

Save the date:

Our **2008 NALGAP CONFERENCE** will be held in conjunction with the NAADAC Conference **August 28–31** in **Overland Park, Kansas**. Check our website for details: www.nalgap.org

In this issue:

- 1 NALGAP Conference, 2008 — Recovery For A Lifetime
- 2 Author Jennifer Storm to Speak at Nalgap Reception Dare to Transform Conference
- 3 Phil McCabe to Present at APHA NALGAP Invited To Participate In ATTC LGBT Training Of Trainers Conference
- 4 Michael Shernoff Dies of Cancer At 57 NALGAP Launches Its 30th Anniversary With Updated Internet Resources
- 5 President's Corner NALGAP Applauds SAMSHA Website
- 6 The Doctor is Out...
- 7 Presentations by NALGAP Board Members
- 8 NALGAP Goes to the UK

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NALGAP reporter

Serving the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Communities since 1979

NALGAP Conference, 2008— Recovery For A Lifetime

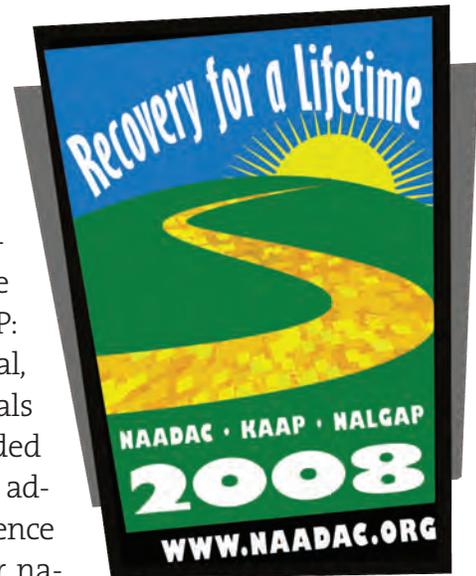
The upcoming NAADAC/NALGAP/KAAPC 2008 Conference in Overland Park, Kansas—*Recovery for a Lifetime*—will be an exciting experience that will provide an outstanding opportunity for learning about some of the issues in the LGBT community. NALGAP: The Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Addiction Professionals and Their Allies will include an expanded platform of LGBT-specific workshops. In addition, at the NALGAP Reception, conference participants will be delighted to hear nationally recognized author Jennifer Storm talk about her book *Blackout Girl: Growing Up and Drying Out in America*.

The workshops will cover an array of topics that impact the LGBT community, including: *What Every Counselor Needs to Know When Working With GLBT Clients*; *Substance Abuse in LGBTQ Youth-A Primer*; *The Meth Crisis*; and a panel discussion titled *Co-Occurring Disorders and Complicating Factors*.

NALGAP's panel discussion includes Penny Zeigler, MD: *Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Disorders*; Pamela E. Alexander, MS, NCAC II, CAC-R: *Domestic Violence in the LGBT Community: Why Do We Look the Other Way*; Phillip McCabe, CSW, CAS, CDVC, DRCC: *Problem Gambling*; Scout, Fenway Institute: *Tobacco Dependency and LGBT Consumers*; Elijah C. Nealy, M.Div., LCSW: *Transgender Issues*; and Jennifer Storm: *LGBTQ Youth and the Abuse of Alcohol and Drugs*.

NALGAP's schedule of events will be held on Friday and Saturday, August 28th and 29th, 2008. Friday's events include 2 workshops, NALGAP's Membership Luncheon, the Plenary Session and NALGAP's Reception, with Jennifer Storm at the guest speaker. On Saturday we will continue with an additional workshop and the panel discussion.

Please join NALGAP in celebrating our continued partnership with NAADAC and state affiliates in working to address the needs of all people debilitated by the disease of addiction and in our efforts to ensure that professional counselors have access to the most current training material available in the field of addiction treatment. ■



Jennifer Storm, Author of *Blackout Girl: Growing Up and Drying Out in America*, to Speak at NALGAP Reception



NALGAP is proud to announce that Jennifer Storm, author of best-selling *Blackout Girl: Growing Up and Drying Out in America*, is the featured speaker at NALGAP's Reception at the NAADAC/NALGAP/KAAPC 2008 Conference.

Her book is a "A riveting memoir of what happens to a teenage girl whose life is awash in alcohol, drugs, and the trauma of rape."

