

The HEALTH EDUCATION^{PAW}



Written by: Liberty Pandey

Volume: II Issue: III

Alumni Livewire

WORLD AIDS WEEK 2009

World AIDS Week 2009 was a huge success and well-received by the UConn community. We had over 900 students, faculty, staff and community members attend our programs throughout the week. Events that were held were Wear Red Day, Hoops of Hope, the showing of movie *RENT* in the SU Theater, tabling in dining halls, ART4AIDS, the HIV/AIDS Vigil and Condom-a-thon.

We kicked off the week on World AIDS Day, December 1st with *Hoops of Hope* and *Wear Red Day*. *Hoops of Hope* was a free-throw shoot-a-thon held at the Gampel Pavilion, in conjunction with Community Outreach. It was a fundraising event that raised money for people suffering

from HIV/AIDS in Zambia.

SUBOG also sponsored the showing of *RENT* in the SU Theater on Tuesday night.

ART4AIDS was held on December 2nd and we had the largest turnout to date with over 94 people participating in the art opening.



Alpha Beta Epsilon and QUAD were among organizations that contributed artwork.

The HIV/AIDS Vigil was held on Dec 3rd with over 70 people in attendance. The Condom-a-thon was held on

December 4th at the SU and we had over 200 students who participated. SUBOG sponsored Dairy Bar ice-cream for the event this year.

We also provided HIV testing during the week and over 200 people attended our tabling events in the dining halls.

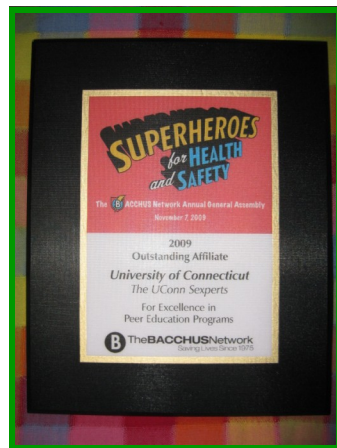
Similar to years past, the Health Education Office and the Sexperts were able to raise \$681 for the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, that works with chronically ill children including those with HIV/AIDS.

World AIDS Day is hosted on December 1st worldwide to raise awareness about this issue that affects millions of lives every year.



Health Education Office Updates

*We announce with great pride that the Sexperts have won another award this year! The National Bacchus Network Annual General Assembly has awarded the **2009 Outstanding Affiliate** to the UConn Sexperts for excellence in peer education program. It is a humbling and exciting honor. We would like to thank you all for your contributions and involvement that has helped shape this group.



*Congratulations to Joleen on earning two certifications this year. She has achieved certification from the National Commission of Health Education Credentialing as a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES). She is also a Certified Sexuality Educator through the American Association of Sex Counselors and Therapists (AASECT).



**** Update Us!! We would love to know what you are doing so we can put you on our Alumni Page and in our next newsletter. Email us with updates at healthedu@uconn.edu!!**

The HEALTH EDUCATION



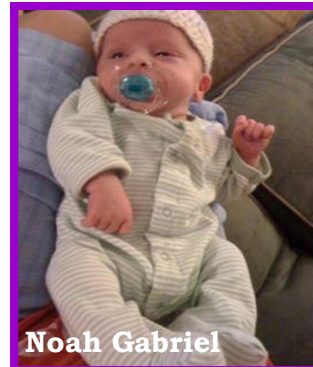
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Health Education Alumni Updates

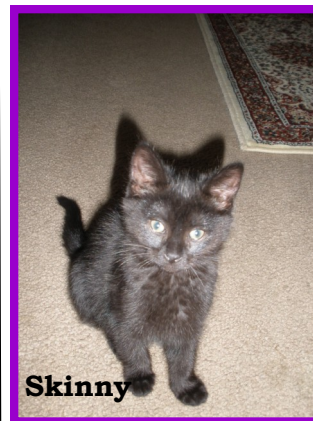
- ☆ Tan Pham recently got promoted to Junior Lieutenant with the US Public Health Service. He is currently working on a cohort study focusing on the clinical and healthcare issues of veterans suffering from HIV/AIDS.
- ☆ Katie Agostine is a long-term substitute teaching 7-12 mathematics. Congratulations on the new family addition of Austin, her dog. She and Austin will be moving in with her partner, Bill, in an apartment in Woodbury, CT.
- ☆ Laura Gasiorek is working at the US Department of Veterans Affairs in Hartford. She assists veterans who are returning from deployments and are seeking medical coverage. She also got two kittens, Skinny and Puff Cat who are sisters. Congrats on the new kitties!
- ☆ Samantha Fink is training to be a bank teller at Security National bank in Enid, OK.
- ☆ Christina Bainton is working as a Group Visit Associate at the September 11th Families Association: Tribute Center in Manhattan, NY.
- ☆ Congratulations to Jessica Galanos on the birth of a baby boy. Noah Gabriel was born seven weeks early on October 13th 2009. He weighed 4lbs 13oz at the time of birth.
- ☆ Jordon Porcher is working as a Health and Nutrition Coordinator at Community Renewal Team Inc. (CRT) in Hartford, CT. In the past, he worked as a Diet Technician in the Food and Nutrition Dept. at Yale Hospital, New Haven, CT and in the Clinical Nutrition Dept at Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford, CT. Outside of work he volunteers as a Big Brother mentor for the Nutmeg Big Brother Big Sister Program.
- ☆ Haley McCarthy is working as a Community Services Representative for Masonicare in Wallingford, CT.



Noah Gabriel



Austin



Skinny



Puff Cat

In their own words:

We started this feature in our last issue. Several Alumni wrote to us how UConn and Health Education has helped them to be where they are today. Here is what two of them had to say:

- ◆ **Sarah Vincent:** *"My classes and clinicals at UConn have definitely gotten me to my job/career, and the opportunities from Health Ed. like learning about and teaching others various therapies has helped me in working with my own patients and teaching them different aspects of their overall health."*
- ◆ **Samantha Fink:** *"My experiences with Health Education have definitely impacted my life. I am a stronger person because of it and I found I have a real passion for health and sex education."*

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