

October 2019

Dear BCAP Supporter,

As a young singer, I was deeply influenced by Freddie Mercury of the band Queen. When I learned my idol had died of AIDS-related complications, I researched all I could about HIV and at the early age of twelve, my career path began to take direction. After college, I worked in Nicaragua as a Peace Corps Volunteer teaching HIV prevention to teenagers. There, I enjoyed becoming a trusted adult in the lives of my students who shared their personal stories and sensitive questions with me.

The rewards of working with youth continue to energize me in my role of Prevention Manager at Boulder County AIDS Project (BCAP). One of the programs I coordinate is BCAP's Speakers Bureau. For over 25 years, this program has provided powerful and age-appropriate classroom presentations in Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) and St. Vrain Valley School District (SVVSD). Our goals remain to establish BCAP as a credible resource for youth, replace myths with facts, reduce HIV transmission, and end HIV stigma.

BCAP's Speakers Bureau provides two presentations: *HIV 101* and *Positive Perspectives*. *HIV 101* is a scientifically based, medically accurate presentation that covers the definitions of HIV & AIDS, statistics, transmission, risk reduction, testing, and treatment. *Positive Perspectives* is a presentation delivered by people living with HIV who share their stories and experiences.

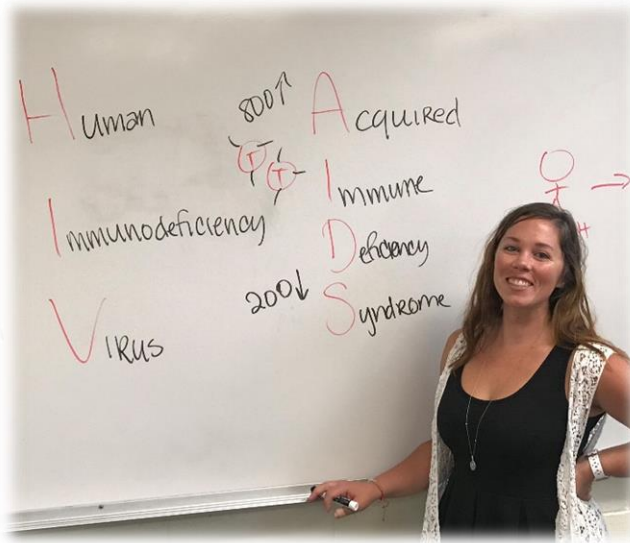
Many teachers request both presentations to enrich their students' learning. Kailen Stover, a Health teacher at Broomfield High School, shares: *"BCAP speakers... do a great job engaging students in the presentation and cultivating a non-judgmental environment in the classroom where all students can learn. The Positive Perspectives presentation is one of the most talked about and impactful presentations in my class. The students truly identify and empathize with the speaker. This helps break down HIV stigma, which is still an issue in our community."*



In the 2018-2019 academic year, BCAP conducted 233 presentations to 25 schools reaching 3,973 youth, aged 18 and younger in BVSD and SVVSD.

"Thank you for teaching us. I will remember the information, especially the name BCAP, so if my friends or I worry, there is somewhere we can go to get help."

- Centaurus High School Student



Education is essential to preventing the further transmission of HIV. BCAP provides classroom presentations in 25 schools, and we are committed to reaching more youth every year. Since 2015, seven middle and high schools have added BCAP's presentations to their health curriculum!

BCAP's Prevention Programs rely on the support of our community members. **A gift from you today will help raise \$5,000 to further grow our Speakers Bureau Program, expanding into more schools and reaching more young people. Your generosity will**

allow BCAP to maintain the high quality presentations that youth in our schools deserve.

Thank you for standing with BCAP in the belief that educating our youth is an essential strategy in creating a future where HIV transmission is rare.

Sincerely,

Carli Dean
BCAP Prevention Manager

P.S. For more information about BCAP and HIV, visit our website at www.bcap.org and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.