At age six, Jennifer Storm was already stealing sips of her mother's crème de menthe. By age 13, she was binge drinking and well on the way to using cocaine and LSD. She anesthetized herself to many of the harsh realities of her young life—including her own misunderstandings about her sexual orientation.

Despite all odds, Storm came through untold darkness to create a life of forgiveness and redemption—through sobriety and a commitment to keep putting one foot in front of the other. *Blackout Girl* is Storm's pitch-perfect story of survival that is told in her own words.

"When the American Dream becomes her secret nightmare, quietly Jennifer Storm begins the dark descent into addiction. Then she discovers that the same events that destroy her, also create her. Written in a humble, raw voice, Jennifer Storm's memoir helps us remember where we came from—and why. *Blackout Girl* brings us one step closer to forgiving ourselves for something we didn't do."

—Melody Beattie, author of *Codependent No More*

"Like a high-speed train racing uncontrollably down its track, first-time author Jennifer Storm takes her readers on a fast-paced journey through the dark... world of drug and alcohol addiction. Witty, moving, sometimes terrifying, and always poignant, Ms. Storm's memoir is told in glinting chapters that eerily reflect the blackouts that so frequented her adolescence. Written in strong, unembellished prose, *Blackout Girl* is skillfully gripping and ironically addicting; readers won't be able to tear themselves away from Ms. Storm's journey from a 12 year old rape victim, to a burned out junkie living from friend's couch to friend's couch, to her compelling and tearful recovery at a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center. Storm's insight into the drug culture of America as well as her talent for exploring her flaws and imperfections make *Blackout Girl* an encouraging yet haunting experience for readers from all walks of life."

—Christopher Brown, Librarian

In addition to speaking at NALGAP' Reception, Jennifer will participate in the NALGAP Conference Panel Discussion. She will speak on *LGBTQ Youth and the Abuse of Alcohol and Drugs*.

Jennifer Storm is the Executive Director of the Victim/Witness Assistance Program in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In 2002, she was appointed a Commissioner to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. *Blackout Girl* is her first book. ■

Dare to Transform Conference

AN INTRODUCTION TO A LESBIAN & BISEXUAL WOMEN'S TRAUMA RESOLUTION PROGRAM

By: Cheryl Reese

The SAMHSA-sponsored *Dare to Transform Conference* in Washington, DC (July 11-12) is given by the Center for Mental Health Services National Center for Trauma Informed Care (NCTIC). Cheryl Reese, NALGAP Board Member and Secretary, will present her program ***Finding Our Voices***, a trauma resolution program for lesbian and bisexual women.

Finding Our Voices (FOV) emerged from integrating three intervention techniques and creating an environment of respect, information, connection, and hope for lesbian and bisexual women who may have had negative experiences or no relationship with community or hospital mental health programs.

Whitman Walker's Lesbian Services Program became the community-based mental health vehicle for FOV for over five years. The program helped more than 50 women survivors of childhood sexual abuse/physical abuse and adult sexual assault. FOV required a 18-month commitment to work with pairs of lesbian therapists in a group setting while maintaining a relationship with their primary therapist.

Finding Our Voices substantiated the need for a culturally specific program using a dynamic relational model that created trust, safety, security, and empowerment for lesbian and bisexual women.

SAMHSA's purpose for this conference is to introduce trauma-informed programs and services representing the "new generation" of transformed mental health and allied human services and programs serving traumatized people.

Trauma-informed programs and services have an understanding of the vulnerabilities of trauma survivors that traditional approaches may exacerbate or ignore. But these services and programs can learn to be more supportive and avoid re-traumatization.

FOV invites agencies and providers to examine their attitudes and approaches when working with lesbian and bisexual women seeking trauma resolution in a mental health setting. ■

Phil McCabe to Present at APHA

NALGAP Board Member and Vice-President Phil McCabe, *CSW, CAS*, Office of Public Health Practice, UMDNJ-School of Public Health, Piscataway, NJ, has been selected to present at the APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition which is the oldest and largest gathering of public health professionals in the world, attracting more than 13,000 national and international physicians, administrators, nurses, educators, researchers, epidemiologists, and related health specialists.

