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roject #: M-50-661

Cost share #: M-50-329

Rev #: 0 OCA file #:

enter #: R6678-0A0

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Contract entity: GTRC

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'roject unit:

MGMT COLL

Unit code: 02.010.166

'roject director(s):

HEROLD D M

MGMT COLL

(404)894-4920

Sponsor/division names: DHHS/PHS/NIOSH/CDC

/ CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL

ponsor/division codes: 108

/ 002

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to 900119 (performance)

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Total to date 10,000.00

Funded

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loes subcontracting plan apply ?: N

Title: THE GEORGIA CONFERENCE ON MANAGING AIDS IN THE WORKPLACE

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION DATA

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894-4820

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PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS OFFICE

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ATLANTA. GA 30305

Security class (U,C,S,TS):

Defense priority rating : Equipment title vests with: Sponsor

NONE AUTHORIZED NOR PROPOSED

Administrative comments -INITIATION

ONR resident rep. is ACO (Y/N): N

supplemental sheet

GIT X

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY OFFICE OF CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

NOTICE OF PROJECT CLOSEOUT

	Closeout Notice Date 11/28/90	
ect No. M-22-661	Center No. R6678-0A0_	
ect Director HEROLD D M	School/Lab SCH MGMT	
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Other	- -	

^{::} Final Patent Questionnaire sent to PDPI.

Final Performance Report

The Georgia Conference on Managing AIDS in the Workplace

Grant No. R13-CCR4001182-01

David M. Herold, Ph.D.
School of Management
Georgia Institute of Technology

Georgia, as well as other Southeastern states, seems to lag behind many other states on the East and West coast in corporate initiatives for constructively confronting the problems associated with the AIDS epidemic. This posture is certainly not justified by the epidemiological data, which show the state to rank 8th in the nation in the incidence of AIDS cases.

Although various programs and public subscription conferences on the subject have been held in the state, these seem to fail to create the kind of commitment which would devote serious, widespread attention to the problem. One can speculate that this is the case, in part, due to one or more of the following: a)most publicly promoted programs seem to attract attendees several organizational levels below that which is required for formulating corporate strategy and allocating resources (e.g., employee relations or benefits people, instead of vice presidents for human resources); conferences focus on "how to" issues (e.g., develop an educational program), rather than on urging a broader, "strategic" attack on the problem; and c)such conferences do not facilitate the "networking" or "role modeling" which seems to be necessary in order to raise the comfort level of many executives in choosing a particular, proactive course of action. This latter point is especially important since various groups of top, private-sector people which have formed for this purpose have been very successful in stimulating activity (e.g., The National Leadership Coalition on AIDS, and local groups in San Francisco, New York, and Philadelphia).

To stimulate activity among Georgia's business leaders, a conference was held for the purpose of raising consciousness among leaders of Georgia trade and industry concerning the need to develop strategies for dealing with AIDS in the workplace. The purpose of this conference was to heighten awareness among top decision-makers in the business community, to educate them, to identify the major issues which will need to be addressed, to share other

companies' experiences, and to begin a process leading to corporate proactivity in dealing with this problem. The target population for the conference consisted of top executives of Georgia's largest companies. Attendance was by invitation only, with no fee charged. The conference was held on the campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology, January 26-27, 1989. The remainder of this report describes the work performed prior, during and after the conference and the results obtained.

Conference Planning

Conference planning was facilitated by the formation of a steering committee representing different expertise and views on the issues. The committee consisted of:

Dr. David M. Herold, Chair School of Management Georgia Institute of Technology

Dr. John L. Branch, Jr.
Director, Medical Dept.
Lockheed Aeronautical Systems Company

Dr. Murray Cohen
Office of the Director
National Institute for Occupational Health & Safety
Centers for Disease Control

Mr. Dale Reiner Manager, Corporate Safety Georgia Power Company

Mr. Terence Jacobs
Senior Vice President, Personnel
Trust Company Bank

Mr. James Joyner Director, Personnel YKK (U.S.A.) Inc.

Mr. John Robertson Director, Personnel Waffle House, Inc. This committee met several times, over a five months period, to discuss and shape the agenda, marketing, logistics, and other details of the conference. The main contributions of this group were to reflect a "corporate" view or reaction to what was being proposed, to sensitize the conference planner to corporate concerns, to discuss coverage by industry, geography and other aspects of the state's business and industry, and to assist in identifying target companies.

Conference Program

The conference program consisted of eight topical presentations as follows:

How AIDS Affects Your Workplace
David M. Herold, Ph.D.
School of Management
Georgia Institute of Technology

Epidemiological and Medical Status Report James O. Mason, M.D., Dr.P.H. Director Centers for Disease Control

What Your Employees Are Thinking
David M. Herold
School of Management
Georgia Institute of Technology

Regulatory Developments
R. Davis Layne
Regional Administrator
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Legal Developments
Edward Katze
Attorney
Constangy, Brooks, & Smith

Insurance and Other Economic Developments
Dan Dragalin, M.D.
Vice President, Medical Services
The Prudential

Communication, Education and Training Paul A. Ross, Ed.D. Manager, AIDS Program Office Digital Equipment Corporation

Corporate Response Mechanisms
William J. Perryman, CEAP
International Corporate EAP Manager
ALCOA

In addition, there was also a panel session entitled "Developing a Workable Strategy" which featured all of the above presenters, as well as a special address by B. J. Stiles, President of the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS. The session entitled: "What Your Employees Are Thinking" was used to share survey results obtained from Georgia workers on various aspects of their attitudes toward co-workers with AIDS.

