From: Terrence Calhoun [mailto:communications@nmac.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2014 10:17 AM
Subject: Now Accepting Youth Initiative Applicants!

The National Minority AIDS Council is proud to launch its 2014 *Youth Initiative to END the HIV/AIDS Epidemic in America*. HIV disproportionately impacts America's young people, especially young gay and bisexual men of color. Approximately 25% of all new infections occur in youth and between 2007 and 2010, there was a 22% increase among gay men aged 13–24. Our initiative, sponsored by ViiV Healthcare, the Magic Johnson Foundation and Advocates for Youth aims to assist youth in becoming more effective and informed health advocates, and empowering them to become more active in their communities.

If you're between 18 and 25, apply to be one of our youth activists today!
http://nmac.convio.net/youthinitiative2014

Selected participants will receive a scholarship to attend the 2014 United States Conference on AIDS in San Diego, CA from October 2-5, 2014. At the conference, they will be exposed to the most cutting edge tools and information available to fight this epidemic, as well as have the opportunity to meet with incredible leaders from the HIV community, including government officials, private funders, and activists who have been working in this field for decades.

Participants will also participate in various events throughout 2014, from webinars to conference calls, to help further develop their skills and knowledge and prepare them to lead efforts to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic in their communities and across the country.

NMAC is thrilled to announce the launch of this exciting new initiative and to call for applicants today! The deadline to apply is June 11, so spread the word! For more than 25 years, NMAC has worked to develop leadership in communities of color to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic and is proud to have the opportunity to help develop the skills of a new generation of leaders. **Click here to apply today!**

Yours In The Struggle,

Terrence Calhoun
Director of Conferences and Meeting Services

About NMAC
The National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) develops leadership within communities of color to end the HIV/AIDS epidemmic. Since 1987, NMAC has advanced this mission through a variety of programs and services, including: a public policy education program, national and regional training conferences, a treatment and research program, numerous publications and a website: http://www.nmac.org/.

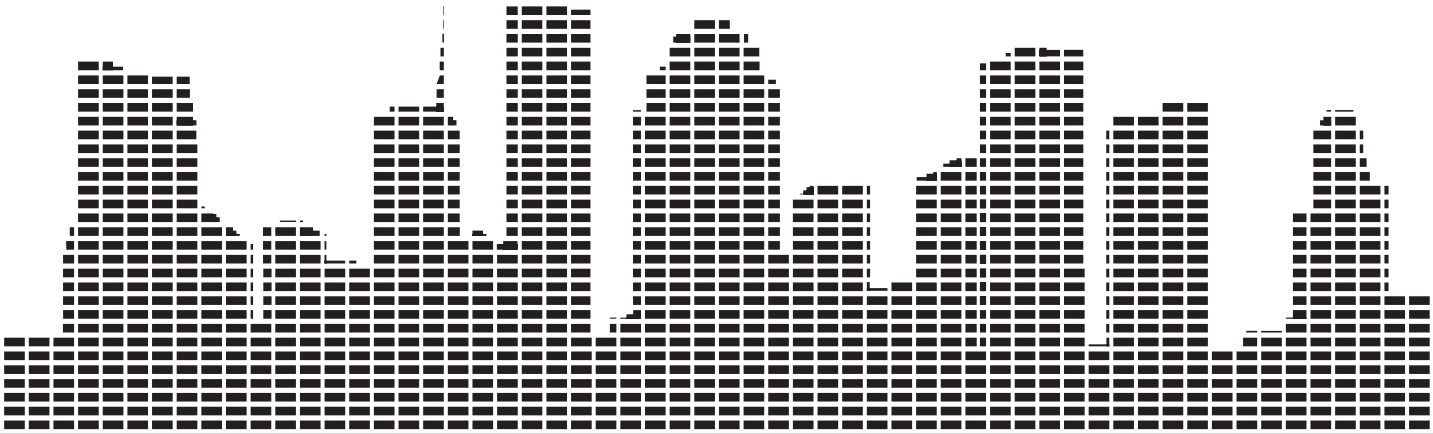
For more information, contact NMAC directly at (202) 483-NMAC (6622) or communications@nmac.org.

HOUSTON HITSHOME

HEALTH INTERVENTION & TESTING SOLUTIONS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Your help is needed to test 15,000 Houstonians during this year's summer HIV testing initiative.



Volunteers are needed throughout the months of June and July 2014.

For additional information and volunteer registration, please visit houstonhealth.org.

