

# CAPpenings



Volume 8, Spring 2010

## A Letter from our President

Dear Friends,

My own brother died from AIDS in 1990, and I know first-hand how important CAP's work is in raising awareness about HIV/AIDS, understanding ways of prevention and connecting patients and their families to care.

I am honored to write to you as CAP's newly-elected board president. A long-time CAP supporter and board member, I am thrilled to work with all of you in this new leadership role. I have tremendous respect for my fellow board members, the incredible CAP staff and all the supporters I have met through my work with this impressive organization. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president, and I look forward to great things ahead during CAP's milestone 25th anniversary year!

Since its inception in 1985, CAP has provided educational services to more than 250,000 people in a variety of settings. Our local organization has grown into one of the most successful community-based HIV/AIDS service organizations in the nation.

**To mark this anniversary year, I am writing to ask for your continued commitment.**

There are so many ways you can help. Take a look at the opportunities in this newsletter and please participate. Whether you decide to ride or

volunteer with the SMART Ride, attend one of our CAPtivating Divas anniversary parties, or assist us in outreach and prevention efforts, please stay involved!

**In addition, please consider honoring this anniversary year with a donation which marks our 25th year of operation.** Whether it's \$25, \$250, \$2,500 or \$25,000, your funds are a critical component of our continued success. You can reach the development office by calling (561) 472.3022 ext. 252 or log onto our website at [www.cappbc.org](http://www.cappbc.org) to leave a legacy and make your anniversary donation today.

In the meantime, please know how delighted I am to work with you this year and thank you again for all you do!

With kindest regards,

Beth Clark  
CAP Board President



CAP Board President,  
Elizabeth Clark

## Divas Set to CAPtivate 25th Anniversary Celebration

Drag out your glitter, glitz and glamour, and mark your calendar for fun on **October 24, 2010** as CAP celebrates 25 years of serving Palm Beach County. To take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in West Palm Beach, **CAPtivating Divas** will honor CAP's 25th anniversary with a Las Vegas-style show - complete with cocktails & hors d'oeuvres and divalicious entertainment!

"Since its inception in 1985, CAP has grown into one of the most successful community-based HIV/AIDS service organizations in the nation," said Larry Leed, Deputy Executive Director of CAP. "With this fun event, we're taking a page from the past and honoring this milestone with a star-studded drag show - similar to ones CAP benefited from years ago."

Event Chairs, Tony Jordan and Orlando Chiang and Honorary Chairs, Lydia Crozier, Fred & Anjette Scheiman and Doug Randolph are leading

a committee of enthusiastic supporters to plan the event. The Diva of Palm Beach, "Melissa" St. John is coordinating a star-studded cast of entertainers for the amusement and delight of guests attending. Monthly kick-off parties will take place throughout the county with the October 24th finale. Please check the CAP website at [www.cappbc.org](http://www.cappbc.org) for details and updates.



Mistress of Ceremonies,  
"Melissa" St. John

Interested in participating on the committee, sponsoring, underwriting, or simply attending this fun event? Please call the development office at 561.472.3022, ext. 252 for additional information.

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## Stay in the Loop

Please visit [www.cappbc.org](http://www.cappbc.org) and go to the "Contact Us" page to add your name to our email list and receive updates.

## Comprehensive AIDS Program Receives Award of Distinction at Sapphire Awards



(From the top left): Guillermo Melo; Alina Perez-Stable, Blue Foundation Sapphire Award Committee Chair; Angela Elie; Tiffany Coutee; Carlos Cisneros; Tara Brown; Daniel Hamm and Robbin Rodriguez. (From the bottom left): Dr. Rik Pavlescak; Yvette Bonnet; Randy Meg Kammer, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Public Policy, Blue Foundation.

CAP was one of seven of Florida's top nonprofits who recently received awards for their work in improving the health of Florida's uninsured and underserved at The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida's 2009 Sapphire Award ceremony.

