Health Equity and HIV: Current Trends and Future Directions

By
Ann Kelly [1]
Thursday, December 23, 2010 at 01:16 PM

Health Reform and Reducing Disparities: Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV/AIDS

December 3, 2010, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Presentation by Dr. Donna Hubbard McCree, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

State legislators, primarily from CSG’s Eastern Regional Conference states, attended a 4-hour session to learn more about health reform and state policies can reduce health disparities related to sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS.

Participants heard from national experts about how federal and state health reforms can help reduce health disparities. Speakers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health, and medical and community services providers gave background information on the epidemic of STDs/HIV and how state legislators can tackle these issues in their states and communities. Legislators from Utah and Rhode Island presented how they were able to gain passage of bills in their states to broaden prevention efforts and establish expedited partner therapy for STDs, and other legislators contributed their similar experiences from other states. Finally, legislators considered a list of the policy initiatives discussed, and indicated those they expect to pursue during the 2011-2012 legislative sessions.

The meeting session was made possible through funding from the CDC’s HIV prevention program [2] and STD prevention program [3] and was presented in cooperation with the Partnership for Prevention [4]’s National Chlamydia Coalition.

Health Equity and HIV: Current Trends and Future Directions

Donna Hubbard McCree, PhD, MPH, RPh, Associate Director for Health Equity, HIV/AIDS Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. McCree is the newly appointed health equity director, and previously led a research project to
evaluate approaches to lowering the risk of acquiring or transmitting HIV in specific populations. She has over twenty-eight years of experience in public health and pharmacy, and she has worked in academia, research, professional association management and retail and hospital pharmacy practice. Her current research focuses on HIV prevention and testing strategies for African American women and men as well as education of pharmacists to counsel patients about HIV and other STDs. contact: zyr1@cdc.gov