LGBT sensitivity and clinical awareness of the problems associated with LGBT sexual assault have increased staff ability to meet the needs of LGBT survivors of abuse.

On October 28, 2008, Phil will present on the topic of *Improving Outcomes For LGBT Survivors Of Sexual Violence In Non LGBT-Identified Provider Services*.

The presentation covers the following:

New Jersey offers assistance to sexual assault and domestic violence victims through a network of 22 state-funded programs. But the state has limited shelters where lesbians have received services, and often it is reported that a woman lives in fear that if her sexual orientation is discovered or disclosed, she will face ridicule, alienation, and even eviction. No shelter programs are offered for gay men. Transgender Individuals face additional difficulties, based on conflicts with assigned and/or perceived gender and how others in the system will relate to them.

In 2000, a pilot project was developed for Monmouth County's Rape Care Advocacy Program 180, Turning Lives Around. This has led to an increase of awareness and LGBT sensitivity for clinical staff and volunteers in the Rape Care Advocacy Program. In October of 2005, an expanded twelve hour curriculum was developed for and delivered to all staff of Program 180. Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners have also received discipline-specific training.

In addition to advocacy services provided by volunteers, professional staff

(continued on page 7)

NALGAP Invited To Participate In ATTC LGBT Training Of Trainers Conference

By: Marty Perry, LPC

NALGAP leadership was recently invited to participate as trainers in a national Training of Trainers (ToT) conference held in Minneapolis from May 19th to 21st. The conference is the second of many planned as part of the national rollout of a training initiative targeting LGBT and allied mental health professionals interested in training their peers about best practices related to the substance abuse treatment of LGBT clients.

The first of these ToT conferences was held as part of the 2007 NAADAC / NALGAP conference in Nashville last fall. In 1999, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) was commissioned to develop the first government-sponsored publication guiding treatment providers in best practices concerning the treatment of substance abuse in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered (LGBT) population. In 2001, *A Provider's Introduction to Substance Abuse Treatment for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Individuals* was published. Shortly afterwards, SAMHSA contacted NALGAP member Barbara Warren (New York City, NY) to develop a training curriculum based on the recently published instructional manual. The resulting *LGBT Training Curriculum*, designed to accompany *A Provider's Introduction*, is the basis for Training of Trainers conferences being held in various locations throughout the country.

The May ToT training conference was organized by the Prairielands Addiction Technology Transfer Center (PATTTC), which has adopted the *LGBT Training Curriculum* as one of its priority initiatives. Two attendees of each of the 14 ATTC regions were invited to the training; attendees were invited based on their clinical leadership/expertise and desire to be active trainers about LGBT substance abuse topics. Funding for the conference and the *LGBT Training Curriculum* initiative is being provided by CSAT/SAMHSA. Ed Craft, representing CSAT / SAMHSA, attended the ToT conference.



NALGAP Board Member Marty Perry, LPC, and Kevin Shipman, Director of the Office of Special Population Services, DC Dept. of Health presenting at the ATTC LGBT Training of Trainers Conference in Minneapolis, MN.

Tom Freese (Los Angeles, CA) was the primary trainer in the conference; he was assisted by Barbara Warren (New York City, NY), author of the *LGBT Training Curriculum*. The PATTTC called on NALGAP to assist in the training as well: Board members Joe Amico (Los Angeles, CA), Phillip McCabe (Ocean Grove, NJ), and Marty Perry (Minneapolis, MN) presented modules of the curriculum related to clinical and administrative issues. Additionally, NALGAP Board member Edwin Hackney (Lexington, KY) participated in the conference as a representative of his region of the ATTC network (Mid-Atlantic ATTC). Attendees at the conference reported it to be very beneficial; they will return to their regions prepared to offer a variety of trainings intended to improve substance abuse care of LGBT clients.

An introduction to the *LGBT Training Curriculum* will be presented in a plenary session at the 2008 NAADAC/NALGAP conference in Kansas City in August. Preliminary plans are being made to hold the next Training of Trainers conference in Texas in the Fall. If you are interested in the curriculum or in participating as a potential trainer, please contact Marty Perry for more information at mperry@pride-institute.com or 952-934-1027.

