

In the US, the number of people living with HIV infection is increasing, even though the number of people dying of AIDS continues to decline. New medical treatments, needle exchange program, condoms, and public education and safer sex are having an effect. Concerns are being raised however that new cases of HIV infection are on the rise. A vaccine for AIDS is not yet available-practicing safer sex behaviors as individuals is still our only protection against this challenging disease.

## Worldwide

- 47 Million people around the world have been infected with HIV since the virus was identified 15 years ago.
- About 5.4 million people were infected with HIV in 1999.
- Worldwide an estimated 15,000 new infections occur every day.
- Sub-Sahara Africa is the hardest-hit region with 3.8 million new HIV infections in 1999.
- Eastern Europe and Central Asia saw the sharpest increase in HIV infections in 1999, most of the new cases were due to injection drug use.

## USA

- Over 850,000 adults and children are estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS: 670,000 are men; 170,000 are women; 10,000 are children.
- 40,000 new HIV infections were reported in 1999.
- One in three of those infected with HIV do not know they are infected.
- AIDS is now the fifth leading cause of death for people 25-44 years of age.
- 50% of all new infections are among young people under age 25.

## Washington State

- Women accounted for more than 7% of AIDS cases in 2000. Cases among women have grown each year since 1988 and currently are increasing more rapidly than cases among men.
- In 1982 HIV exposure was found mostly among homosexual or bisexual males. As of 2000, only 68% of new cases are among this group. HIV infections due to needle sharing accounted for 9% to 19% of new infections.
- As of December 1998 Washington State reports a cumulative total of persons diagnosed with AIDS since 1981 to be 8,591 individuals. Of these 3,513 are presumed to be still living.

## Kitsap County

- From 1981 until December 2000, 166 AIDS cases have been reported in Kitsap County. Of these 166 cases in the county, 71 persons are presumed living.
- Estimated number of HIV cases in Kitsap County – whether known to the individual or unknown – range from approximately 753 to 1470 individuals infected with the virus.

*It is important to note when reading AIDS statistics that such facts include only persons who have been diagnosed with AIDS unless specifically stated otherwise. Numbers of person infected with the HIV virus are usually calculated to be approximately 5 to 10 times more than the number of cases of AIDS reported.*

In most cases, becoming infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus is entirely preventable. If you are unsure how to prevent infection, or need information or assistance, contact the Bremerton Kitsap County AIDS Information Line at 1-800-874-AIDS.

If you or someone you care about are concerned you may have come into contact with the virus, get tested. Early testing makes a difference – the sooner treatment for HIV is started, the better the chances of living with HIV as long-term but manageable disease.

### **For more information:**

#### **State and Local**

Bremerton-Kitsap County Health District education materials, speakers, training's, volunteer program, testing & counseling, client services, support groups	(360) 337-5235  <a href="http://www.wa.gov/kitsaphealth">http://www.wa.gov/kitsaphealth</a>
AIDS Prevention Project	(206) 205-7837 <a href="http://www.metrokc.gov/health/apu">http://www.metrokc.gov/health/apu</a>
Washington State HIV/AIDS Hotline	1-800-272-AIDS (2437)
Lifelong AIDS Alliance (Formerly NW Aids Foundation & Chicken Soup Brigade)	206-329-6923  <a href="http://www.lifelongaidsalliance.org">http://www.lifelongaidsalliance.org</a>
<b>Gay &amp; Lesbian Services</b> Lambert House-Seattle (Youth) PFLAG-Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays Gay City Health Project	(206) 322-2515 (360) 698-3158 (206) 860-6969 <a href="http://www.gaycity.org">www.gaycity.org</a>
OASIS (Kitsap Program) (Youth)	(253)534-3204 <a href="http://www.members.yoom.com/OasisYouth/index.html">www.members.yoom.com/OasisYouth/index.html</a>
People of Color Against AIDS Network (POCAAN)	(206) 322-7061
<b><u>National</u></b>	
Center for Disease Control HIV/AIDS Hotline & Information National Prevention Information Network  Prevention Guidelines Database	1-800-342-2437 1-800-458-5231 <a href="http://www.cdcnpin.org">http://www.cdcnpin.org</a> <a href="http://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/prevguid/prevguid.htm">http://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/prevguid/prevguid.htm</a>
Project Inform (Treatment info on HIV)	1-800-822-7422
AIDS Clinical Trials Information Service	<a href="http://www.actis.org/">http://www.actis.org/</a>
UNAIDS The Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS	<a href="http://www.unaids.org/">http://www.unaids.org/</a>

Sources: Youth and HIV/AIDS: An American Agenda Report to the President, March, 1996.  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HIV/AIDS Surveillance, 12/98.  
Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report 46: 165-173, 1997  
Susan Buskin, AIDS Prevention Project, Seattle King County Health Dept., 1997.  
Washington State Responds, January/February 1999.  
American Association For World Health, World AIDS Day 2000