



**ACET**  
www.acet.je



# ACET

**IN ACTION**

Annual Review  
2009

**HIV/AIDS  
prevention and  
care in Jersey**



# Chairman's Message



**Bruce Willing CBE** - Chairman

Last July the axe fell on ACET Jersey when all our funding from DHSS was withdrawn as part of government spending cuts. With it fell a 12-year programme of health education and social support for deprived individuals from the minority communities on the island, a project that ACET had been encouraged to develop by the previous MOH. The principal community to benefit had

been Portuguese and over the period of the programme we had developed unparalleled access to it and information about it. With a heavy heart, the trustees took the decision to abandon the programme and leave it to the States to take it on, should it determine the need to do so.

## A new HIV Care Policy

This development forced the Trustees to re-examine the charity's priorities. We decided that our only viable option was to treat the island community as a single entity and to focus, in particular, on our Care and Education work, the two pillars on which our whole rationale stands. It was becoming apparent that ACET was supporting an increasing number of people living with HIV who had complex needs and, despite the enormous hard work of the Executive Director, we were not fully meeting those needs. The Trustees therefore took the decision to create a new appointment of HIV Care Coordinator with an initial remit to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment, which would be used to inform a new HIV Care Policy to meet the needs of people living with HIV in Jersey.

## Improved quality of life for clients

Alison Le Riche, a very experienced nurse and a diabetes specialist, was recruited and began work in February 2010. I am delighted with her progress and I look forward to new developments that will greatly improve the quality of life of our clients. Hers is a desperately needed service as she provides a link between other agencies as well as a range of psychosocial and financial support to people living with HIV and their families.

## Advances in Education and Training

Education has also advanced significantly in the past year through programmes developed by our HIV Educator, Sarah Gray. I am pleased to report real advances in our work with the youth of the island in particular in integrating that work, both in schools and perhaps more significantly, with the island Youth Service.

Our 'Wise Up' training and education programmes at HMP La Moye are having a significant impact and have resulted in a detailed report on progress that has been well received by the Department of Home Affairs. This programme is truly ground breaking and is a good example of how a government service and a voluntary organisation can work in partnership to provide a successful and cost-effective outcome at a time of budgetary restraint in the States.

## States HIV policy

Largely unrecognised, until now, has been the Director's role as a member of the States working group on the development of an HIV policy for States employees. If we can turn the island's largest employer into an exemplar we will have made significant progress, at a business level, in meeting my aspiration of reducing HIV stigma.

## Promoting voluntary testing

Last year I raised my concern over the lack of progress in implementing unlinked anonymous testing (UAT) to determine the real prevalence of HIV in Jersey. It has not been implemented but we have recently been informed that, instead, voluntary testing is to be promoted and encouraged. If this is to be a successful alternative to UAT we will need a publicly funded awareness campaign on a similar scale to the recent Swine Flu campaign to ensure that everyone in Jersey is as well informed as possible of the reality of HIV, the risks of infection, and the benefits to the individual of voluntary testing.

## Too many people still diagnosed late

A report of the recent British HIV Association Conference in the Guardian newspaper on 22 April 2010 included this quote:

'Far too many people in the UK with HIV are being diagnosed late, when they may have had the virus for as long as 10 years and are likely to have passed the infection to other people, sexual health experts warned today.

They called for urgent action to be taken to make routine testing the norm in areas where HIV prevalence is high. HIV rates in the UK are steadily rising, and delays in diagnosing infection increase deaths and onward transmission. "It is in the interest of everyone for local health authorities and healthcare professionals to take a real stance on this issue," said Dr Keith Radcliffe, President of the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV'.

ACET will continue to challenge complacency about the reality of HIV at both a political and a personal level. We owe it to our children and our grandchildren. AIDS is a global pandemic; it will continue to be a major challenge for generations to come. This is not speculation; this is not a developing situation; this is fact.

Finally I would like to thank all our supporters and to reassure them that ACET is a very well run charity and has an exceptionally low overhead of less than 7%. We are making real progress and it is a great tribute to the whole ACET team, both staff and trustees that we are able to continue to do so in this time of significant financial restraint.

**Bruce Willing CBE**  
Chairman

# Director's Report



**Rosemary Ruddy** - Executive Director

There are now more than 85,000 people living with HIV in the UK and that number is increasing year on year. Last year, the number of people diagnosed was double the level 10 years ago - and more than 25% of people infected with HIV in the UK are still unaware of their infection. In addition, half of those diagnosed last year were diagnosed late (after the

point that they should have started treatment) affecting their own health and also making it more likely that they will pass HIV on to someone else.