Houston Department of Health and Human Services

The New York Times

Advocating Pill, U.S. Signals Shift to Prevent AIDS

Adam Zeboski takes Truvada, a daily pill that has been shown to prevent infection with the virus that causes AIDS.

THOR SWIFT FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

By DONALD G. McNEIL Jr.

May 14, 2014

Federal health officials recommended Wednesday that hundreds of thousands of Americans at risk for AIDS take a daily pill that has been shown to prevent infection with the virus that causes it.

If broadly followed, the advice could transform AIDS prevention in the United States — from reliance on condoms, which are effective but unpopular with many men, to a regimen that relies on an antiretroviral drug.

It would mean a 50-fold increase in the number of prescriptions for the drug, Truvada — to 500,000 a year from fewer than 10,000. The drug costs $13,000 a year, and most insurers already cover it.

The guidelines tell doctors to consider the drug regimen, called PrEP, for pre-exposure prophylaxis, for gay men who have sex without condoms; heterosexuals with high-risk partners such as drug injectors or male bisexuals who have unprotected sex; patients who regularly have sex with anyone they know is infected; and anyone who shares needles or injects drugs.

Mr. Zeboski, at home, is a counselor for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

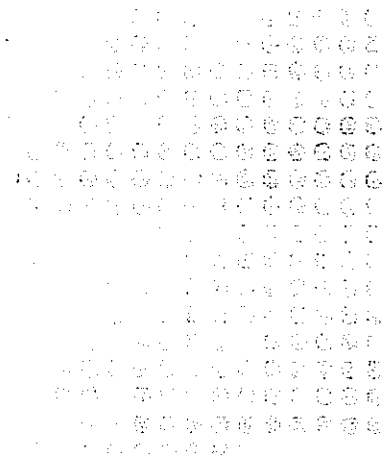
THOR SWIFT FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have long been frustrated that the number of H.I.V. infections in the United States has barely changed in a decade, stubbornly holding at 50,000 a year, despite 30 years of official advice to rely on condoms to block transmission.

Although there is no guarantee that gay men will adopt the drug regimen, federal officials say something must be done because condom use is going down. In a C.D.C. survey in November, the number of gay men reporting recent unprotected sex rose nearly 20 percent from 2005 to 2011.

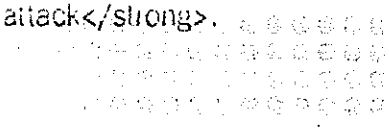
Nevertheless, advocates for the drug regimen were elated at Wednesday's announcement.

"This is wonderful," said Damon L. Jacobs, a therapist in Manhattan who is HIV negative, has been on the regimen since 2011 and runs a Facebook page promoting it. "When an institution like the C.D.C. makes a statement, it makes a profound difference to the doctors who are ambivalent."



250

Number of people that need to be given statins for one year to prevent one heart attack.



61

Average number of people that need to be given Truvada for one year to prevent one HIV infection from three

Interactive Feature | To Save a Life Scientists have compared the effectiveness of two preventive drug regimens: a daily dose of Truvada, against H.I.V.; and statins to prevent heart attacks. By that measurement (called "number needed to treat"), the Truvada regimen is far more likely to save lives.

Dr. Jonathan Mermin, director of the C.D.C.'s national center for AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, said the new guidelines should save many lives.

"On average, it takes a decade for a scientific breakthrough to be adopted," he said. "We hope we can shorten that time frame and increase people's survival."

While many antiretroviral drugs could in theory be used for the drug regimen, the only pill approved for that purpose by the Food and Drug Administration is Truvada, made by Gilead Sciences.

Truvada, a mix of tenofovir and emtricitabine, is considered relatively safe with few side effects. Generic versions are made in India, and it has become the backbone of AIDS treatment in poor countries.

Common side effects include headache, stomach pain and weight loss. Rare but serious ones include liver and kidney damage.

Officially, the C.D.C. is endorsing the drug regimen only in conjunction with condoms. But health officials say they know that some people will stop using them. Many gay men, including Mr. Jacobs, report doing just that.

That raises their risk of contracting other diseases, like syphilis and gonorrhea. But health officials argue that the benefits of taking the drug regimen outweigh the risks.

"Making the perfect the enemy of the good is something we've got to get over," said Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the country's best-known AIDS doctor. "I strongly support the C.D.C. doing this."