Marty Perry is a licensed professional counselor in Minnesota and Texas and currently serves on the NALGAP Board of Directors. He is employed by PRIDE Institute as the National Director of Community Relations and sits on the Advisory Board of the Prairielands Addiction Technology Transfer Center (PATTTC). ■

Michael Shernoff, Friend, Psychotherapist, Activist Dies At 57

By Emily McNally & Dana Finnegan
(With thanks to Paul Schindler, Gay City News
and Steve Weinstein, EDGE Publications)

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities have lost a great friend and fierce advocate. Michael Jon Shernoff, a psychotherapist for more than 30 years, a prodigious writer, a professor, and an LGBT, AIDS, and environmental activist, died on June 17 at his home in Chelsea at the age of 57. The cause of death was pancreatic cancer, according to his partner of nine years, John Goodman.

A 1972 graduate of Harpur College at SUNY Binghamton, Michael became only the second openly gay student to enter a graduate program in social work when he enrolled at SUNY Stony Brook, where he earned his MSW in 1977.

Michael was a therapist for more than 30 years. His work centered on LGBT populations as well as people living with AIDS. He taught related social work courses for several years, first at Hunter College (1991-2001) and then at Columbia University (2002 to 2006). His teaching and his many publications were highly influential in the fields of mental health and social work.

In addition to being one of the first social workers in the country to respond to the AIDS crisis in his private psychotherapy practice, Michael was an early volunteer at Gay Men's Health Crisis. He began to train colleagues in the psycho-social issues of working with people living with AIDS as well as with those close to death.

Michael published more than 60 articles dealing with mental health issues pertaining to sexuality, gay men, and people living with HIV and AIDS, notably "When a Friend Has AIDS" (co-author), which was translated into eight languages at the height of the AIDS epidemic.

Also at the height of the epidemic, he helped to develop the first-generation AIDS-prevention program called *Hot, Horny & Healthy: Eroticizing Safer Sex*. As a result of leading this workshop in cities across the country, Michael and his late colleague Luis Palacios-Jimenez were widely dubbed the "Doctors Ruth of Gay Sex" and the "Laverne & Shirley of Safer Sex."

Michael was an inveterate world traveler, scuba diver, and environmentalist. He was also an ardent yoga practitioner.

Those wishing to honor his memory are asked to make contributions to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center, 208 West 13th Street, NYC, 10011; The Nature Conservancy, 4245 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203-1606; and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, 120 Wall Street, Suite 1500 10005-3904.

A memorial celebration will be held on Sunday, Sept. 7, 3:00 P.M. at the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center, 208 West 13th St, NYC, 10011.

A Personal Note: In 1979, we met Michael and had a chance to read his Masters thesis on being an openly gay social worker. What he wrote and the



courage he displayed in writing it helped us change our lives by inspiring us to come out and be proud as professionals. That is only one of hundreds of examples of how Michael inspired so many of us to live our lives out loud and proud.

In later years, Michael and we collaborated on several articles on LGBT substance abuse and he supported our efforts in founding and continuing the work of NALGAP: The Association of LGBT Addiction Professionals & Their Allies.

In addition, when we were dealing with a painful and difficult abusive therapy situation, Michael helped and supported us with both wisdom and compassion.

We will miss him ■.

NALGAP Launches Its 30th Anniversary With Updated Internet Resources

By Philip T. McCabe CSW, CAS, NALGAP Vice President

Have a question for the experts? Looking for resources? Want to share what trends you're seeing in your treatment program? Post a job opening? Needing just a little support because you're the only LGBTQ2S/SA in your area? Not really sure what all that even means...?

NALGAP continues to expand its efforts to best meet the needs of the membership and the mission we share ... "to confront all forms of oppression and discriminatory practices in the delivery of services to all people and to advocate for programs and services that affirm all genders and sexual orientations. NALGAP provides information, training, network-

ing, and advocacy about addiction and related problems, and support for those engaged in the health professions, individuals in recovery, and others concerned about the health of gender and sexual minorities."

NALGAP recognizes the importance of reaching others concerned about alcoholism, addiction, treatment and prevention as it affects the LGBT (QQI) communities.

We owe a collective nod to the technology that has helped to document and disseminate the knowledge we share.

We offer several options for our members

Visit our website www.nalgap.org to read the latest news from the field

updated daily by our partnership with Join Together.

You can review documents and articles specific to LGBT addiction and recovery.