Although the health service in Jersey is unable to provide similar HIV data to that provided by the UK Health Protection Agency, we are assured by local health professionals that the HIV situation in the UK is mirrored here in Jersey.

## Continuing stigma and discrimination

Meanwhile, public awareness and understanding of HIV continues to fall resulting in people becoming needlessly infected and diagnosed too late; and feeding into the continuing stigma around HIV which leads to prejudice and discrimination against those infected and affected.

The phenomenon is worsened here in the island because people living with HIV in Jersey still do not have the legal protection from discrimination provided in the UK by the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA). ACET would like to see anti-discrimination law enacted in Jersey as soon as possible to provide some protection from the worst forms of discrimination which currently go unchallenged.

## A unique role

ACET has a unique role in Jersey, providing unconditional practical and emotional support for people living with HIV, coupled with advice and support to the many organisations supporting them; lifesaving HIV education and prevention programmes for young people and those at risk; and professional training for employers and workers. We also act as advocates ensuring that the experiences of people living with HIV are heard and understood at the highest level.

## We care unconditionally...

We care unconditionally for people from all walks of life, regardless of how they came to be HIV positive. Our care services are client-led and every client is treated as an individual with unique needs and circumstances.

I am delighted to report that Alison Le Riche has recently joined our small team of professionals as ACET's new HIV Care Coordinator. Alison is currently conducting a needs analysis among clients with a view to further developing and expanding our HIV support services in the future.

## HIV in Jersey: It is real, it is here - take responsibility

'HIV in Jersey' is a new awareness campaign designed and developed by Sarah Gray, ACET's HIV Educator, with generous support from our corporate partners, Standard Chartered Bank.

Surveys have shown that almost 50% of young people have a dangerously low knowledge of HIV and AIDS, a worrying prospect as 1 in 10 of the UK's new diagnoses are people under 24. When asked where they would go for information about HIV, the internet was the most popular response.

The 'Anti HIVirus Software' created by Standard Chartered and posted on the ACET Jersey website homepage, is a series of film clips together with a quiz designed to provide young people with the facts about HIV in an entertaining and accessible way. The resource was launched in November when it was well-received by students from local schools and over 100 young people who attended an event to promote the campaign at the Waterfront.

Printed resources and DVDs for schools and young people have been produced to support the campaign, which is continuing throughout 2010 with special events and street-based work.

## Wise Up to Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs)

Research shows that prisoners are some of the most vulnerable people to BBV infection in the UK and failing to respond effectively to BBV infection in prisons puts the entire island at risk; prisoners, staff, their families and the wider community. In January 2009 ACET Jersey was commissioned to develop and deliver an inclusive HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C prevention, education and training programme for staff and prisoners at HMP La Moye.

The programme aims to prevent onward transmission, enable early diagnosis and provide treatment and care for those infected. It also aims to prevent and respond to the stigmatising and discriminatory treatment of anyone infected or suspected of being infected with a blood borne virus.

The new programme includes a comprehensive training course for all prison staff delivered by ACET trainers, together with a rolling programme of education courses for prisoners.

During the first year over 70% of staff completed the whole training course and 90% of staff completed at least one module.

The programme has been named 'Wise Up to BBVs'. It has three key messages: Get protected; Get tested; Get treated. Five education courses have been piloted successfully and educational booklets for prisoners in English and Portuguese have also been developed by ACET to complement the education programme.

I hope you agree, after reading this review, that 2009 has been a very successful year for ACET Jersey. We are keen to build on our successes and - with your help and support- continue to provide unconditional care, life-saving education and professional training which will help everyone in Jersey face the reality of HIV and make a positive response.

**Rosemary Ruddy FCMI**

Executive Director

# 9 ways ACET is responding to HIV/AIDS in Jersey

With your support we are >

## Honorary Treasurer's Report

ACET accounts for 2009 have been prepared in accordance with best practice set out in the UK Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005).

Restricted funds are those which have been donated for a specific purpose and must be used only for that purpose, whereas the trustees are free to designate unrestricted funds to any services provided by the charity, according to need and strategic priorities.

Growth in the number of people living with HIV in Jersey has increased demand for our care services and all the indications are that this demand will increase further in the future, as more people are diagnosed.

