



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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15TH Annual Alabama AIDS Symposium to be held in Point Clear

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On Sept. 26-27 the 15th Annual Alabama AIDS Symposium will be held at the Grand Hotel Marriott in Point Clear. The theme for the 2002 conference is "Prevention and Treatment: Hope For Today, Solutions for Tomorrow." The symposium is sponsored by the Alabama Department of Public Health in collaboration with numerous co-sponsors.

"The conference brings together health care providers, persons living with HIV, care givers and other service providers for an annual update on current medical treatments and community prevention strategies being implemented in the ongoing war against HIV infection" said Brenda Cummings, HIV/AIDS Symposium Coordinator at the HIV/AIDS Division of Prevention and Control, Alabama Department of Public Health.

The conference will feature a variety of workshops and speakers on different topics related to HIV infection. On Sept. 26, Dr. Glodys St. Phard of the Alabama Department of Corrections will present "HIV/AIDS: International/National, Social and Cultural Perspectives," followed by Dr. Jorge Herrera, Professor of Medicine at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine, who will present "HIV and Hepatitis C." Both presentations will be broadcast live via satellite from the conference site.

On Sept. 27, the opening plenary session will feature author and HIV educator J.L. King, whose presentation is titled "No More Secrets: Raising Up From the Down

Low." This workshop will explore King's observations and experiences with African American males who live dual sexual lives. King is currently working with ABC's 20/20 News Magazine to produce a segment on the same topic.

In addition to these presentations, the symposium will include other exciting workshops and speakers on topics such as "Life Challenges with HIV," "HIV/AIDS Treatment Update," "What's The Secret About Victoria's Secret?" "How To Manage Your Energy," and "HIV/AIDS School Requirements And Methods of Enhancing Coordinated School Health."

The conference pre-registration fee is \$99 prior to Sept. 15. After Sept. 15 registration is \$129. For more information contact Brenda Cummings at 334-206-5364, or bcummings@adph.state.al.us, or visit the Alabama Department of Public Health Web site at www.adph.org.

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