

Pathways to Wellness' AIDS Care Project funding renewed at same level

The AIDS Care Project, a program run by holistic therapies group Pathways to Wellness, learned May 2 that the funding it receives from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Office of HIV/AIDS will be renewed at the same level as last year.

"Given the cuts that are being made in so many areas, we were very relieved to receive the news that our AIDS Care Project will be level funded and feel that it is a ringing endorsement of the significance and importance of our program," said Demie Stathoplos, Executive Director of Pathways to Wellness. Stathoplos said that the funding process was very competitive, with 83 proposals received by MDPH requesting nearly twice the amount of funding available.

Pathways to Wellness' AIDS Care Project, located in Boston's South End, provides free acupuncture treatments twice a week to those living with HIV or AIDS to help alleviate pain and suffering. Acupuncture can help relieve digestive

side effects and pain caused by HIV medication, and also relieves depression, insomnia, and stress. Since 1990, Pathways has provided over 80,000 free acupuncture treatments for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The program was recognized as an "innovation" by the US Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in the April 13 issue of AHRQ's *Health Care Innovation Exchange* for providing access to acupuncture and herbal treatments for low-income individuals with HIV/AIDS and reducing side effects from antiretroviral therapy. The AIDS Care Project also works in conjunction with health care providers to increase patients' compliance with medication regimens.

For more information about Pathways to Wellness and the AIDS Care Project, please visit pathwaysboston.org or call (617) 859-3036.

— Hannah Clay Wareham

Lenk

Continued from page 2

justices who believe deeply in equality for the LGBT community. But that has not always been the case. Having an out lesbian on the SJC will serve the same important purpose that having out LGBTs in every profession does: It helps change for the better the attitudes, insights, and sensitivities of those who

work with or interact with us."

"Judge Lenk's journey from humble beginnings to this historic confirmation reflects the hope and aspirations of all Americans—that our individual gifts and contributions will be valued no matter who we are," Suffredini said. "We applaud Governor Patrick and the Governor's Council for respectively nominating and confirming judges to the Supreme Judicial Court based on the extraordinary talent they bring to their charge. That's as it should be."



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