Most of the restricted funds carried forward at the end of 2009 were secured from Lloyds/TSB Foundation and ring-fenced to enable the appointment of a dedicated HIV Care Coordinator to further develop our psychosocial support services. Alison Le Riche was appointed to this post on a two-year fixed term contract at the beginning of February 2010.

### Financial challenges

ACET is a small charity with no significant reserves or legacies. All funds raised go directly to providing our services which are for the benefit of individuals living with HIV and the wider community in Jersey.

Following termination of the DHSS grant for services for the Portuguese community in October 2009, the challenge facing the trustees is to secure pledges of recurring donations and grants to ensure that ACET is able to plan ahead and continue to deliver a full range of HIV care, prevention and education programmes which address our local situation and prevent enormous treatment costs in the future.

In the current economic climate, fundraising is a significant challenge for a small charity. It requires considerable professionalism, imagination, rigour and expertise. My message, in a nutshell, is that more donations let us do more work. As treasurer, I can assure you that our costs are subject to close scrutiny. We never stop trying to keep our costs down and where we do spend money, it's because we are convinced it is justified.

### Hardship fund

In 2009 the Hardship Fund provided a range of financial assistance for a number of people living with HIV including covering the cost of dental treatment for two clients who needed extensive treatment, which was not covered by income support.

### Drugs Trafficking Confiscation Fund

A two-year Service Level Agreement with HMP La Moye commenced in January 2010. This provides an annual grant of £50K from the Drugs Trafficking Confiscation Fund to develop and deliver a new education and training programme for all staff and prisoners, with the aim of reducing the spread of blood-borne viruses at the prison and in the wider community.

### Major donors

ACET continues to receive support from a number of charitable trusts and major donors who recognise the value of our services. In particular, I would also like to acknowledge a major grant from the Association of Jersey Charities towards the HIV Educator's post.

We are also grateful to all the staff at the many companies who supported the 2009 World AIDS Day Campaign with collections and dress down days; the staff and students of the island's secondary schools; and our faithful team of volunteers who collect in King Street and give out red ribbons during the campaign.

### Churches

ACET is a faith-based charity founded on Christian principles, so we are especially thankful for the congregations of Freedom Church, Grouville Church, Parish Church of St Ouen, St Matthew's Church, St Paul's Church and the Methodist Church Multi-racial Projects Fund for their continued contributions and prayerful support.

We are enormously grateful to all our donors. Please be assured that every penny has been, and will be, used wisely to make a real difference to the lives of those most at risk and those already affected by HIV in Jersey.

**Malcolm Lewis FCA**  
Honorary Treasurer

## Key Achievements in 2009



Provided **200 hours of confidential information and advice**, together with emotional and practical support, for people living with HIV in Jersey.



Provided financial assistance from the ACET **Hardship Fund** to support people living with HIV in Jersey and their families.



Provided **support, education and advocacy services** for an average of **18 Portuguese** people per week.



Revised and developed a new edition of, **A Parent's Toolkit**, ACET's popular handbook of information and ideas to help parents talk to their children about sex and relationships.



## Educating young people

about the risks and teaching them how to avoid HIV infection.



## Supporting parents

with user-friendly resources to help them talk to their children about sex and relationships.



## Reaching marginalised groups

with life-saving education about the risks of HIV and how to prevent transmission.

# Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2009

### Expenditure £205,905



Health Education and Support Services for Portuguese people £85,659

Prison BBV Education Programme and Staff Training £44,494

HIV Education and Outreach Services for Young People £36,978

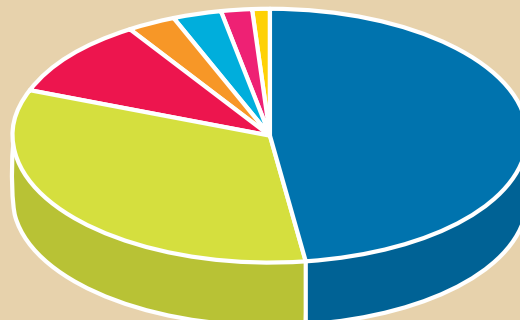
Care and Support Services for people living with HIV £20,746

Administration costs £14,260

HIV Training for employers, staff and professionals £3,385

Support for Parents £383

### Income £236,818



States of Jersey £113,133

Trusts and Foundations £77,226

Private Donations £24,417

Churches £7,810

Companies £7,754

Tax Recovered, Bank Interest and Course Fees £5,795

Hardship Fund £683

## Balance Sheet at 31 December 2009

ASSETS	£	FINANCED BY	£
Fixed Assets		Restricted income funds	
Equipment	4,456	HIV Care Services and Hardship Fund 2010 and 2011	96,380
Current Assets		Unrestricted income funds	20,700
Cash at bank and in hand	114,396		
Net current assets/(liabilities)	(1,772)	TOTAL	117,080
TOTAL	117,080		

The figures on this page have been extracted from the audited financial statements. Full accounts are available on request from ACET Jersey.



