

# SAAF CONNECTION+PLUS

The e-newsletter of the SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

March/April 2006

The mission of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation is to create and sustain a healthier community through a compassionate, comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS.

Welcome to the seven edition of the e-newsletter of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). We call our e-newsletter the SAAF Connection + Plus. This newsletter is sent every two months. Your comments are important to us and we welcome them. If you have comments, please email them to Jess at [jcelentano@saaf.org](mailto:jcelentano@saaf.org).

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## Jell-O Wrestling 2006

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza is scheduled for Sunday, May 7, 2006 beginning at 2pm at Woody's bar, 3710 N. Oracle in Tucson. This entertaining and very unique event draws a huge crowd from the community, and features a live auction and ten teams of costumed wrestlers thrashing it out in a pit of ice-cold Jell-O, all presided over by Jell-O's sparkling and entertaining hostesses.

Tickets to the event will be \$6 in advance and \$10 at the door. We highly recommend that you buy tickets in advance, as the event always sells out. Raffle tickets for a weeklong vacation in Mazatlan and \$200 in Southwest Airlines ticket vouchers will soon go on sale for \$1 each, a terrific deal!

All proceeds from Jell-O benefit the programs and services of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.

The Jell-O committee is currently seeking wrestlers and sponsors. Sponsorships are available for \$250

or \$125, which includes the sponsor's name on the back of the official Jell-O T-shirt for 2006 as well as many other benefits. If you are interested in being a part of Jell-O, you can access the website at [www.jello-wrestling.org](http://www.jello-wrestling.org) to download a wrestler application or sponsorship form, or call the SAAF offices at 628-7223 and ask for Mae. See you at the Pit!

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## Möda/Provocateur 2006

A HUGE SUCCESS!!

Fabulous hair, exciting fashions, stunning video presentations and all the latest dance moves made the third annual Möda Provocateur fundraiser a tremendous success, raising over \$24,000 for the programs and services of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation. Luxury cars and limousines delivered guests into the buzzing lobby of the newly renovated Fox Theatre in downtown Tucson, to enjoy an amazing spread of delightful appetizers from Blue House Catering while they browsed through the incredible raffle prizes. When the show kicked off, the audience cheered and applauded for the opening number by A Tucson Dance Company, which was followed by the models from Avalon, Imagen, dada and Chrome salons, all dressed by eleven participating boutiques in Tucson.

The show was MC'd by Chuck George of KOLD-13 and included a wide variety of entertainment, including sets from Improv Comedy, dramatic readings from Live Theatre Workshop and a stellar rap performance from Swindoe, which was backed up by some of the cutest young dancers all echoing his message, "we are the future."

Many thanks to title sponsor Rio Development Company, all the table sponsors and the many businesses who provided in-kind donations to the event.

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## The Naked Truth

Gay Men's Health Project is proud to announce its newest campaign in the fight against HIV. The multi-faceted approach, entitled The Naked Truth About HIV, involves bold print media pieces, virtual interaction via the GMHP website, and a series of Community Leadership Mentoring workshops (see next story).

Print media for The Naked Truth About HIV centers around a group photo of local individuals, in the buff, who are either infected with or affected by HIV. The photo is enhanced by printed cards detailing individuals' stories about being personally affected by HIV. The poster-size photos, along with the story cards, are displayed throughout Tucson at key locations frequented by gay men and others at high risk for HIV.

For details about where you can see the campaign displayed in person, or to view the campaign online, visit the GMHP website at [www.gmhp.org](http://www.gmhp.org).

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## Community Leadership Mentoring Workshops

Community Leadership Mentoring workshops are short but intensive group sessions for men 18 years of age and older. The focus of these free workshops is to develop participants' skills to help friends and partners change their behaviors around substance use, such as the ever-increasing use of crystal meth, and sexual behaviors that put them at risk for HIV and other STD's. In addition to acquiring

these valuable skills, participants will be compensated from \$60 to \$180, depending on the level of participation.

If you are interested in being part of the Community Leadership Mentoring series, please call Gary or Dave at 628-7223 or [grhine@saaf.org](mailto:grhine@saaf.org) to secure your place for the next available date.

The next mentoring session will be held on Sunday, March 19, from 12-4 pm.

Gay Men's Health Project is a collaboration of Wingspan, Pima County Health Department, and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.

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## Why Write A Will?

Ever wondered why anyone would write a will? Well, here is your opportunity to understand the importance of writing a will. On Wednesday, March 8, at SAAF, we will be offering a Write A Will workshop. Doug Newman, a prominent Tucson attorney, will be making the presentation. The workshop offers a forum for understanding the importance of having a will and discusses legal aspects of the will, and giving opportunities through a will.

Participants will be empowered to ensure that their wishes are known and respected. All friends of SAAF who are interested in a "hands on" session about making or updating a will and ways to protect even the most modest estate are invited.

It is a 90-minute interactive session using presentations, questions and answers and a complimentary workbook for recording important information regarding the preparation of your will. Join us as we look at what the process of writing a will is and why do it!

Date:

Wednesday, March 8

Time:

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Location:

SAAF - 375 S. Euclid Avenue  
North Entrance

RSVP:

By March 3 - Tel. 628-7223 ask for Jess or Rick

Refreshments provided

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## SAVE the DATE!!

☞ [Fusion 2006](#) ☛

☞ [Anthem](#) ☛

FUSION 2006, a community health expo, and Anthem, a late night and after-hours event produced by SAAF's Pulse program, will take place on Saturday, August 26, at the Tucson Convention Center.

Watch for further information on these two exciting events!

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## Serving Cochise County

SAAF has been asked to provide Case Management services to people living with HIV/AIDS in Cochise County through the end of March at the request of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, the fiscal agent for the Southeastern Arizona HIV/AIDS Care Consortium. Dominga Ruiz, one of SAAF's two Senior Case Managers, will provide case management through face-to-face visits and through SAAF's toll free number, 1-800-771-9054.

SAAF is honored to provide this expanded service in Southern Arizona, and we look forward to new relationships with community members and organizations throughout Cochise County.

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## Upcoming Events @ SAAF

All events will be held in SAAF's Conference Room, and include a meal.

Thursday, March 23 @ 5:00 p.m.

Peer to Peer Town Hall: Successful Living with HIV

Wednesday, April 12 @ Noon

Psychological Issues Related to Injectable Therapies, with Dr. Neva Chaupette

Tuesday, April 18 @ 5:00 p.m.

Update on Treatment Interruptions, with Dr. Fritz Bredeek

There will be no HIV Update on Wednesday, March 8 as previously listed in The SAAF Connection newsletter.

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## Volunteers Needed

[Volunteer Resources needs your help.](#)

We have daytime volunteer jobs that need to be filled as quickly as possible. One of these positions is at the front desk answering phones and greeting visitors. Another is staffing the Buyers' Club. Both of these positions require a half-day commitment on a regularly scheduled day. If you have half a day to give to SAAF once a week, please give Wendy or Pam in VR a call.

A third position is temporary and requires some filing skills. Our overworked finance staff needs assistance with clerical duties. So, if you enjoy bringing order to disorder, you're our person. Please give us a call at 628-7223.

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# Great Things Continue to Happen at SAAF! Donate Today at:

<http://www.saaf.org/>

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