Syphilis and gonorrhea can usually be cured with antibiotics, but H.I.V. lasts for life and is fatal if left untreated. Even those treated properly often develop early heart disease and other problems.

Since 2010, three separate studies using Truvada have shown that when taken daily it can vastly reduce the chances of infection. That held true for gay men, heterosexual couples and drug injectors. In the study of gay men, known as iPrEx, men whose blood tests showed they had taken their pill every day were 99 percent protected.

The new guidelines say patients should have an H.I.V. test before starting the regimen, to make sure they are not already infected. (Prophylaxis involves doses of two drugs, but anyone with the disease should be on triple therapy.)

Patients should be retested every three months to be sure that they are still H.I.V. negative, that they are not developing side effects from the drug and that they have not caught any other sexually transmitted diseases.

While many AIDS specialists endorse the drug regimen, it has not caught on among doctors as a whole.

A survey of 1,175 infectious disease specialists in the United States and Canada published in December showed that 74 percent supported it, but only 9 percent had actually prescribed it.

"There's a lot of inertia among doctors, and a strong statement from the C.D.C. will be pretty valuable for overcoming that," said Dr. Demetre C. Daskalakis, an AIDS specialist at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York who has many patients on the regimen.

Also, the drug regimen has not caught on among gay men, who are by far the largest risk group.

By analyzing pharmacy databases, Gilead has tried to track how many Truvada prescriptions are for the drug regimen, rather than AIDS treatment. As of last September, the company said, it knew of only 2,319 — of which 49 percent were for women.

Advocates said there were several reasons there had been little clamor for the drug regimen. First, while many doctors prescribe statins as prophylaxis against heart attacks, for example, only AIDS specialists are likely to prescribe AIDS drugs as prophylaxis. But uninfected gay men have no reason to see AIDS specialists, and usually see general practitioners if they see doctors at all.

Also, Truvada is expensive. However, private insurers and state Medicaid programs have thus far generally covered such prescriptions, and Gilead has a program covering co-pays and giving Truvada to the uninsured.

"In my experience, it's a simple process to get the meds approved," Dr. Daskalakis said.

Another reason is that Gilead does not advertise Truvada for prophylaxis, even though the F.D.A. approved it for that use in 2012 and Gilead does advertise it for treatment, for which it was approved in 2004.

A company spokeswoman said it had no plans to do so, but it does make grants to gay organizations that espouse the drug regimen.

Not advertising helps Gilead avoid controversy.

Michael Weinstein, president of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, has called Truvada a "party drug" and argued that the drug regimen would encourage men to avoid condoms and thus increase the infection rate. He called the release of the guidelines "a shameful chapter in the history of the C.D.C."

That debate has played out on gay websites, where men favoring the drug regimen are often stigmatized as "Truvada whores." (The term was coined in a 2012 Huffington Post article whose author has since publicly regretted his stance.)

"People are reacting out of fear," Mr. Jacobs said. "Gay men who embraced the condom message and survived the trauma of 30 years ago have PTSD. This is a paradigm shift, and people don't like change."

Recently, a lash against the backlash has emerged, with a few men proudly wearing "Truvada Whore" T-shirts, just as others proudly wear "Queer" or "H.I.V. Positive" ones.

Adam Zeboski, a test counselor for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, makes and sells "Truvada Whore" T-shirts to raise money for the foundation.

"People are both very supportive and very offended," he said. "By reclaiming the 'Truvada Whore' term, we're taking the power away from those who use it against us."Facebook

Local Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) and Planning Meetings

(as of May 1, 2014)

Group	Contact
African American State of Emergency Task Force	Maxine Young, Chair 713-333-5624 youngm@legacycommunityhealth.org Hyron Hall, HDHHS Liaison 832-393-4722 Hyron.Hall@houstontx.gov
AIDS Foundation Houston	**To be determined** 713-623-6796
AIDS Clinical Trials Group HIV Vaccine Trials Network AIDS Malignancy Group	Paul Simmons 713-527-8219 psimmons@legacycommunityhealth.org
Bering Omega Community Services	Ann Reed 713-341-3777
Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County	Gary Grier 832-531-6006 ggrier@homelesshouston.org
City of Houston HIV Planning Group (HPG)	Bureau of HIV/STD and Viral Hepatitis Prevention 832-393-5010 cpg@houstonprevention.com http://cpghou.org www.houstontx.gov/health/HIV-STD
Hepatitis C Task Force	Maxine Young, Chair 713-333-5624 youngm@legacycommunityhealth.org Jon-Michael Gillispie, HDHHS Liaison 832-393-4720 jon-michael.gillispie@houstontx.gov
Houston Area Community Services **closed to the public**	Lladira Aguilar 832-384-1400 LAguilar@hacstxs.org
Houston Medical Monitoring Project (HMMP) Community Advisory Board	Osaro Mgbere, Ph.D., Project Coordinator 832-393-5080 osaro.mgbere@houstontx.gov
International Maternal Pediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials Group (IMPAACT) Adolescent Trials Network (ATN) Pediatric HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials (PHACS)	Reachelian Ellison 713-526-1016, Ext 104 rellison@hivresourcegroup.org
Latino HIV Task Force	Cynthia Aguries, Chair cvaguries@heartsandarms.org Margarita Bacigalupo, HDHHS Liaison 832-393-4859 margarita.bacigalupo@houstontx.gov
Legacy Community Health Services	Amy Leonard 832-548-5086

