

for legislative leadership to Rep. Rick Glazier, the champion of the School Violence Prevention Act. Keynote speakers are GLAAD Executive Director Neal Giuliano and Alabama Rep. Patricia Todd.

There will be eight breakout sessions and a special session with state legislators moderated by WUNC Public Radio's capitol reporter Laura Leslie. Blogger Pam Spaulding will be moderating the session on race and ethnicity and Rev. Jimmy Creech will be moderating the session on faith and religion. Lunch and snacks are included in the conference registration fee and there will be numerous networking opportunities.

Individual registration for both events is \$125 through Oct. 22 (cost increases after this date) and individual sponsorship is \$175 (complimentary to those who have donated \$1,200 or more to ENC during calendar year 2007). A table sponsorship for 10 is \$1,500 or \$150 per person. Sponsors receive admittance to the pre-gala reception plus a listing in the program guide. Additionally, table sponsors receive a reserved table at the Gala.

Registration may be done separately for each of the events and college activists receive a special discounted rate. ENC encourages college students and activists to attend. Students who attend may be able to have their registration fees covered. For those interested, call Kay Flamino at 919-829-0343 or email kay@equalitync.org.

The dress code for the Gala is business casual — so don't worry if you're attending both events. Dress up or down — reflect the diversity of a strong community.

Early hotel reservations are encouraged

because the event takes place during Duke Parents Weekend. Accommodations in Durham may already be full, but there are plenty of places to stay in the Triangle.

For more information or to register, visit [www.equalitync.org/conference](http://www.equalitync.org/conference).

### ADAP broadens eligibility

RALEIGH — The Division of Public Health, the HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch and the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) announced on Sept. 24 that ADAP would expand its eligibility. The program, which provides life-saving medications to low-income people living with HIV/AIDS, will now offer assistance to persons with incomes up to 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

This increase was made possible by a change in state law that ENC, the NC AIDS Action Network and allies secured in the 2006 state budget. Prior to that time, North Carolina had the lowest eligibility level in the nation at 125 percent of FPL. That meant that a single person living with HIV who made more than \$13,000 per year was ineligible for assistance buying medicines that cost more than \$14,000 per year.

The 2006 change authorized the program to serve those up to 250 percent of FPL, but at that time there was only enough available funding to increase it to 200 percent.

"We applaud the HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch for finding the resources to expand this critical program to serve more low-income North Carolinians living with HIV/AIDS," said Ian Palmquist, ENC executive

director. "Although this is an important step forward, North Carolina continues to lag behind other states who are effectively treating and preventing transmission of HIV by opening their ADAP programs to more people. We call on the General Assembly to continue increasing their support for this program."

### Grants available

CHARLOTTE — The Charlotte Lesbian and Gay Fund is currently accepting applications from non-profit organizations for its 2007 Community Connections Grants Program.

Grants may be used to support the creation of programs, projects and events that address the mission of the Fund — to cultivate one community that supports lesbian and gay individuals and families.

Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded. Applicants must be non-profits, congregations, governmental or educational institutions that serve Mecklenburg County. Grants will be awarded to programs that build understanding and appreciation, as well as promote the value of inclusion within the organization's circle of influence, especially LGBT populations not previously targeted. Grantees must also cultivate opportunities for leadership by and the contributions of LGBT people as well as engage and include people from diverse backgrounds and sexual orientations in programs, services and organizational values.

Applications must be received by noon on Nov. 30.

Grant applications can be obtained by con-

tacting Vicki Jones, vice president of community philanthropy, at 704-973-4547 or email [vjones@fftc.org](mailto:vjones@fftc.org).

### Coastal fundraiser scheduled

WILMINGTON — Out Impact, an omni-media company focusing on making a positive impact within the gay community, presents an Evening To Benefit OutWilmington on Nov. 3 at 9 p.m. at Bottega Gallery, 206 N. Front St.

Festivities will include complimentary appetizers, wine and raffle prize drawings of items donated by area businesses and groups.

Sean Oakley will serve as emcee. Opening entertainment will be provided by singer/songwriter Kim Dicso and the evening will be headlined by ilyAIMY (I Love You and I Miss You) from Baltimore, Md.

Dicso is an out singer/songwriter originally from Stratford, Conn. She is currently writing and developing an album and performing in Eastern North Carolina and developing a tour.

Based upon the award-winning songwriting of Rob Hinkal and Heather Lloyd, ilyAIMY has been compared to Ani DiFranco and Nickel Creek tempered with Buckingham/Nicks in the fires of Tool and Jethro Tull with the rhythm of Rusted Root and the soul of the Muppets.

Admission is \$15 at the door with \$5 going toward OutWilmington.

For more information or to volunteer, call Bambi Weavil at 910-538-4309, email [bambi.weavil@outimpact.com](mailto:bambi.weavil@outimpact.com) or visit [www.outimpact.com](http://www.outimpact.com).

**info:** Announce your community event in NC News Notes. email: [editor@q-notes.com](mailto:editor@q-notes.com) or fax 704-531-1361.

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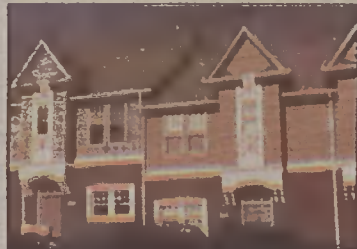
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Friday - September 14, 2007 - Healing Service 7pm  
Saturday - September 15, 2007 - Dinner 7-8 dance 8-midnight  
Sunday - September 16, 2007 - Worship 2:30pm