If you would like to submit an article or a resource for consideration to be posted on the website, please send email to mccabep@umdny.edu. All materials posted are at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. Materials must be LGBT specific and pertain to treatment, prevention, recovery or community education. General interest resources that do not meet these criteria will not be considered.

Join the NALGAP listserv (members only!)

(continued on page 8)

President's Corner

Excited. That's my word for this issue. I am excited about the direction NALGAP is moving in because for several years, I felt we were stuck in the mud! We had little movement on the board, we had difficulty getting anything accomplished, and it was the same old folks doing the same old thing.

Over the past two years, we've had significant new blood come onto the board and I've relished the freshness and willingness they have brought to our organization. For years we've given lip service to being fully inclusive, but I believe we are taking positive steps to walk that walk and not just talk that talk. This year, at our conference, the leadership at the NALGAP track will include a transman in a key leadership role at the only NALGAP Plenary at the conference.

Speaking of the conference, NAADAC and NAADAC's Kansas affiliate are to be commended for restoring what we used to call *NALGAP's Conference Within a Conference*. All of the NALGAP activities will be packed into a two-day period which will include our membership lunch, annual reception, a plenary to introduce our long fought efforts to get the training curriculum published, and four workshops. I'm excited about the plenary and workshops because our newest board member, Pamela Alexander, has done an outstanding job of lining up new talent in ways and subjects we haven't seen before. An entire workshop on LGBT Youth issues, for example!

NALGAP Applauds SAMSHA Website

On the website of SAMSHA-sponsored HRC: Homelessness Resource Center: <http://www.nrchmi.samhsa.gov/LGBTQI-2S HOMELESS YOUTH>

Youth who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex, or Two-Spirited (LGBTQI2-S) are more likely to experience family conflict, abuse, and mental health problems than their heterosexual peers. Because of discrimination and stigma, LGBTQI2-S

NALGAP has given significant input to several CSAT/SAMHSA projects this past year. Board Member Cheryl Reese represents us on the planning committee for Recovery Month where we are listed as a partner and resource. I have been serving on the National Meth Summit Planning Committee. Four board members (Phil McCabe, Marty Perry, Edwin Hackney and myself) were invited to be at the first national Training of Trainers for the new *LGBT Training Curriculum*.

Our biggest challenge in moving us forward as an organization has been finding a grant writer...

While all this is exciting, there is always room for improvement. We still have needs for more cultural diversity on our board. The annual conference is often a place where our Board meets new members and individuals who may serve us well. If you are interested in serving on the board or have suggestions for others you think would continue to help the breadth of our diversity, please talk to a board member at the conference or send us an email (all of us can be contacted via the web site at <http://www.nalgap.org>).

Our biggest challenge in moving us forward as an organization has been finding a grant writer. A few possibilities were mentioned at last year's member-

youth who are homeless are often careful to protect their sexual identities from service providers. In this feature, you will find information about LGBTQI2-S youth along with tips for working with them. Research notes are presented about the important differences among youth who are homeless and identify as heterosexual, bisexual, and gay and lesbian.

Who are LGBTQI2-S Homeless Youth?

Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex, Two-Spirited... as a service provider, what do you need to know?



ship lunch but we're still searching and hoping someone comes forward. So, in order for me to stay excited about this organization, please help us find a grant writer (or offer your talents if you are one). Without funds, this organization cannot continue to meet the needs of our membership and do the outreach we need to do to make us effective globally. Our membership dues went up last year and that has helped us come closer to meeting our expenses, but we could do so much more. Please help us keep this excitement going by volunteering or finding us someone who has the expertise to take us to the next level.

Lastly, as we approach this conference, we want to share our excitement in a special way next year for our 30th Anniversary. If you have ideas or want to make suggestions on how NALGAP could celebrate this milestone, don't hesitate to contact me or one of our other board members. ■

Joe Amico, President
joecd1@aol.com

Quick Tips: Working with LGBTQI2-S Youth who are Homeless

What can you and your agency do to help LGBTQI2-S youth feel welcome and safe? Check out these tips and resources.

Research Notes: Sexual Health Risks Among Youth who are Homeless

Youth who are on the streets have different histories, risks and needs. This research study takes a look at youth who are gay and lesbian, bisexual and heterosexual and offers some insight for providers. ■

Addiction Psychiatric Help: The Doctor is Out...