Provided 277 assisted e-learning sessions at The Link for adults with low levels of literacy.



Provided 72 Skilled for Health classes at The Link to help economic migrants with very low levels of literacy safeguard their own health and access local services.



Provided Children's Clubs with opportunities for personal and social development for 38 vulnerable children at risk of drug misuse and early sexual activity.



Provided a comprehensive website [www.acet.je](http://www.acet.je) with over 300 pages of information and advice about HIV in Jersey in both English and Portuguese.



## Providing practical, emotional and financial support

for individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS in Jersey.



## Providing a website

with over 300 pages of local information and advice about HIV in English and Portuguese.



## Providing HIV Equality and Diversity Training

for managers, professionals and staff in the workplace.

## About ACET Jersey

### Who we are

ACET (AIDS Care Education and Training) Jersey is a member of the rapidly growing ACET International Alliance. The Alliance is an independent group of organisations around the world working to reduce the rates of new HIV infection, care for those affected by HIV/AIDS and support AIDS orphans.

Alliance members provide care, education and training to all those affected by HIV/AIDS and related issues, regardless of ethnicity, religious affiliation or any other factor. Each ACET programme is independent with its own national leadership and accountability.

ACET Jersey's members are Christians who are committed to expressing in their life and work something of the practical and unconditional love of God as shown to us in Jesus Christ.

### What we do

- We influence attitudes, behaviour and decisions at all levels that have an impact on the lives of people affected by, and at risk of, HIV and AIDS in Jersey.
- We provide practical and emotional care and support for all who are affected by HIV, regardless of how they come to be so, fighting stigma and discrimination and encouraging acceptance of those with HIV.
- We deliver life-saving education, encouraging long-term healthy lifestyle choices, giving young people the skills and confidence to resist peer pressure and to find their own way, using messages that are clear and adapted to each audience.
- We provide training for employers, professionals and workers on all the issues, including stigma and discrimination, associated with HIV/AIDS in the workplace and the wider community.

### Why we are needed

HIV is increasing in every country of the world including the UK. 33 million people are currently estimated to be living with HIV worldwide, 85,000 in the UK.

There is no cure and a vaccine is still more than ten years away.

The pandemic continues to grow and change. Worldwide there are now more women than men living with HIV. The fastest rate of growth is currently in Central Asian countries where HIV is sweeping through the injecting drug user population.

### The situation in Jersey

One of the challenges for HIV prevention is the numbers who are undiagnosed and could unknowingly be putting their sexual partners at risk.

At present, we have no way of estimating the numbers of HIV+ people who are undiagnosed in Jersey.

However, we do know that all sexually transmitted infections are on the increase in the island, which indicates that people are still engaging in unprotected sex, despite the risks of infection.

Those most at risk of infection in Jersey appear to be young people and marginalised groups, which include gay and bi-sexual men and injecting drug users who share needles. People whose first language is not English also have difficulty understanding important health information and may therefore be more vulnerable.

Ignorance about HIV not only costs lives, it gives rise to unfounded fears of transmission and contributes to stigma and discrimination.

Throughout the UK, most people living with HIV hide their status because they fear they or their families will suffer as a result of widespread HIV-related prejudice and discrimination. Jersey is no exception, with some people choosing to go elsewhere for HIV testing and treatment.

### How we work

- We challenge complacency about the disease at a political and personal level.
- We provide confidential practical, financial and emotional support for people affected by HIV.
- We act as advocates ensuring that the experiences of people living with HIV are heard and understood at the highest level.
- We provide programmes of HIV education for young people in schools, youth groups and the wider community.
- We provide parents with resources and support to help them teach their own children about the issues associated with HIV/AIDS.
- We provide a website with comprehensive information about HIV/AIDS in Jersey in both English and Portuguese.
- We deliver a blood borne virus prevention programme for vulnerable people in prison and secure settings.
- We help employers understand the needs of workers affected by HIV and ensure they know how to support and protect people living with HIV in the workplace.
- We provide training and seminars for employers, professionals and workers on all the issues associated with HIV/AIDS, including the unfounded fears that hinder prevention and give rise to prejudice, stigma and discrimination.
- We work in partnership with a range of statutory and community agencies and participate in local forums with peer agencies.