MHMRA Consumer Advisory Council	Mr. Ashley Montondon, LMSW 832-584-4010 ashley.montondon@mhmraharris.org
Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center Consumer Advisory Council	Cheryl Hicks Performance Improvement Coord. 713-794-8285
Montrose Counseling Center	Lori Fiester 713-529-0037 x 318
M-PACT Task Force	Antonio Aguries 832-548-5196 aaguries@legacycommunityhealth.org Jon-Michael Gillispie, HDHHS Liaison 832-393-4720 jon-michael.gillispie@houstontx.gov
Ryan White Part C Rural Community Advisory Board	Reachelian Ellison 713-526-1016, Ext 104 rellison@hivresourcegroup.org
Ryan White Part C Urban	*No CAB*
Ryan White Part D Community Advisory Board	Reachelian Ellison 713-526-1016, Ext 104 rellison@hivresourcegroup.org
Saint Hope Foundation **closed to the public**	Conoshura Moore conoshura@offeringhope.org
Serving the Incarcerated and Recently Released (SIRR)	Felicia Booker 713-526-1016 fbooker@hivresourcegroup.org
Syphilis Elimination Advisory Committee (SEAC)	Antonio Aguries 832-548-5196 aaguries@legacycommunityhealth.org Jon-Michael Gillispie, HDHHS Liaison 832-393-4720 jon-michael.gillispie@houstontx.gov
Thomas Street Patient Advisory Council	Jackie Wear - Manager, Volunteer Resources 713-873-4507
Urban AIDS Ministry	Hope Adaam, Chair 832-423-2627 hopeadaam@yahoo.com Dr. Ray Watts, HDHHS Liaison 832-393-4758 Ray.Watts@houstontx.gov
Youth Task Force	Kimberly Lopez, Chair 832-824-1694 Kimberly.lopez@bcm.edu Florida Kweekeh, HDHHS Liaison 832-393-4755 Florida.Kweekeh@houstontx.gov

JOB OPENING

PEER EDUCATION SPECIALIST

We are looking for individuals who are committed to ending HIV/AIDS in our community and serving individuals infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. If you are a team player, with good communication skills, a self-directed learner who is flexible and mission-driven we are interested in you participating in our efforts.

Please review the attached job description. If your qualifications match the position, please fax or email your cover letter and resume to:

HR@AFHOUSTON.ORG

OR FAX TO 713-623-4029

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

ADP TOTALSOURCE / AIDS FOUNDATION HOUSTON INC
Job Description
JOB TITLE: Peer Education Specialist

Reports To: Program Coordinator – Priority Populations	**Status: Exempt**
Prepared by: ADP Total Source	**February 7, 2014**

SUMMARY:
This position is primarily responsible for conducting and facilitating the delivery of health education and prevention outreach activities to the intervention target population. This position also performs recruitment/outreach activities with identified high risk populations for counseling, testing, and referrals. This position's education duty concentrates on utilizing the Wall Talk Peer Education curriculum and Somebody Cares Training Manual. This position requires out-of-town/overnight travel and good judgment and independent thinking skills.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
Core duties and responsibilities include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

Outreach Coordination and Planning

1. Implements interventions.
2. Plans Wall Talk and Somebody Cares trainings with TDCJ- Peer Education Coordinator.
3. Maintains training supply inventory to ensure materials are available when needed by project staff and partners.
4. Assists in coordination of volunteer activities specific to prevention education and outreach functions.
5. Assists in assessing and evaluation of community needs and develop plans for prevention interventions.
6. Assists in the implementation of program strategies that specifically address the peer education needs of the correctional and community agencies that serve offenders and the recently released target population.

