

Peter A. Laqueur MSW
AIDS Institute - Division of HIV Prevention

I have worked in the field of AIDS since 1983 and was a co-founder of Baltimore Hero, one of the first CBO's started to address AIDS. My activities in HIV/AIDS in New York date to 1987 when I came to Brooklyn to start an AIDS program at Woodhull Hospital, one of NYC Health and Hospital Corporation's facilities. While I was there the program grew from one funded program to eight and became the first HHC Designated AIDS Center.

Since 1993 I have been with the AIDS Institute in various positions. Currently I am Liaison in the Division of HIV Prevention reporting directly to the Director. My responsibilities include LGBT coordination, collaboration with the Bureau of STDC, development of internet guidelines and activities, Project W.A.V.E., and special projects. Major accomplishments include the Gay Men MSM Forum held in 2006, the development of an internal internet workgroup and assisting the In Our Own Voices project in developing the first statewide institute for transgender in February 2008.

My heart and soul is with local groups working to provide services, education and assistance to people at risk of and infected with HIV. I am a 60-year old gay man who became HIV infected four years ago -- draw your own conclusions. Outside of work my passions are gardening, cooking, entertaining and dancing. I have a wicked sense of humor and have an equal distain for anyone who discriminates.

When asked to describe myself I usually respond: I am a German Jew with a French-sounding name, born in Istanbul, Turkey raised in West Virginia, baptized a Presbyterian, schooled in a Quaker College, gay and HIV-positive -- who loves life and people.

I have a MSW from West Virginia University and BA in Political Science from Earlham College. I have presented at a number of HIV/AIDS conferences over the years.