

# Action Bulletin

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## City Candidates Respond to AIDS Survey

Three candidates for mayor and 65 aldermanic candidates responded to a recent survey by the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

As a service to Chicagoans concerned about HIV/AIDS, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) surveyed 244 candidates for the Chicago City Council and mayor of Chicago on a range of critical AIDS public policy issues. While not endorsing

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**Remember to Vote  
Tuesday, February 25!**

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candidates for public office, AFC regularly surveys candidates and publishes the results in order to inform people with HIV/AIDS, their service providers and advocates, and the general public about candidates' positions on an array of important AIDS-related issues.

In addition to the multiple choice questionnaire, which posed four questions on HIV/AIDS prevention, testing, and housing policy, AFC invited mayoral candidates to submit written responses. Richard M. Daley and Patricia McAllister were the only candidates to submit written statements, which appear on pages 5-6.

Only responses from those candidates who were still on the ballot as of February 12, 2003, are reflected in this report. The citywide election will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2003. For information on voting locations, contact the Chicago Board of Elections at (312) 269-7976.

## AFC's 2003 City Candidate Questionnaire

The four questions posed to Chicago mayoral and aldermanic candidates appear below, along with AFC's position on each issue. The question numbers correspond to the column numbers on the report.

- 1. Do you support an increase of \$1 million or more in City corporate funding for community-based HIV prevention services as a strategy to address the escalating HIV/AIDS crisis in our city and to prevent new HIV infections?** *AFC answer: YES.*  
An increase in City funding for HIV prevention by \$1 million or more is needed to help offset decreased funding from the federal government and the state, to keep pace with the spread of the epidemic, and to offset past cuts in the City's corporate funding for HIV/AIDS.
- 2. Do you support mandatory HIV testing under any circumstances?** *AFC answer: NO.* Mandatory HIV testing breaches confidentiality and may alienate individuals at high risk for HIV from accessing essential prevention and treatment services.
- 3. Do you support placing the City's rental assistance program under the control of a third-party administrator?** *AFC answer: YES.* An estimated 5,400 HIV-positive Chicagoans are homeless or require some form of housing assistance. The City currently administers a rental assistance program that issues checks to low-income Chicagoans who require assistance paying their rent. Delays in issuing the checks can cause considerable harm to applicants, however. A third-party administrator could process applications more efficiently. Indeed, the state's homeless prevention fund, which is independent of the City's program, is already administered by a non-governmental organization.
- 4. Do you support comprehensive, age-appropriate, and medically accurate health education that includes sexuality and HIV prevention education for grades kindergarten through 12 in all Chicago public schools?** *AFC answer: YES.* Young people who receive comprehensive, age-appropriate, health, sexuality, and HIV/STD prevention education are more likely to delay having their first sexual experience than those who do not receive such education. Once sexually active, they are also more likely to use condoms than their counterparts who did not receive such comprehensive and accurate information.

### About the Report

Responses in support of AFC's positions are noted as "+". Responses in opposition to AFC's positions are noted as "-". Qualified support for AFC's positions are noted with "Q". The answer "don't know" is noted as "?".

In addition, the report provides a percentage for each candidate that reflects the degree to which the candidate's responses are in full agreement with AFC's positions.

The report lists races where at least one candidate responded. Candidates whose names were removed from the ballot as of February 12, 2003, are not included in the report.

## CITY OFFICES

(+)=supports AFC position (Q)=qualified support for AFC position (-)=opposes AFC position (?)=doesn't know