Dear Dr. Penny: My partner of nine years is drinking more and more, and now she has been arrested and charged with DUI and Disorderly Conduct. I have tried everything I can think of to get her to stop drinking or at least cut down. All she does is get angry with me and threaten to hurt me. She tried to give up drinking for Lent and only lasted two days. I secretly watered down her vodka, but she figured it out and went into a rage. Then I told her to go to the doctor and tell him about the problem. She went, alright, and came home with some sleeping pills and tranquilizers. Now she's mixing them with booze, even though there is a warning label on the bottles that says it's not safe to drink alcoholic beverages when taking these medications. Is there anything I can do to help her? I am at the end of my rope!

—Hanging On In Hartford

Dear Hanging On: Although I cannot make a definite diagnosis without evaluating your partner, it certainly sounds as though she has a serious drinking problem. She does not seem to be able to control her intake of alcohol, and this is the cardinal sign of addiction, along with her legal and anger management problems. If she is addicted, it is highly unlikely she will be able to stop drinking without help. And right now she is telling you that she is not willing to accept help.

One thing we do know about alcoholism and other drug dependencies is that, because of the profound impact that the addicted person's behavior has on others who are living with or closely involved with the afflicted person, these signifi-

cant others are also affected by the disease. This is severe enough that some refer to addiction as a family disease, and there is no doubt that the person who is in a relationship with an actively addicted person is suffering greatly. For this reason, significant others of alcoholic persons are often called co-alcoholic or codependent. There has been enough research done with codependent persons for addiction professionals to describe a characteristic set of signs and symptoms that are usually (but not always) observed in people living with a person with a substance use disorder.

- Preoccupation with the needs and behaviors of the addicted person
- Repeated efforts to control the person's drinking, drug use and/or other behaviors in spite of knowing that these efforts are fruitless
- Neglect of own needs in favor of focusing on the addicted person
- Chronic dysphoria (a fancy psychological term for misery), with feelings of helplessness and despair
- Loss of energy and ability to concentrate
- Difficulty falling asleep and staying asleep
- Guilt about the fact that one has not been able to control or cure the problem (based on the mistaken belief that it is one's responsibility to fix the addicted person)
- Anger and frustration about the impact of the addicted person's behavior on the emotional and financial stability of the relationship/family

If one has grown up in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional or emotionally repressive family, other problems often surface related to one's "old business" with the family of origin

- Lacking a clear model of healthy relationships, one must guess at what is normal
- Controlling behavior and fear of not being in control are characteristic
- Trust is a major problems in all relationships, but at the same time, one may be unusually gullible when the circumstances appear to offer the promise of fulfilling one's own fantasies
- Lying is a pervasive behavior based on the need to control or to receive approval
- Making negative comparisons of oneself to others is prevalent ("I cannot do that as well as a she can"; "She's prettier [smarter, thinner, etc.] than me")

Many people who are suffering in a relationship with someone who is addicted are very resistant to the idea that they need help, too, and not just advice on how to "fix" the addict. However, once this resistance is overcome, a great deal of help is available. Twelve Step programs (Al-Anon, Nar-Anon, Codependents Anonymous, etc.) and other mutual help groups can be a great place to start. However, it can be very uncomfortable for a lesbian to talk about herself and her female partner in a meeting where everyone else is heterosexual or where there is an assumption that everyone is straight. Check with the local LGBT Community Center or book store for suggestions about specific meetings that are welcoming to lesbians.

Significant others are also affected by the disease [of alcoholism].

For some people, it is more acceptable and feels safer to see a professional counselor, but it is important that the therapist chosen be educated and experienced in working with family members of persons with addiction. It would also be important to choose a therapist who is gay-affirming and experienced in working with lesbians. Even if you start out in individual therapy, being in a group with others suffering from the impact of addiction on families and relationships is important to your overall efforts to recover.

In the meetings and groups you will hear some basic ideas about co-dependence and recovery expressed as slogans and phrases, such as *The Three C's*:

- You didn't **cause** it
- You can't **control** it
- You can't **cure** it

These sayings remind people to work on letting go of a need to control things over which they have no control, and to focus on oneself. Al-Anon's version of the well-known Serenity Prayer puts it eloquently:

God, Grant me the
Serenity to accept the people

I cannot change,

Courage to change the person I can, and
Wisdom to know — it's me. ■

Presentations by Nalgap Board Members

This account provides some idea of how active our Board members are.

