



## AGENCY SNAPSHOT 775-786-5886

### *ACCESS for Community & Cultural Education Programs & Training (ACCEPT)*

is the only community-based organization providing HIV/AIDS prevention education, intervention, and support services, targeting African Americans in Washoe County. ACCEPT was founded in 1995 by Pastor Glenn E. Taylor Sr., as an outreach ministry of the Greater Light Church. At that time no one in the State of Nevada was targeting African Americans, who have been disproportionately affected and infected since the epidemic's beginning. In 1999 ACCEPT acquired its own 501c3. Currently we are still the only organization providing direct services to this population. African Americans account for more HIV and AIDS cases than any other ethnic group. Although only 12% of the US population, African Americans account for 50% of AIDS cases. Although we target African Americans, we do not discriminate in our provision of services. We have subsequently added substance abuse prevention classes for children and parents, parenting education, wellness groups and trainings, capacity building trainings, and supportive care services for individuals living with HIV/AIDS in addition to HIV/AIDS prevention.

#### *Mission Statement*

“Our mission is to empower underserved individuals and families by providing public health services and resources through community partnerships serving a multicultural population with emphasis on at-risk communities.”

Our existing programs include:

**Positive Action For Youth** – A substance abuse prevention program directly targeting youth. The *Positive Action* philosophy is that “positive thoughts lead to positive actions, positive actions lead to positive feelings about yourself, and positive feelings lead to more positive thoughts.” Positive Action teaches specific positive actions in the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional areas through six focus units that are common to all of our programs: self-concept: What it is, How It’s Formed, and Why It’s Important, physical and intellectual Positive Actions for a Healthy Body and Mind, Social/Emotional Positive Actions for Managing Yourself Responsibly, Social/Emotional Positive Actions for Getting Along with Others by Treating Them the Way You Like to be Treated, Social/Emotional Positive Actions for Being Honest with Yourself and Others, and Social/Emotional Positive Actions for Improving Yourself Continually.

**Parenting Wisely** -- Parenting Wisely (American Teen) is an interactive CD-ROM program designed for parents of adolescents and pre-adolescents and children (ages 9-18). Parenting Wisely (American Teen) has been the subject of many research studies by its creator, Dr. Donald A. Gordon, and also by independent researchers. Strong empirical evidence exists that using Parenting Wisely (American Teen) reduces child behavior problems, delinquency and substance abuse among adolescents, improves parenting knowledge and skills, and strengthens the relationship between adolescent and parent. Parenting Wisely (American Teen) has been designated an Exemplary Model Program by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Association (SAMHSA) and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). Ideal for group learning (Fill a classroom or living room with interested parents) **the perfect option for running group parenting classes.**

**Parenting Wisely** -- Parenting Wisely (Young Children) is an interactive CD-ROM program designed for parents of children (ages 3-9) can be adapted for children 0-3. Allows a parent to view common problems enacted in professional quality digital video scenes.

- Provides multiple solutions; and critiques both effective and ineffective parenting methods
- Teaches valuable communication and behavior management skills
- Comprehensive parent workbooks contain all solution critiques, review questions, a complete glossary of terms, sample behavior charts, exercises, and more!
- Ideal for group learning (Fill a classroom or living room with interested parents) the **Perfect option for running group parenting classes.**

**RAPP Program**– Responsible AIDS Prevention Program. A program which strategically addresses the impact of HIV/AIDS on the African American male population 16 years of age and older in Northern Nevada, targeting men who have sex with men which includes men who do not identify themselves as homosexual or bisexual and intravenous drug users. This program includes the use of gender and culturally specific strategies for condom use. The program emphasizes intervention strategies to promote individual and community empowerment for effective prevention, advocacy, and public awareness in the fight against HIV/AIDS/STDs, enhancing the overall quality of life in this population. This program utilizes small groups to present information, motivate behavior change, and teach problem solving, communication, and assertiveness training skills. ACCEPT uses V.O.I.C.E.S (Video Opportunities for Innovative Condom Education and Safer Sex) for the sessions. The participants relate to the people in the video in many aspects.

**SIIS Program** –Sistah to Sistah Program. A program, which strategically addresses the impact of HIV/AIDS on the African American at risk female population in Northern Nevada. The program provides information about risk factors for HIV and the active steps that can be taken to prevent HIV infection. This program includes the use of gender and culturally specific strategies for condom use. The program emphasizes intervention strategies to promote individual and community empowerment for effective prevention, advocacy, and public awareness in the fight against HIV/AIDS/STDs, enhancing the overall quality of life in this population. This program utilizes small groups to present information, motivate behavior change, and teach problem solving, communication, and assertiveness training skills. ACCEPT uses V.O.I.C.E.S (Video Opportunities for Innovative Condom Education and Safer Sex) for the sessions. The participants relate to the people in the video in many aspects.

**HIV/AIDS Health Education and Risk Reduction (HERR)** is for Men and Women Living with HIV/AIDS. The HERR program is to **reduce the risk** of HIV transmission among men and women living with HIV/AIDS in a culturally competent manner. ACCEPT's HERR program will provide services that educate clients with HIV/AIDS about HIV transmission and how to reduce the risk of HIV transmission. This includes the provision of information; including information dissemination about medical and psychosocial support services and counseling to help clients with HIV improve their health status. ACCEPT will provide this information to HIV/AIDS infected individuals, their partners, family members and/or caregivers via community outreach workshops and presentations. ACCEPT will collaborate with local experts on various topics as they relate to risk factors associated with: mental health (i.e., depression, anxiety); physical health (i.e., substance abuse/needle cleaning, exercise, medication adherence, HIV/AIDS transmission information); spiritual health and/or practices and financial health (i.e., poverty), all of which have been associated with risk for HIV transmission. The overall impact of this program will be the improvement of health outcomes of HIV positive individuals through the provision of health information and risk reduction.

**Computer Access Program for Men and Women of Color living with HIV/AIDS**- Provides participants with tools to increase computer literacy, research HIV/AIDS treatment information, and job opportunities.

**WHOLE Program** - The Women Healing Openly & Loving Equally program is designed to promote the mental, spiritual and, physical health of women.

**H.E.A.L. Program**- Healthy Ethnic Approaches to Living- promotes through education and intervention services the physical well being of African Americans in Northern Nevada while targeting the decrease of health disparities that perpetuate illness.