Direct Prevention and Education Duties

1. Attends all required trainings for intervention and HIV/STD related trainings as needed.
2. Conducts training sessions with offender peer educators for Wall Talk, Somebody Cares, and other peer education modules within Texas prisons.
3. Complete all required Wall Talk trainings as well as Somebody Cares trainings per grant and foundations requirements.
4. Provide direct observation and monitoring of the offender peer educators delivering the curriculum to their peers.
5. Plan and facilitate the annual Wall Talk Conferences.
6. Administers pre and post-intervention survey in a timely manner according to contract.
7. Provides follow-up with newly trained peer educators via mail correspondence to increase retention among peer educators
8. Stays abreast of HIV, STD, HCV and related chronic disease trends in epidemiology, treatment and prevention methodologies.
9. Provides medically accurate and culturally sensitive risk reduction education and outreach activities to specified target populations following approved AFH protocols and curriculum.

Compliance and Monitoring

1. Follows AFH Policies and Procedures and maintain agency policies and procedures regarding confidentiality, consent, and grievance and client rights.
2. Maintains and submits in a timely manner concise documentation, consumer demographics, client feedback surveys, activity report forms, linked referrals, invoices and other required forms according to departmental standards.
3. Performs data entry to ensure compliance with funders

4. Submits required personnel paperwork and financial paperwork on time and accurately.
5. Follows all protocols as required by funding sources and additional protocols established by AFH.
6. Maintains records of administered incentives.

Networking

1. Represents AFH in the community in like groups and/or other community liaisons.
2. Maintains contact with community leaders and agencies serving the target population(s) and assist with development of those relationships for the purposes of program maintenance and expansion.

Team Functions

1. Supports other employees' efforts to serve clients and the community.
2. Acts as a cooperative member of the AFH team.
3. Attends department, agency-wide staff meetings and other meetings as scheduled.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:
This job has no supervisory responsibilities.

QUALIFICATIONS:
To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE:
Associate degree or two years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

LANGUAGE SKILLS:
Ability to read, analyze, and interpret general business periodicals, professional journals, technical procedures, or governmental regulations. Ability to write reports, business correspondence, and procedure manuals. Ability to effectively present information and respond to questions from groups of managers, clients, customers, and the general public.

MATHEMATICAL SKILLS:
Ability to add, subtract, multiply, and divide in all units of measure, using whole numbers, common fractions, and decimals. Ability to compute rate, ratio, and percent and to draw and interpret bar graphs.

REASONING ABILITY:
Ability to solve practical problems and deal with a variety of concrete variables in situations where only limited standardization exists. Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram, or schedule form.

COMPUTER SKILLS:
To perform this job successfully, an individual should be proficient on a basic level: Internet Software; Spreadsheet Software (Excel); Word Processing Software (Word); Electronic Mail Software (Outlook); Presentation software (Prezi or PowerPoint).

OTHER SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Ability to work as a highly cooperative member of a team to accomplish agency and program goals
- Ability to communicate professionally both verbally and in writing
- Ability to be culturally sensitive and linguistically competent in serving the needs of a highly diverse clientele including but not limited to all racial, minority, and ethnic groups, as well as substance abusers, homeless, gay/lesbian, bi-sexual, transsexual, and transgender populations

- Ability to provide crisis intervention as a part of a team
- Ability to work as a highly cooperative member of a team of department staff and volunteers in the integration of services.
- Ability to form professional relationships with target population members.
- Ability to work flexible schedules, including evenings and weekends as needed, in the greater Houston area.
- Knowledge of general office practices and procedures.
- Ability to prioritize multiple tasks.
- Ability to use considerable judgment and initiative required to establish work procedures.
- Ability to make decisions in accordance with established policies and procedures.
- Ability to perform routine bending/stooping while filing and performing office/outreach duties.
- Ability to perform routine twisting/reaching while working at computer/desk and performing office/outreach duties.
- Ability to perform routine walking/standing during course of day and while performing office/outreach duties.
- Ability to hear and speak well enough to converse over telephone and while performing education and outreach duties 100% of the time.
- Ability to see well enough to use computer efficiently and read computer reports and correspondence 100% of the time.
- Ability to lift up to 25 pounds

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:
The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk or listen. The employee is frequently required to sit. The employee is occasionally required to stand and walk. The employee must regularly lift and/or move up to 10 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:
The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

