



Access Care of Coastal Texas, Inc.
Education, testing, care and support services for HIV-affected residents in
Galveston, Brazoria & Matagorda Counties
October 2017

HIV TESTING AT ACCT

ACCT offers free confidential HIV testing Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. – noon at 707 23rd Street in Galveston. **WALK-INS WELCOME!**

BINGO WITH MISTY

The September Bingo Party raised \$255 and there were lots of good prizes and big winners. Misty will be having another Bingo fundraiser for ACCT on Saturday, October 7th from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. at ACCT 707 23rd St. Participants will get 4 cards for \$15 and lunch. See you there!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Lee's Art Lesson this month will be on Thursday, October 12th at 11 a.m.
- The Houston Volunteer Lawyers will be here on Thursday, October 19th at 9 a.m. Please call to make an appointment.
- The San Luis is providing lunch for our Halloween Party! There will be a costume contest with great prizes. Come

NEW STAFF

Bryce Aaron is ACCT's newest staff member, joining the team as the newest Client Services Specialist. Bryce relocated with his spouse from Dallas, TX in August. Prior to working with ACCT, Bryce worked previously in marketing and billing for a home health agency in Dallas for two years. Additionally, Bryce lived in South Florida for 10 years, during which time he gained

experience working in HIV services in various capacities, including clinical, administrative, HIV testing and counseling, and case management roles. Additionally he worked with United Way 211 in Florida, providing social service resources for those in need, and facilitating enrollment with the Affordable Care Act as a Navigator.

Bryce loves the Coastal climate of Galveston, and considers himself an 'IBC', Islander by choice. He enjoys Victorian architecture and history, and says that adventure can be found at every street corner here in Galveston. Perusing local shops, trying new restaurants, and enjoying walks to the beach with his spouse and their dog keep him busy during his downtime, and he finds the only reason to leave the island is to go to HEB!

ACCT was described as a 'family' to him upon interviewing for the position, and as he further develops his role within the organization, he has found that to be true. Bryce is happy to be part of the ACCT family, and is eager to assist clients in need.

TRANS SUPPORT GROUP

The Transgender community on Galveston Island is as diverse as they come, but there are interesting cross identities that are shared. Experiences vary, and we'd love to get together to share with one another. The trans meet up will start this Tuesday, September 26th and will continue every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. Stop by ACCT, 707 23rd St. at 6:30 if you are a

part of a trans community and are looking for some support. We look forward to seeing you there.

POSITIVE WOMEN'S GROUP

The ladies of ACCT have formed a new support group for women. A positive and uplifting safe place to inspire, encourage and educate. Please come join us every 4th Thursday at 12:30, right after lunch. Join the fun!

NEW AIDS QUILT

ACCT volunteer Brian Mayes has been named Chairman of the 2017 Names Project Quilt Committee. The goal is to have a panel representing ACCT clients ready for submission by World AIDS Day, December 1st. Volunteers needed! Sewing Skills not required. Next meeting is Wednesday, October 11th.

COSTUME CONTEST

Once again we will be having a Costume Contest for our Halloween Party. Get in the spirit and dress as your favorite character or scary THING! The San Luis is providing lunch which is always excellent and there will be prizes for the best costumes.

OUTREACH TESTING

Outreach Coordinator, Mark H. performs free HIV testing in October as follows:

- Tuesday, October 10th at LaFitte's from 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 11th at 23rd St. Station from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Thursday, October 12th at Rumors Beach Bar from 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.

AVENUE 360

360 dental trips will again be on the 1st and 3rd Friday each month. 360 requires you to make your own appointment so call the clinic at 713-524-7933. Tell them that you will be using ACCT for transportation. Any questions, call Darron at ACCT for help. Dental hygiene is a basic building block to good health!

LUNCH ON THURSDAYS

Clients have voiced concern that the reason they do not participate in the noon lunch on Thursday is so they won't be taking resources away from someone "that needs it more".

While that is such a sweet and caring sentiment, it is not a necessary one. While some resources will always be in limited supply, food and a seat are not one. Please come and enjoy a nice hot lunch and share your joy with others.

HURRICANE HARVEY

Hurricane Harvey caused very little damage on the Island but people were very generous and helpful especially to all of the displaced animals. Always generous to ACCT, the Galveston Island Humane Society shared a TON of dog and cat food so our clients could take care of their animals more easily. A BIG THANK YOU to GIHS for the food and even delivering it!

SUPPORT GROUP

The HIV Support Group for individuals meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 12:30.

Open to everyone in the community affected or effected by HIV.

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU,
THANK YOU!**

- The Newsletter made it out on Tuesday, August 29th in SPITE of Harvey! Thanks to Judge and Savannah!
- Angel and Savannah made a delicious lunch for staff and volunteers and organizing our kitchen!
- Tideway for the wonderful spaghetti and great garlic bread!
- Misty for her fabulous Picadillo, fried rice and great beans and corn!
- New Board member Kent and Jesse at Galveston.com for dropping everything to help with client lunch!
- The Trinity Ladies for our favorites chipped beef sandwiches, tator tots,

Thank You!

Bill Love & G.W. Cornelius
Betty Elbus
Galveston Island Humane Society
J. Barry Shaw
St. Luke M. Baptist Church Pastor's Aid
Ministry
U.U.s

For your donations of:
Clothes, Accessories, Appliances. Cat & Dog
Food, Office Supplies & Personal Hygiene

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

The next meeting for our World AIDS Day event will be Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at 4 p.m. at ACCT. Bring your ideas and help us plan this yearly event!!



2016 "Names" quilt panel

A meeting to work on the quilt panel will be on Wednesday, October 11th at 4 p.m. at ACCT.

World AIDS Day is Friday, December 1, 2017.

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!!