

## VERMONT A.I.D.S. INFORMATION

# BODYWORKS

### Kutzcho Hired by State

Vermont C.A.R.E.S. is pleased to announce the confirmation of Deborah Kutzcho as the Department of Health's new A.I.D.S. co-ordinator.

Ms. Kutzko, a Burlington area nurse practitioner, received her degree in nursing from the University of Vermont and her practitioner degree from the University of Colorado at Denver. Ms. Kutzko was a clinician at the Fenway Clinic in Boston for two years. While there she was an investigator in several A.I.D.S. related research grants in addition to providing direct care services to persons with AIDS and AIDS related concerns. Ms. Kutzko has been a clinician with Planned Parenthood in Burlington for the past year.

Ms. Kutzko, whose position is created from federal grant money, views her primary role as educating the public on the ways people can and cannot put themselves at risk for AIDS, "Taking the confusion and making sense out of it," she said.

She view Vermont as being in a good situation because it has few diagnosed cases of AIDS and few positive antibody tests. "Vermont is a perfect place for risk reduction and safe sex education as methods of prevention" she said.

Ms. Kutzko is willing to answer and questions people have concerning AIDS and other HIV infections. She is also open to listening to the concerns of lesbian and gay men. The department of health's toll free AIDS hotline is 1-800-882-2437.

Vermont C.A.R.E.S. will be entering into negotiations with the department of health to provide risk reduction and safe sex education to high risk groups.

### Training Seminar Planned

Working as an A.I.D.S. volunteer can be both rewarding and challenging. Whether providing direct care services for people with A.I.D.S., conducting safe-sex education, counselling the "worried well," educating the general public, or providing organizational support to an A.I.D.S. group, volunteers have been key to meeting the tremendous needs presented by the A.I.D.S. crisis.

The Vermont Committee for A.I.D.S. Resources, Education and Services (Vermont C.A.R.E.S.) has scheduled a volunteer training seminar for the weekend of November 15 and 16 in Burlington.

The seminar will feature presentations and workshops by a wide

range of authorities with specific A.I.D.S. experience.

"We hope to provide people interested in getting involved with any aspect of A.I.D.S. work with the skills and knowledge it takes to be effective" said Terje Anderson, chair of Vermont C.A.R.E.S. "We are concerned not only with the concrete and information questions about doing A.I.D.S. work, but also in preparing people for the interpersonal and emotional aspects of it. One of our major goals is to provide a support network for volunteers."

The group emphasized that attending the seminar is not a commitment to volunteering, but rather a way to understand what volunteer work can involve.

Anyone who has ever thought about becoming involved with A.I.D.S. support is encouraged to attend. To register for the seminar, or for more details, contact Vermont C.A.R.E.S. at P.O. Box 1125, Montpelier, VT 05602, or contact Keith Goslant (454-8552), Terje Anderson (862-5917), or Steve Shepard (862-7817).

### From Washington

When asked about the \$51 million cut in A.I.D.S. funding proposed in the 1987 fiscal year budget presented by the Reagan administration, Vermont's Congressional delegation responded:

**Senator Patrick Leahy:** "I agree that money should be appropriated, not stripped from the budget, for this purpose...I supported an amendment to budget to use funds for health research, including AIDS, instead of congressional mailings."

**Representative James Jeffords:** "the House passed budget for fiscal 1987 includes \$346 million in funding for AIDS research. This compares favorably with the Administration's original proposal of \$213 million. While this budget level is heartening, the bottom line is the actual appropriation."

Asked to co-sponsor Senate Bill 2345, the AIDS Counseling, Education and Services Act of 1986 introduced by Senator Ted Kennedy, they responded:

**Leahy:** "I believe that this bill is a good first step towards addressing the serious problem of AIDS in this country. I have co-sponsored the legislation, and hope that it will come before the Senate for consideration and passage."

**Senator Robert Stafford:** "I will review the bill closely, but I would like the benefit of committee hearings and deliberation on this piece of legislation before I take a position. You may be assured I will have your thoughts in mind as the legislative process works."

### National Day of Prayer for A.I.D.S.

The Presiding Bishop, Edmond Browning of the Episcopal Church has designated Sunday, November 9, to focus, through prayer, on those who have AIDS and those who have died from AIDS.

### Episcopal Church Holds A.I.D.S. Conference

The Episcopal Church, Province of New England held a conference on AIDS at Mont Marie Conference Center in Holyoke, Mass. on October 2-4. Modeled after the National Conference on AIDS, held in San Francisco last March, the conference was a result of a mandate created by a resolution passed unanimously by the House of Deputies at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church held in Anaheim, California during September of 1985.

The conference was targeted at Episcopalians, though all were welcome. One hundred-twenty attended which included six people with AIDS (PWA). The PWAs were anonymous except one, a hemophilic from Milford, New Hampshire, who was one of the plenary speakers. Other PWAs were allowed to "come out" during the conference as the time seemed right for them.

About a dozen well-known people like The Rev. William Doubleday, Larry Kessler and John Fortunato spoke on various aspects on various aspects of the disease and the caring for PWAs. Fifteen workshops were offered on appropriate topics. The highlight of the conference was the main service on Friday evening with the "laying-on of hands" by The Rt. Rev. David Johnson, Bishop of Massachusetts and The Rt. Rev. George Hunt, Bishop of Rhode Island. Bishop Johnson was the celebrant at that service and Bishop Hunt was the preacher.

Portions of the conference were both audio-and video-taped. Integrity/Burlington owns a set of the tapes which can be used as resource material. People seeking more information may contact by writing Integrity/ Burlington, PO Box 126, Burlington 05402, or by calling Bruce Howden 864-7198.

### VT CARES Offers Safe Sex Workshops

The issue of H.I.V. infections/A.I.D.S. is currently receiving greater media attention. Anti-E.R.A. coalitions are using A.I.D.S. as an emotional scare tactic. Conservative and fundamentalist groups are misrepresenting statistics and claiming H.I.V. infections are casually transmitted. At the same time, researchers are releasing the promise of antivirals, such as A.Z.T. and CS-85, in solving the Human Immunodeficiency Virus that causes A.I.D.S.

This diversity of information and