Conference Attendees

The conference attracted 62 people representing 50 major employers in the state (some invitees asked to bring another person from their organization). Although the initial invitation always targeted a high level executive, e.g., vice president, the person initially contacted sometimes asked that someone else represent the organization, or accepted the invitation on behalf of the organization and sent a substitute. This resulted in a broader range of attendees than originally planned. The following organizations were represented:

American Yard Products, Inc.
Amerihealth, Inc.
AMOCO Fabrics & Fibers Co.
Atlanta, City of
Atlanta Health Care Alliance
Avon Products, Inc.
Barge-Wagener, Inc.
BellSouth Corp.
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Georgia
Centers for Disease Control
Colonial Pipeline Co.
Cox Enterprises, Inc.
Crawford and Co.
Digital Equipment Corp.

Eastman Kodak Co.

Electromagnetic Sciences, Inc.

Ford Motor Co.

Fulton Federal Savings & Loan

Georgia Department of Human Resources

Georgia Department of Industry and Trade

Georgia-Pacific Corp.

Georgia Power Co.

Haverty Furniture Companies, Inc.

HBO & Co.

Helping Hands of Atlanta

Hewlett-Packard Co.

IBM Corp.

Ivan Allen Co.

J.C. Penney Co.

Kleen Tex Industries, Inc.

Lockwood Greene Engineers, Inc.

Murata Erie North America

National Association of Printers & Lithographers

Norrell Corp.

Oxford Industries

John Portman & Associates

Pratt & Whitney

RJR Nabisco, Inc.

Robins Air Force Base

Rollins, Inc.

Scottish Rite Children's Hospital

Siemens Energy & Automation, Inc.

Southwire Co.

Swift Textiles, Inc.

Trust Company Bank

UNISYS

U.S. Dept. of Labor

United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta

Warner Robins Air Logistics Center

West Lumber Co.

Conference Evaluations

Brief, anonymous, evaluation questionnaires were sent to conference participants. Eighteen forms were returned, representing 36% of the organizations present.

In response to the question: "How informative was this conference?" participants rated the conference an average of 4.6 on a five-point scale ranging from "1" - not at all, to "5" - very.

To an open ended question -- "What topics or aspects did you find to be the most beneficial?" participants responded with a wide variety of the topics presented, as well as specific items mentioned by individual presenters. No particular pattern of responses was apparent.

Of particular interest was that portion of the questionnaire which asked about specific actions taken after attending the conference. To the question: "Have you initiated discussions on the topic with others?", 17 of 18 said "yes," with "upper management" and "boss" being the most often-mentioned targets, "corporate human relations" being next, and "friends," "AIDS task force," "staff," and "fellow employees" receiving a few mentions. To the question: "Have you shared any information from the conference with others?", again, the same 17 as above said "yes," with five saying they shared all information, while partial conference information was shared by the others. In response to the question: "Have you identified specific areas which need to be addressed by your organization?" everyone replied "yes," with "education" being the most frequently identified When asked whether they have "initiated any specific activities" related to the identified area of concern, 13 replied "no," and 5 replied "yes." When asked if they "prompted others to initiate" such activities, 10 said "no," while 6 said "yes."

Four respondents said their company had no AIDS policy, five said it was in the planning stage, six said it was assumed as part of a general policy on illness, while only three reported having an AIDS policy, one as part of a formal written policy about illness, and two focusing only on AIDS.

An attempt to capture the extent to which organizations engage in a variety of activities related to AIDS, from developing educational programs to hiring consultants, provided little useable information.

Finally, of the 18 responses, ten reported that they knew of employees in their organization who had AIDS, while four said that no employees had the disease, and four said they did not know.

These responses show that the conference was well-received, that it provided important information, and that some attempts at integrating this information into the various organizations did take place. In addition, the informal feedback during and after the conference was extremely positive, with many participants welcoming a "neutral" forum for finding out about the various issues, and indicating that more such opportunities should exist.

Furthermore, many participants welcomed the opportunity to network with others.

Summary

The Georgia Conference on Managing AIDS in the Workplace was an attempt to target a select audience from among the top employers in a state and expose them to a high-quality, diverse, business-related, non-commercial program focusing on the implications of the disease for employees and employers. This result was accomplished with considerable success as judged by the quality of the program, the organizations attending, and the formal and informal feedback received.

Although no single event can be responsible for creating major change, conferences such as this one can, and should be used to raise consciousness among business leaders. The workplace is a logical place for raising awareness about the disease, and workplace responses to persons with AIDS are of major concern. The use of universities for such conferences, and the targeting of a state or local audience may serve as a model for other such conferences.