

# Positive Press

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## MPACT Welcomes New Prevention Director

S-CAP is thrilled to welcome Joshua Cleveland to our team as the new Director of Prevention for the MPACT (Male Power Affecting Community Ties) Program! Joshua comes to SCAP

from Remington College where he served as an instructor. Remington's Health Care programs range from associate's degrees in Clinical Medical Assisting to diploma programs in fields such as Medical Assisting and Pharmacy Technician.

As an active member of the community, Joshua serves as vice president Board of Directors for the Pikes Peak Gay & Lesbian Community Center and moderator of LIVE Colorado. Joshua was recognized recently in the annual Pride Center awards ceremony as winner of the 2010 Community Collaboration Award. Joshua is also a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Joshua has worked in the health care field for 11 years, starting his career working in Houston, Texas for the Montrose Clinic, a clinic very similar to S-CAP which provides HIV testing, counseling and community resources. On a lighter note, Joshua's friends claim he has a "genetic predisposition to all things Italian, particularly food and music," which he applies well in the kitchen. His musical

skills have been put to good use – teaching, with his partner Jeremy, country music dance lessons for female inmates at Comcor. The gals loved it so much they jokingly referred to themselves as "Joshua's Dancing Felon Lesbians!"

Joshua has lots of plans for the MPACT program, which is designed to address a variety of subjects affecting Men Who Have Sex With Men, including physical, emotional and social issues. The program includes educational and social events which create opportunities for open discussion and healthy relationships with other men. Joshua aims to significantly expand MPACT's outreach capacity in order to recruit more people to the program, while also enhancing educational programs and increasing HIV testing.

MPACT, Joshua said, is truly here to support its members. "Whether someone comes in for an HIV test and is determined to be positive or negative, we don't just hand them the literature and say good luck. We are here to build knowledge about HIV and provide a safe place for members to meet people of like mind." Joshua stressed that MPACT is for men that have sex with men despite how a man identifies himself, and it is an integrated program of both HIV positive and negative men. Privacy is paramount so members can build safe, strong and long lasting friendships and relationships.

For more information on the MPACT program — including how to get involved, volunteer or sign up for our newsletter — please email: [jcleland@s-cap.org](mailto:jcleland@s-cap.org).



## New website recently launched

Check out our new website at [www.s-cap.org](http://www.s-cap.org). It is packed with news and client services information! Visit us on **Facebook**, too!

## "GettingUSCovered" will offer Medical Insurance to uninsured Coloradans with pre-existing health conditions

"GettingUSCovered" is a new health plan created by the federal government to expand coverage to people who have been uninsured for at least six months and have a medical condition that prevents them from becoming insured under standard health plans. By law, the rates have to be competitive with standard plans. The program is open to anyone who meets the above criteria and is especially suited for HIV+ individuals whose income level places them in a higher co-pay bracket for CICP (Colorado Indigent Care Program).

S-CAP Case Management staff is working in conjunction with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to coordinate your application. CDPHE is exploring the possibility of utilizing drug assistance money to help subsidize some of the premium costs for certain applicants. Please visit the website at [www.gettinguscovered.org](http://www.gettinguscovered.org) to check for your eligibility and your potential rates. Be sure you talk with your case manager if you are interested in applying.

## New Collaborative Clinic Nurse Coordinator at Peak Vista

Please welcome Monica Fletcher, R.N. as the new Peak Vista—S-CAP Collaborative Clinic Nurse Coordinator! Monica will be scheduling appointments for S-CAP clients who receive medical care at the facility. She can be reached at:

Peak Vista Family Health Center  
(719) 344-6790  
Fax: (719) 344-7827  
[Monica.Fletcher@peakvista.org](mailto:Monica.Fletcher@peakvista.org)

## Client Service Happenings in Pueblo/Colorado Springs

### Pueblo

**Social Lunch:** August 10, S-CAP office: 635 W. Corona!!  
**Pride Festival:** August 22. Parade starts at 10 a.m. at the Riverwalk!! Contact Linda at (719) 924-8925 to discuss parade ideas.