Office		1	2	3	4	% in agreement with AFC
<b>MAYOR</b>	<i>Richard M. Daley</i>	Q	+	Q	+	50%
	Paul L. Jakes, Jr.					
	Joseph McAfee	+	+	-	+	75%
	Patricia McAllister	+	+	?	+	75%
<b>1<sup>st</sup> WARD</b>	Howard L. Crawford, Jr.	+	+	+	+	100%
	Manuel "Manny" Flores	+	+	+	+	100%
	<i>Jesse D. Granato</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> WARD</b>	Jerome J. (Jerry) Green	+	+	?	+	75%
	<i>Madeline L. Haithcock</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
	Willie May					
	Galen L. McGee					
	Bobby R. Morris					
	Eddie Winters					
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> WARD</b>	Pat Dowell	+	+	-	+	75%
	Dorothy Olivier-Harris					
	Kenneth "Kenny" Sawyer					
	<i>Dorothy J. Tillman</i>					
<b>4<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	Norman H. Bolden	+	+	+	+	100%
	<i>Toni Preckwinkle</i>	+	-	-	+	50%
<b>5<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	Anthony T. Blair	+	-	?	+	50%
	Carolyn Hightower Chalmers					
	<i>Leslie A. Hairston</i>	+	+	-	+	75%
	Oscar Worrill					
<b>6<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	Eugene C. Davis	+	+	+	+	100%
	<i>Freddrenna M. Lyle</i>	Q	-	?	+	25%
	Eli Washington	+	-	+	+	75%
	Willye B. White					
<b>8<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	James Daniels	+	?	-	+	50%
	John Davis	+	+	+	+	100%
	Derrick Prince					
	<i>Todd Stroger</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
	Shannon Washington					
<b>9<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	<i>Anthony A. Beale</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
	Reginald C. Hughes					
	Necole K. Muhammad	+	?	+	+	75%
	Harold "Noonie" Ward					
<b>11<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	<i>James A. Balcer</i>	Q	+	Q	+	50%
	Carl A. Segvich					
<b>12<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	George A. Cardenas					
	<i>Rafael "Ray" Frias</i>	+	+	+	?	75%
	Jose I. "Chavelo" Rodriguez					
<b>15<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	Teresa Chandler					
	Vesta Lewis Dixon					
	Virgil E. Jones					
	Bob Love					
	Sandra L. Mallory					
	Michael Smith	+	+	?	+	75%
	<i>Theodore "Ted" Thomas</i>					
<b>18<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	Livia Villarreal					
	Richard Brown					
	<i>Thomas W. Murphy</i>	+	?	+	+	75%
	Lavese A. Smith					
	Sydney A. Washington					
<b>20<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>	Kimberly Allen-Jones					
	Howard Kenner					
	Donna Jean Ramey					
	<i>Arenda Troutman</i>					
	Lydia L. Watts	+	+	+	+	100%

*Incumbents in Italics*

## CITY OFFICES

(+)=supports AFC position (Q)=qualified support for AFC position (-)=opposes AFC position (?)=doesn't know

Office	1	2	3	4	% in agreement with AFC
<b>21<sup>st</sup> WARD</b>					
Kevin Ammons					
Howard B. Brookins, Jr.					
<i>Leonard DeVille</i>	+	+	-	+	75%
Barbara J. Jones (B.J.)	+	-	+	Q	50%
Woody T. Rembert					
Adrienne A. Smith	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>25<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
Ambrosio Medrano					
<i>Daniel S. Solis</i>					
Antonio Zotta	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>26<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
Elida M. Cruz	+	+	+	+	100%
<i>Billy Ocasio</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>27<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
<i>Walter Burnett, Jr.</i>	+	-	?	?	25%
Earnest L. Thomas					
<b>29<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
<i>Isaac "Ike" Sims Carothers</i>					
Marshall E. Hatch, Sr.	+	+	Q	Q	50%
Wayne A. Strnad					
<b>30<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
Joseph L. "Jose" Pagan					
Ariel E. Reboyras	+	+	+	+	100%
Miguel Sotomayor					
Julio Vargas					
<b>32<sup>nd</sup> WARD</b>					
<i>Ted Matlak</i>					
Jay Stone	+	-	+	+	75%
<b>35<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
<i>Vilma Colom</i>					
Rey Colon	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>36<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
<i>William J.P. Banks</i>	+	-	+	+	75%
<b>37<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
Victor Guzman					
Arlene P. Jones					
<i>Emma M. Mitts</i>	+	+	-	+	75%
Minerva Orozco	+	+	+	+	100%
Secdonia Terry	+	-	+	+	75%
<b>39<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
<i>Margaret Laurino</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>40<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
<i>Patrick J. O'Connor</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>41<sup>st</sup> WARD</b>					
Shari Marie Centrone	?	?	?	?	0%
Wayne C. Dembowski					
<i>Brian G. Doherty</i>					
Mike Marzullo					
Gloria Jean Sykes					
<b>42<sup>nd</sup> WARD</b>					
Richard R. Gordon					
<i>Burton F. Natarus</i>	+	+	-	+	75%
<b>44<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
Matthew A. Fordham					
Rick Ingram	+	+	+	+	100%
Karen Kennedy	+	+	+	Q	75%
Dean Maragos	+	+	+	+	100%
<i>Thomas M. Tunney</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>46<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
Sandra M. Reed	+	+	?	+	75%
<i>Helen Shiller</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>47<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
John J. "Jack" Lydon					
<i>Gene Schulter</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>48<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
Kurt James Eckhardt					
<i>Mary Ann Smith</i>	+	+	+	+	100%
<b>49<sup>th</sup> WARD</b>					
Tom Bradley					
Michael J. Harrington	+	+	-	+	75%
<i>Joe Moore</i>	+	+	+	+	100%

*Incumbents in Italics*

## WRITTEN STATEMENTS BY CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR OF CHICAGO

AFC invited mayoral candidates Richard M. Daley, Paul L. Jakes, Jr., Joseph McAfee, and Patricia McAllister to submit written statements on the HIV/AIDS issues detailed in the Candidate Questionnaire.

