



United Way P.O. Box 13668 Houston, Texas 77019 (713) 529-5913

Ross H. Spicer
General Campaign Chairman
Southwestern Bell

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VENEREAL DISEASES ARE EPIDEMIC IN HOUSTON

More than 8,000,000 Americans are affected by venereal diseases each year, and statistics indicate the continued rise of venereal diseases is now epidemic in Houston and Harris County.

A symposium will be held September 28th to discuss this problem and to encourage the full participation of local social agencies and the public to bring the current epidemic under control. The meeting is scheduled from 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at a United Way agency, the Harris County Center for the Retarded, 3550 West Dallas, Houston.

According to the American Social Health Association, Houston/Harris County showed an increase last year of 42% in syphilis over 1975 and a 13% increase in acute gonorrhea. The rate of infection syphilis per 100,000 people in the U. S. is 11; in Texas 16.4; and in Houston 37. The national rate (per 100,000) for gonorrhea is 466; in Texas 660; in Houston 1,118.

The current epidemic is particularly critical among Houston youth. Persons under the age of 24 account for 43% of the reported cases of infectious syphilis and 64% of the reported cases of gonorrhea. Representatives of youth-serving agencies will learn of current efforts of control in our area and discuss ways youth-serving agencies can develop



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their own education programs to better control the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. Officials have been particularly concerned about the epidemic rise of venereal disease in Houston due to the fact that about five times more cases occur than are reported.

Speakers for the symposium include Robert A. MacLean, M.D., Ms. Patricia Heinrich and Jerry F. Wheeler of the Houston Department of Public Health; Andrew Rudolph, M.D., of the Baylor College of Medicine; Ms. Martha Licata of the Harris County Board of Education; and Ms. Johanna Balschke Peck of the Texas Department of Health Resources.

The symposium is being sponsored by the United Way's Planning Division in association with a United Way agency (the American Social Health Association, a VD research and education institution), the Harris County Medical Society, the Houston Department of Public Health, and the Texas Department of Health Resources.



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CONFERENCE
FOR YOUTH SERVING AGENCIES & THE PUBLIC
ON SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

Wednesday, September 28, 1977, 8:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Harris County Center for the Retarded, 3550 West Dallas, Houston

8:15-8:45 Registration
8:45-9:00 Welcome

Mrs. Michael Papadopoulos, Chair-
person, Planning and Evaluation
Committee, United Way

PROGRAM

William W. Foster, Presiding
Executive Director, Florence Crittenton Services, United Way Agency

9:00-9:45 Sexually Transmitted
Diseases (STD)

Robert A. MacLean, M.D.,
Asst. Health Director, Personal
Health Services, Houston Dept.
of Public Health

9:45-10:15 Extent of the STD Problem

Jerry F. Wheeler, Administrator
of Venereal Disease Program,
Houston Dept. of Public Health

10:15-10:30 Coffee Break

10:30-11:30 Panel: STD Projects in Houston
Houston Dept. of Public Health
Harris County Medical Society
Harris County Board of Education
Baylor College of Medicine

Jerry F. Wheeler
Robert A. MacLean, M.D.
Martha Licata, M.D., M.Ed.,
Nurse Consultant
Andrew Rudolph, M.D.,
Dept. of Dermatology

11:30-12:00 Educational Approaches
to STD Control

Johanna Blaschke Peck, Health
Program Specialist, Venereal
Disease Control Div., Texas Dept.
of Health, Austin

12:00-12:30 Resources Available for
STD Projects

Patricia Heinrich, Health
Educator, Houston Dept. of
Public Health

12:30-1:00 Question All Speakers
Summary

Frank McFall, Regional Director,
American Social Health Assoc.,
United Way Agency