CHERYL REESE

On Saturday, June 21st, The Board of Directors and Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) held a reception for GLMA members and other supporters of equality in healthcare for LGBT people.

The reception recognized health providers and was an opportunity to introduce and support GLMA members. More than 50 people from across the nation were present at the reception. NALGAP Board Member Cheryl Reese attended as a representative of both NALGAP and the National Coalition of LGBT Health.

PHIL McCABE

In Los Angeles on June 26-28th, Phil McCabe is giving three presentations on gambling. One at Alternatives and two for the National Council on Problem Gamblers, including one on treating lesbian/gay/bi/trans gamblers.

MARTY PERRY

MN Social Services Association Conference, March 25-28, Mpls, MN "Empowering Heroes" HIV Conference, March 28-30, St. Paul

Governor's Conference on Addiction, April 7-9, Des Moines, IA

Association of Alcohol / Other Drug Abuse Conference, May 5-7, Madison, WI

Presentation: "Best Practices in the Substance Abuse Treatment of LGBT Clients" Addiction Technology Transfer Center's LGBT Training of Trainers, May 19-21, Mpls, MN

Presentation: "Training Trainers on Clinical / Administrative Issues in LGBT Substance Abuse Treatment" National Association of Social Workers, MN State Conference, June 4-5, Mpls, MN
National Gay-Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, June 5-7, Mpls, MN

Upcoming representation includes:

Twin Cities Gay Pride Festival, June 27-29, Mpls, MN

Rochester Gay Pride Festival, July 12, Rochester, MN

Metropolitan Community Church Midwest Regional Conference, July 17-19, Mpls, MN

MN Department of Chemical Health State-wide Employee Training, August TBD, Mpls, MN

Presentation: "LGBT Issues in Substance Abuse Treatment" Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse, August 14-16, St. Louis

Presentation: "Substance Abuse Problems in the LGBT Population": NALGAP/NAADAC Conference, August 28-30, Kansas City, KS

Duluth Gay Pride Festival, August 30-31, Duluth, MN

North Dakota Alcohol Summit, September 8-10, Bismarck, ND

Presentation: "Substance Abuse Treatment for LGBT Clients" Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health Conference, September 18-20, Boston, MA

Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays Midwest Regional Conference, September 27, Mpls, MN

Presentation: "Substance Abuse in the LGBT Community" Prairielands Addiction Technology Transfer Center Regional Symposium, September 30, Mpls, MN

Gay/Lesbian Medical Association Conference, October 23-25, Seattle, WA

JOE AMICO

March 28, 2008 8:30-10:30 am
"Creating a safe work and therapeutic environment for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender client"
San Fernando Valley Employee Assistance Professionals
Tarzana Treatment Centers, Tarzana, CA 91356,

May 8-10 2008
Frank Boudewyn Memorial Lecture at the UK/European Symposium on Addictive Disorders, London

May 9, 2008
Professional Training Working with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Clients, Central London

May 10-11, 2008
Gay Men, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgenders in Recovery, Central London

May 25, 2008 10 am
Altadena Community United Church of Christ

June 15, 2008 10 am
Altadena Community United Church of Christ

August 28-31, 2008
NAADAC/KAAP/NALGAP Conference Overland Park, KS

September 4-7, 2008
Cape Cod Symposium on Addictive Disorders Hyannis Sheraton

September 19-21
Society for the Advancement of Sexual Health Boston

October 15-18, 2008
EAPA Hilton Atlanta Downtown

October 22-25, 2008
Gay and Lesbian Medical Association Seattle, WA ■

Phil McCabe to present at APHA (continued from page 3)

provide clinical services including sexual assault, domestic violence, substance abuse and mental health counseling. LGBT sensitivity and clinical awareness of the problems associated with LGBT sexual assault have increased staff ability to meet the needs of LGBT survivors of abuse. In 2007 the LGBT Sexual Violence brochure was developed for education and community awareness.

Additional progress has been made by working with the NJ Coalition

Against Sexual Assault and the NJ Governors Advisory Committee on Rape Prevention and Education.

