matthew Bennett, Denver, CO