### **Richard M. Daley**

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"Do you support an increase of \$1 million or more in City corporate funding for community-based HIV prevention services as a strategy to address the escalating HIV/AIDS crisis in our city and to prevent new HIV infections?"

Yes, if we can. With the slowdown in the nation's economy, revenues are plunging for cities and states across the country. And our city has not been immune. But, because Chicago was one of the few local or state governments in the nation to anticipate the slowdown, we were able to avoid the drastic cuts in our 2003 budget with which so many cities and states are now contending. Understanding the importance of the escalating and changing HIV/AIDS crisis, while the Department of Public Health's budget is down \$13 million for the coming year, we have maintained our corporate commitment to HIV/AIDS funding at \$3.6 million. We have also continued aggressive efforts to secure grants at the federal level, resulting in an overall budget of about \$40 million for HIV/AIDS programming.

We are also looking for other ways to help. In 2002, the City sold 20 vacant parcels near Roosevelt Road and Kedzie Avenue to AIDSCare for a nominal fee of \$1 per lot for the development of a \$11 million HIV/AIDS care campus. This land has an appraised value of \$440,000. The North Lawndale AIDSCare Campus will be a national model, in that it will be the first in the country to offer such a wide range of services in a centralized campus setting. It will provide supportive living for those who require direct, HIV-related care, independent housing for those requiring less daily services, and medical treatment and counseling for all of the residents.

Again, we are committed to this issue and will certainly keep the request in mind as we prepare our 2004 Budget, but much depends on economic recovery.

"Do you support mandatory HIV testing under any circumstances?"

No. There is no evidence that suggests that mandatory testing achieves public health goals. To quote the Joint United Nation Program on HIV/AIDS, "Voluntary HIV testing accompanied by counseling has a vital role to play within a comprehensive range of measures for HIV/AIDS prevention and support, and should be encouraged. The potential benefits of testing and counseling for the individual include improved health status through good nutritional advice and earlier access to care and treatment/prevention for HIV-related illness; emotional support; better ability to cope with HIV-related anxiety; awareness of safer options for reproduction and infant feeding; and motivation to initiate or maintain safer sexual and drug-related behaviors."

"Do you support placing the City's rental assistance program under the control of a third-party administrator?"

Yes, if it's needed. I am certainly sensitive to the trauma that housing instability can cause to an already vulnerable population. I also have no problem accepting that someone else can deliver a service better, and more efficiently, than government. Moving fiscal administration of programs to a third-party often enables the City to focus on ensuring that quality services are being delivered to the people who need them. We are already using or seeking third-party administrators for other programs, such as Ryan White Title I, for the very reasons you mention. I believe the AIDS Foundation is already the third-party administrator for the Department of Public Health's rental assistance program. I would be open to looking at third-party administration for other rental assistance programs as well, if City processes are causing delays that put people at risk.

"Do you support comprehensive, age-appropriate and medically accurate health education that includes sexuality and HIV prevention education for grades kindergarten through 12 in all Chicago public schools?"

Yes. The Chicago Public School's Family Life & AIDS Education Program contains a sex education component that values abstinence and, at age appropriate levels, discusses contraceptives and condoms. Beginning in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students receive instruction on the causes and prevention of STDs, including HIV. I support the decisions of the Chicago Board of Education and its health education experts regarding the content of the public school family life and AIDS education curriculum.

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**Paul L. Jakes, Jr.**

No response.

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**Joseph McAfee**

See candidate questionnaire response on page 4.

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**Patricia McAllister**

Thank you very much for allowing me to submit a statement concerning HIV/AIDS in Chicago. I am going to address some of the current issues of your organization.

City Funding: I totally support an increase of \$1 million in funding for HIV prevention services. At the rate that AIDS is increasing in Chicago, I find that it is unreasonable that the mayor and the city council should have to debate on this issue. Note: There was no debate for the raises of the mayor and the aldermen.

Syringe Availability Campaign: I also agree with the issue of allowing adults to purchase sterile syringes at pharmacies without a prescription.

According to a report: "After reviewing all of the research to date, the senior scientists of the Department and I have unanimously agreed that there is conclusive scientific evidence that syringe exchange programs, as part of a comprehensive HIV prevention strategy, are an effective public health intervention that reduces the transmission of HIV and does not encourage the use of illegal drugs."

Source: US Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher, Department of Health and Human Services, Evidence-Based Findings on the Efficacy of Syringe Exchange Programs: An Analysis from the Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General of the Scientific Research Completed Since April 1998 (Washington, DC: Dept. of Health and Human Services, 2000), from the website of the Harm Reduction Coalition at <http://www.harmreduction.org/surgreview.html>.

To conclude, I will say that I support the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, and that I will work to do everything in my power to secure the funding, and all other sources of support that this organization needs, in our hope to eliminate this disease.