Learning Objectives: As a result of the presentation participants will be able to:

1. Explain the difference between sexual orientation and gender identity.
2. Identify barriers for LGBT individuals to report and seek assistance for sexual assault.
3. Distinguish between LGBT tolerant and supportive care. ■

Want to Join NALGAP?

Visit our website and register online: www.nalgap.org

Special Thanks to

ALTERNATIVES

Newsletter printing

NALGAP Goes to the UK

By: Joseph M. Amico, M.Div., CAS, LISAC

During the month of May I had the distinct privilege of representing NALGAP at three significant events in London. For the 5th year in a row, I delivered the Frank Boudewyn Memorial Lecture at the UK/European Symposium on Addictive Disorders. In addition, at the invitation of Life Works Community Treatment Program, I provided a day long training for counselors and a two day workshop for gay men in recovery. It was truly a humbling as well as exciting experience for me.

First, the Symposium. Each year they invite me back to present what the NALGAP Board has nicknamed "Gay 101." The official title is "What Every Counselor Needs to Know When Working with GLBT Clients." Penny Ziegler and I will be presenting the 2008 version at our conference in Kansas this August. I have pleaded with the Symposium leadership to do something else but each year more counselors attend the Symposium from countries like Sweden, Iceland, South Africa, Lebanon, Italy and elsewhere who have never been exposed to the special

issues of GLBT clients. It remains a popular and well-received early bird session at the Symposium. A regular at this session is Stepping Stones Treatment Center from Cape Town, South Africa. They bring different staff to this session each year and have joined NALGAP at the organizational level.

Each year they invite me back to present what the NALGAP Board has nicknamed "Gay 101." The official title is "What Every Counselor Needs to Know When Working with GLBT Clients."

For the professional day-long training session, 4 women travelled from North Hampton. They work in Britain's largest relationship counseling agency and were shocked that other branches of their agency had not attended. They not only went away with more information about NALGAP and LGBT addiction issues, they left planning to mobilize their national agency to get more training on LGBT issues. Two lesbians attended, expressing the need for more such trainings in the UK. One of them works

for an agency that counsels LGBT's who seek political asylum in the UK as a result of persecution in their home countries for being LGBT. She has over 300 on her caseload!

On the weekend, I was blessed to have 6 men in various stages of recovery for two full days of intensive group work. They shared the pain of few resources including gay-identified 12 step meetings in one of the world's largest cities. Even though London has a huge gay population, the recovery community is extremely small and isolated. The mutual themes of trying to be gay and sober while working through low self-esteem issues as a result of shame due to heterosexism was a main topic of the weekend. They touched my heart with how deeply they wanted recovery and were searching for the resources to assist them in their journey.

This experience further demonstrated to me the continued need for NALGAP as an international organization to find ways to bring our mission to service providers all over the globe in order to provide safe and supportive treatment for our LGBT community. ■

NALGAP website (continued from page 4)

Our NALGAP member's discussion group List serve is available for posting questions, making announcements, listing job openings, announcing celebrations, or just reaching out to others in the community. The NALGAP-MEMBERS list is managed by a LISTSERV server at UMDNJ. This service is restricted to NALGAP members only. When emails are sent to the main list serve, it is distributed automatically to all members on the list.

To Join the List

Send an email to LISTSERV@LISTS.UMDNJ.EDU and, in the text of your message (not the subject line), write: SUBSCRIBE NALGAP-MEMBERS.

To Unsubscribe From the List

Send an email to LISTSERV@LISTS.UMDNJ.EDU and, in the text of your message (not the subject line), write: SIGNOFF NALGAP-MEMBERS

For More Information about the LISTSERV

Send an email to LISTSERV@LISTS.UMDNJ.EDU and, in the text of your message (not the subject line), write: "HELP" or "INFO" (without the quotes). HELP will give you a short help message and INFO a list of the documents you can order. ■



NALGAP Needs You!

NALGAP needs a grant writer. In the past years, one member wrote a grant and got funds for us from the Gill Foundation. Since then we have been grantless—though we certainly have tried. NALGAP is short on cash, but long on dedication to its mission to educate, inform, and create networks. We need help to support this mission. Remember—NALGAP is the **only** voice of conscience about treatment for LGBT substance abusers.

If you (or someone you know) can write grants—PLEASE—help out.

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