

HIV ALLIANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

HIV Alliance's Education Program provides several different program options for schools:

Our **Speakers in the Schools** or better known as our **"POZ"** program presentations are designed to be interactive. Speakers are trained in age-appropriate presentation techniques. These presentations are facilitated by someone living with or affected by HIV. They tell their personal story while weaving in prevention messages and some basic facts about HIV and AIDS.

Our **"HIV 101"** program encourages students to think about personal risk behaviors; emphasizes effective prevention methods and harm reduction techniques including abstinence as well as personal responsibility; dispels myths about transmission; and informs about current local and national statistics on HIV and AIDS.

Our **"HCV 101"** program, designed for older teen and adult audiences, reviews the facts about the Hepatitis C virus. The speaker will review liver function, transmission of the virus, and effective prevention techniques.

For all **POZ**, **HIV 101**, and **HCV 101** presentations, our speakers can work with individual instructors to tailor presentations to the education and maturity levels of the students. Our presentations can also include a simple five-step decision making model so that students can begin to use critical thinking skills to manage complex or difficult decisions regarding their choices and behaviors. We may also administer a simple, short pre- and post-presentation test to measure increased knowledge. Learning Objectives include: understanding how HIV is and **is not** transmitted, assessing personal risk, and acquiring effective prevention and negotiation strategies.

If a 90-minute session is available, schools also have the option of combining two types of presentations into one visit. An effective and popular option is to combine the POZ and HIV 101 presentation. Classes that are limited to an hour session may also schedule us for two different presentations on different days. We have often found that letting students hear from a POZ speaker first gets them more interested and invested in the subject matter when we follow it up with an HIV 101.

We hope you will take advantage of this education program provided free to schools and help us reach youth with information and prevention messages that can make a difference in their lives.

For more information about our programs, or to schedule a presentation, please contact Marilyn Mihacsi at mmihacsi@hivalliance.org or call 541.342.5088 x159



1 in 4 new HIV infections in the U.S. occurs in youth ages 13-24 yrs.¹

¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2012, November 30). Vital signs: HIV infection, testing, and risk behaviors among youths – United States. *MMWR. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports*. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6147.pdf>