Provided information and education sessions about HIV and how to avoid infection for over 45% of the islands 14-15 year olds.



Reached **716 young people** with information and advice on the streets of St Helier working with the Street-based Youth Work team.



Worked with Standard Chartered Bank to develop a new HIV awareness campaign for young people:  
**Are you protected?**



Ran the 2009 **World AIDS Day Campaign** in Jersey including events in schools, Street Collections and Dress Down Days.



## Running public campaigns

to challenge complacency and make all sectors of the community aware of the risks.



## Challenging HIV-related stigma and discrimination

wherever it appears in the community, in schools and in the workplace.



## Delivering a rolling programme of education and training

to prevent the spread of blood borne viruses at HMP La Moye.

## ACET Jersey

### Patrons

#### Jersey

Mr Michael Birt, Bailiff of Jersey  
The Very Reverend Canon Bob Key, Dean of Jersey  
The Reverend David Coote, Superintendent Methodist Church Jersey  
Clive Barton FCA FIM, Moore Stephens

#### UK

Gerald Coates, Pioneer Churches  
Sir Cliff Richard OBE

### Trustees

Brigadier Bruce Willing CBE, Chairman  
Malcolm S Lewis FCA, Honorary Treasurer  
Judith Dingle  
Mark Renouf (resigned 3/10/09)  
Lou Scott-Joynt  
Philip Slater  
The Reverend Ray Speck  
Norris Syvret

### Executive Director

Rosemary Ruddy BA FCMI MinstF (Cert)

### Sponsors

We would like to thank all those who have supported ACET Jersey's work in 2009 with gifts and sponsorship, especially those who have given regularly to our work.

### Churches

Freedom Church  
Grouville Church  
Methodist Church Multi-Racial Projects Fund  
Parish Church of St Ouen  
St Matthew's Church  
St Paul's Church

### Companies

Angora Besco  
EFG in the Community  
I T Consult Ltd  
Le Gallais and Luce  
Standard Chartered (Jersey) Ltd

### Trusts and Foundations

BBC Children in Need  
Berni Family Trust  
Constance Green Foundation  
Elizabeth V A Rouse Settlement  
Gouray Lodge Charitable Trust  
James Roberts Memorial Trust  
Lloyds TSB Foundation for the Channel Islands  
Robert Hall Foundation

### States of Jersey

Health and Social Services  
Drugs Trafficking Confiscation Fund

### Schools

Beaulieu Convent School  
Grouville Primary School  
Hautlieu School  
Haute Vallee School  
Jersey College for Girls  
Le Rocquier School  
Les Landes School  
Samares Primary School

### Youth Clubs

Grand Vaux Youth Centre  
La Motte Street Centre  
Le Squez Youth Club  
St Brelade Youth Club  
St Lawrence Youth Club

### Staff at

Abbey International  
ABN Amro Bank  
Alex Picot Trust Company Ltd  
Appleby  
BNP Paribas Jersey  
Capita Trust Company (Jersey) Ltd  
Citibank (Channel Islands) Ltd  
Crill Canavan  
Deloitte LLP  
EFG Offshore  
Equity Trust (Jersey) Ltd  
Ernst & Young LLP  
Fort Regent Leisure Centre  
Hallmark  
Indigo House Medical Practice  
Jersey Electricity Company Limited  
Jersey Harbours  
Le Quennevais Sports Centre  
Lloyds Pharmacy  
Minerva Financial Services Limited  
Moore Stephens  
Mourant  
Parish of St Helier  
Ransoms  
Romerils  
Royal Bank of Canada  
Standard Chartered (Jersey) Ltd  
Walkers

### Others

Association of Jersey Charities  
BBC Jersey  
David and Ann Crossland  
Donations in memory of Giles Gray  
Parish of St Ouen -  
Pantomime Committee  
Parish of St Saviour



Developed a new training course and education programmes on **Tackling Blood Borne Viruses in Prisons** for all staff and prisoners at HMP La Moye.



Delivered 33 two-hour training courses for staff at HMP La Moye. A total of 418 attendances at training courses were recorded.



Developed new educational booklets on blood borne viruses for prisoners at HMP La Moye in English and Portuguese; and piloted three new blood borne virus education courses for prisoners.



Contributed to the new States of Jersey Health for Life Strategy as a working member of the **Sexual Health Action Group** developing a new HIV policy for the States of Jersey.