**Lunch and Learn:** August 24, 11:30 a.m. at the First Congregational Church. Emergency Preparedness presented by a representative from the Health Department.

### Colorado Springs

**Living Positively Synergy Group:** August 4, 6:00 p.m. Light meal will be served.

**Diversity Fair:** August 15, 10-4 p.m. America the Beautiful Park!

**Movie Day:** August 19, 1 p.m. *The Times of Harvey Milk*. S-CAP Conference Room. Popcorn and sodas provided.

**Play Group — Babies and Toddlers:** Saturday, August 21, 10-noon, Summer Picnic. Bring a side dish to share. Meat, fixin's and drinks will be provided. Call Sarah: 660-5331.

## Enthusiasm rising for AIDS Walk 2010

Supporters of S-CAP are already working hard to raise funds for the AIDS Walk 2010, which will take place in the Garden of the Gods on October 9, 2010. You can join them now by registering to walk or make a donation at:

[www.firstgiving.com/scap](http://www.firstgiving.com/scap)



If you would like receive email updates as to volunteer opportunities and program developments, please send an email to:

[aidswalk2010@s-cap.org](mailto:aidswalk2010@s-cap.org).

The goal is for every walker to raise \$75 minimum in pledges! It's only 3 miles, in a gorgeous setting!!! Bring the family!!

Every step you take, or every dollar you give, helps change the lives for the better for hundreds of S-CAP clients living with HIV/AIDS.

Your participation in or contribution to the AIDS Walk 2010 will help S-CAP keep helping people like a client who recently wrote:

***"S-CAP's team and partnership with Peak Vista (Collaborative Clinic), state organizations and both doctors and specialists are awesome. They are so caring and they work together making you feel like you always have someone on your side."***

## Self-Management Training Workshop to be held over four Fall sessions!!

Another Self Management Training (SMT) workshop will be offered early this Fall. This workshop is designed for people living with HIV/AIDS who want to better manage their HIV health care. A combination of information, skills building and peer mentorship (if desired) offer a unique opportunity to learn and grow in a safe, fun and confidential setting. Individuals who have recently been diagnosed HIV+, as well as anyone who is wanting to better manage their HIV health care, will find this training especially helpful.

This workshop will be formatted into four half-day segments on Saturday mornings. The dates will be August 28th, September 11th, 18th and 25th from 8:30 AM until noon each day. All sessions will be at the Gill Foundation, 315 East Costilla, Colorado Springs — except for the September 18th session which will be held at the S-CAP office.

- The first session on August 28th will cover Participant Introductions, Expectations, a discussion and history of the Self Empowerment Movement and Tips for Success with Health Care Providers.
- The second session on September 11th will cover Ways to Improve Communication, a review of HIV Basics and Understanding Lab results.
- The third session on September 18th will cover Understanding Medications and a discussion of Staying Healthy with HIV including Nutrition, Substance Abuse, Lifestyle and Stress Management.
- The last session on September 25 will cover a discussion of how HIV affects Mental Health. A discussion on Action Planning will also be included. The "Action Planning" can be used as a tool to help improve and measure one's success with self management. It is best implemented with a "mentor".

It is strongly recommended that participants complete all four segments in a row, but makeup sessions may be made available. Certificates will be provided to participants that complete all four. The SMT workshop is a pre-requisite for individuals that wish to become Peer Mentors and complete the Peer Mentor Training (PMT) workshop. All HIV+ persons are welcome (need not be clients of S-CAP), although confidentiality agreements and SMT applications will be required. All participants (including trainers) are HIV+ (peers). **For more information, contact your case manager or Leslie Wirpsa (719) 578-9092, extension 130 or [lwirpsa@s-cap.org](mailto:lwirpsa@s-cap.org).**

### S-CAP Non-discrimination Policy

The Southern Colorado AIDS Project is an equal opportunity agency serving all individuals regardless of race, religion, color, age, ethnicity, physical handicap, sex, economic status, sexual orientation, gender expression, national origin or citizenship.