CORE COMPETENCIES:
- Problem solving-Identifies and resolves problems in a timely manner; works well in group problem solving situations; uses reason even when dealing with emotional topics.
- Technical skills-Assesses own strengths and weaknesses; pursues training and development opportunities; strives to continuously build knowledge and skills; shares expertise with others.
- Customer Service-Manages difficult or emotional customer situations; responds promptly to customer needs; solicits customer feedback to improve service; responds to requests for service and assistance; meets commitments.
- Interpersonal Skills-Focuses on solving conflict, not blaming; maintains confidentiality; listens to others without interrupting; keeps emotions under control; remains open to others' ideas and tries new things.
- Oral Communication-Speaks clearly and persuasively in positive or negative situations; listens and gets clarification; responds well to questions; demonstrates group presentation skills; participates in meetings.
- Written Communication-Writes clearly and informatively; edits work for spelling and grammar; varies style to meet needs; presents numerical data effectively; able to read and interpret written information.
- Teamwork-Balances team and individual responsibilities; exhibits objectivity and openness to others' views; gives and welcomes feedback; contributes to building a positive team spirit; puts success of team above own interests; supports everyone's efforts to succeed.
- Leadership-Exhibits confidence in self and others; inspires and motivates others to perform well; accepts feedback from others; gives appropriate recognition to others.

- Quality Management-Looks for ways to improve and promote quality; demonstrates accuracy and thoroughness.
- Diversity-Shows respect and sensitivity for cultural differences; promotes a harassment-free environment.
- Ethics-Treats people with respect; keeps commitments; inspires the trust of others; works with integrity and ethically; upholds organizational values.
- Organizational Support-Follows policies and procedures; completes administrative tasks correctly and on time; supports organization's goals and values; benefits organization through outside activities.
- Judgment-Displays willingness to make decisions; exhibits sound and accurate judgment; supports and explains reasoning for decisions; includes appropriate people in decision-making process; makes timely decisions.
- Planning/Organizing-Prioritizes and plans work activities; uses time efficiently; plans for additional resources; sets goals and objectives; develops realistic action plans.
- Professionalism-Approaches others in a tactful manner; reacts well under pressure; treats other with respect and consideration regardless of their status or position; accepts responsibility for own actions; follows through on commitments.
- Quantity-Meets productivity standards; completes work in a timely manner; strives to increase productivity; works quickly.
- Adaptability-Adapts to changes in the work environment; Manages competing demands; able to deal with frequent change, delays or unexpected events.
- Attendance/Punctuality-Is consistently at work and on time; ensures work responsibilities are covered when absent; arrives at meetings and appointments on time.
- Dependability-Follows instructions; takes responsibility for own actions; keeps commitments; commits to long hours of work when necessary to reach goals; completes tasks on time or notifies appropriate person with an alternate plan.
- Initiative-Volunteers readily; undertakes self-development activities; seeks increased responsibilities; looks for and takes advantage of opportunities; asks for and offers help when needed.
- Innovation-Displays original thinking and creativity; meets challenges with resourcefulness; generates suggestions for improving work.

Supervisor/Management Only

- Project Management-Develops project plans; coordinates projects; communicates changes and progress; completes project on time and budget; manages project team activities.
- Visionary Leadership-Displays passion and optimism; inspires respect and trust; mobilizes others to fulfill the vision; provides vision and inspiration to peers and subordinates.
- Change Management-Develops workable implementation plans; communicates changes effectively; builds commitment and overcomes resistance; prepares and supports those affected by change; monitors transition and evaluates results.
- Delegation-Delegates work assignments; matches the responsibility to the person; gives authority to work independently; sets expectations and monitors delegated activities; provides recognition for results.
- Managing People-Includes staff in planning, decision-making, facilitating and process improvement; takes responsibility for subordinates' activities; makes self available to staff; provides regular performance feedback; develops subordinates' skills and encourages growth; solicits and applies customer feedback (internal and external); fosters quality focus in others; improves processes, products and services; continually works to improve supervisory skills.
- Business Acumen-Understands business implications of decisions; aligns work with strategic goals.
- Cost Consciousness-Works within approved budget; develops and implements cost saving measures; conserves organizational resources.
- Strategic Thinking-Develops strategies to achieve organizational goals; understands organization's strengths and weaknesses; identifies external threats and opportunities; adapts strategy to changing conditions.