

The people in this flyer are models. The models have no relation to the story or issue presented.



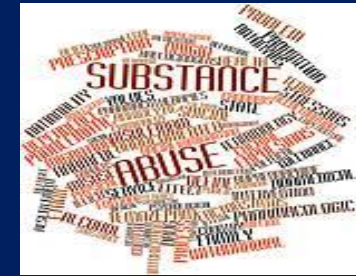
**Know YOUR Status!!!**

The LifeLine Project is a service of Cobb Community Services Board designed to help stop the spread of HIV and Hepatitis B and C among heterosexual African Americans with substance related disorders.

### Cobb Recovery Center

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- FREE Rapid HIV Testing
- HIV Awareness and Prevention
- Community Education and Presentations.



A Program of Cobb/Douglas  
Community Services Boards





## Did You Know?

- ✓ Georgia is ranked 5<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation for total number of adults and adolescents living with HIV infection.
- ✓ As of 2011 IV Injection Drug Users make up almost 10% of HIV cases diagnosed among adolescents and adults.
- ✓ 1 out of 8 individuals living with HIV do not know their status.
- ✓ About 80% of people with HIV who inject drugs also have Hepatitis C.
- ✓ African Americans make up 12% of the U.S. population but account for 44% of newly diagnosed HIV cases.

## Why Substance Abuse And HIV?

- ✓ Being under the influence of drugs and alcohol affects one's ability to make safe choices.
- ✓ Substance abuse lowers inhibitions leading an individual to taking risks less likely taken while sober, such as having sex without a condom.
- ✓ HIV can be transmitted by sharing needles or other "works" with an infected person.

## What If Someone Is Found To Be HIV Positive?

- ✓ First of all...DON'T PANIC!
- ✓ Advances in HIV treatment can drastically curtail and perhaps stop the progression of HIV to AIDS.
- ✓ The sooner treatment begins the better the outcome and risk reduction.
- ✓ LifeLine is staffed with trained professionals ready to assist with the lifestyle changes that HIV infection will require.

## LifeLine Requirements

- ✓ Identify as African American and heterosexual.
- ✓ Participate or plan to participate in substance abuse treatment.
- ✓ Agree to be tested for HIV.
- ✓ Participate in (4-5 weekly) HIV risk reduction skills building classes.

## Services Provided by LifeLine:

- ✓ Free Rapid HIV testing.
- ✓ Free condoms and literature.
- ✓ Free Hepatitis B and C testing.
- ✓ HIV prevention and support.
- ✓ Free seminars to help reduce stigmatizing behaviors.
- ✓ Linkage to Care for HIV patients.
- ✓ Healthcare Navigator/Case Manager and assistance with retention and re-engagement to care.
- ✓ Referrals to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services.
- ✓ Gender specific classes.



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