## CAP SMART Ride Cycling to the Conch Republic

Calling all folks with spokes! Dust off your bike, hop in the saddle and join Comprehensive AIDS Program of Palm Beach County Inc., (CAP) for the ride of your life. Take a historic bicycle ride through the bustling streets of Miami, over the seven mile bridge and roll down Duval Street in the Conch Republic all to benefit a good cause--HIV/AIDS. Join CAP and five other HIV/AIDS agencies across Florida in the **SMART Ride 7, November 18-20**. The 165 mile bicycle ride from Miami to Key West raises awareness and money for HIV/AIDS agencies in Florida.

"CAP is honored to be selected to represent Palm Beach County in the SMART Ride 7" noted Dr. Rik Pavlescak CAP's chief program officer and ride volunteer. "All of the expenses of the ride are underwritten by sponsorships, so 100% of the funds raised by riders and crew go directly to services for people living with HIV/AIDS. SMART Ride 6 was CAP's first year of involvement with this fundraiser. While not a full benefiting agency at that time, we did receive more than \$18,800 from that event. We look forward to being a full participant in SMART Ride 7!"

More than \$2.2 million dollars has been raised over the past six SMART Rides and 100% has been given back to benefiting agencies. As a benefiting agency, CAP will receive a shared portion of funds raised, plus whatever funds are designated for CAP by riders and crew. CAP is working now to pull together a Ride Committee to recruit riders and crew and to educate Palm Beach County about the ride.

"Because of the efforts of our riders, crew, sponsors and donors, thousands of individuals

The Sapphire Award is Florida's only statewide award that recognizes and promotes organizations that have demonstrated excellence in addressing health disparities within their communities.

The Award of Distinction came with a \$75,000 grant recognizing CAP programs of community outreach, education and linkage to medical care and social services for people at risk or living with HIV/AIDS.

"These organizations play a huge role in bettering the health and wellbeing of their community members who need help the most," said Susan Towler, vice president, The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida. "The ways they accomplish their goals should serve as models for similar nonprofits across the state and country."

The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida enables CAP to gain back some ground lost due to budget cuts.

"Every once in a while you get a ray of sunshine," said CEO, Yvette Bonnet. "We're grateful and honored that we received this funding."



Dr. Rik Pavlescak and Brad Mann receive a check for \$18,800 from the January 2010 SMART Ride 6.

across the State of Florida are receiving direct HIV/AIDS services they need." said David Spacht, SMART Ride director.

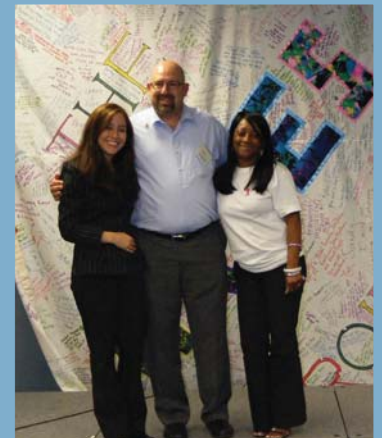
Speedsters and cruisers alike are encouraged to join the ride and feel a sense of accomplishment when crossing the finish line that can only be matched by the difference they'll be making in the lives of people affected by HIV/AIDS. People from all walks of life, ranging in age from 18 to over 70, participate in this fully supported ride. It is important to note that this is not a race. There are local training rides to help prepare riders for the 165 mile, 2-day ride. Riders from across the country are welcome to participate and the ride is designed to allow riders of all degrees of experience to participate.

To join the Ride committee or participate as a SMART Ride volunteer or rider please call Dr. Rik Pavlescak at 561-472-2466, ext. 215.

## Throughout the year CAP hosts events to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS in our community.



Lorenzo C. Robertson, Regional Minority AIDS Coordinator, Department of Health and Dora Vazquez Community Promise Program Coordinator for CAP pass out prevention materials at the Health Fair in observance of National Latino HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.



(L-R) Grand Prize winner for Best HIV Prevention Message at the World AIDS Day "People with Voices Talent Show", Kally Khourshid; Dr. Rik Pavlescak, chief program officer for CAP and one of the judges for the talent show; Tara Brown, program supervisor for CAP.



World AIDS Day "People with Voices Talent Show" first place winners Baby Divas Step Dance Team.