



God
entrusts
us to one another

SECCAM08

1ST ASSEMBLY OF THE SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE
OF CATHOLIC AIDS MINISTERS
AUGUST 12-16, 2008 · NORCROSS, GEORGIA

Registration Packet

**Guest Speakers:**

- Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo, Special Advisor on HIV & AIDS to Caritas Internationalis, Geneva, Switzerland
- Sr./Dr. Jamie Phelps, OP, director, Institute for Black Catholic Studies, Xavier University, New Orleans
- Sr. Mary Annel, MM, MD, director, Equipo Contra SIDA, San Salvador
- Rev. Kenneth Overberg, SJ, moral theologian and professor, Xavier University, Cincinnati
- Sr. Rachel Sena, OP, director, Maya Ministry, Diocese of Palm Beach
- Ms. Irene F. Miranda, director, Office of HIV & AIDS Ministry, Archdiocese of Atlanta
- Mrs. Martha Carter-Bailey, director, Office of African Ancestry and Evangelization, Diocese of Raleigh
- Mrs. Beryl Andrade, director, Office of Family Life and Pastoral Care, Diocese of Orlando
- Mrs. Patricia Chivers, director, Office of Communications, Archdiocese of Atlanta
- Mr. Nick Danna, director, Living Room, Atlanta
- Mr. Derick Fabien, director, Bethesda House, Sarasota
- Ms. Ainhoa Tollinche, theology professor, St. Brendan Catholic High School, Miami
- Kenneth Dominguez, MD, MPH, CDR USPHS, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta
- Persons Living with HIV or AIDS

Topics include:

- The Big Picture: The Church and the AIDS Pandemic
- The Black Catholic Church Responds to AIDS: A Report from the National Black Catholic Congress
- Unique Challenges of AIDS Ministry in the Southeast
- HIV & AIDS Education and Outreach to Historically Marginalized Populations
- AIDS and the Consistent Ethic of Life
- Living with AIDS in Rural America
- Catholic Social Teaching and the Pastoral Response to HIV & AIDS
- Homelessness and AIDS
- Stigma: The Other Virus
- Panel: Living with HIV & AIDS
- AIDS Awareness and Prevention Education in Catholic Schools
- Sharing the Good News About Your HIV & AIDS Ministry

Opening Liturgy**Tuesday, August 12, 2008, 7:00 pm**

Principal Celebrant and Homilist: The Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory, Archbishop of Atlanta

Liturgical Musicians

Lori True, Tony Alonso (GIA Publications); Ryan Johnson (Lion and Lamb Publishers)

For more information visit www.seccam.org

Note: SECCAM reserves the right to change or modify topics or speakers.

ADDRESSING THE NEW CHALLENGES OF AIDS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, The Southeastern Conference of Catholic AIDS Ministers (SECCAM) was established in May of 2007 to respond to the growing need for a Catholic-based response to the AIDS epidemic in the Southeastern region of the United States. It emerged from a concern of AIDS ministers and lay ecclesial ministers about the root causes leading to the rise of HIV infections in the South, now considered the "epicenter" of the second wave of AIDS in the country.

Inspired by Catholic social teaching, SECCAM acknowledges the God-given dignity of each human being and advocates for just programs which allow access for all people to prevention education, early testing, healthcare treatment (including medications), spiritual accompaniment, and support for all our brothers and sisters infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. As Catholics, we believe that our faith community is well-positioned to positively respond to the crisis with its teachings, ministries and structures to promote the Catholic HIV and AIDS prevention, awareness and education message.

The Catholic Church has a proven record of providing compassionate care through its many global programs and initiatives. SECCAM focuses attention on the People of God in the Southeastern region of the U.S. who are at risk of HIV infection and whose access to medical care and treatment from federal and state-funded secular AIDS service organizations is very limited or non-existent.

Our increasing concern stems from recent public health data showing that the South, specifically, now accounts for the highest number of new infections; the largest number of people living with AIDS; and the greatest number of AIDS-related deaths. We are witnessing the devastation this epidemic is causing among our friends and families, in our parishes and in the general community.



We have seen how HIV and AIDS keep snatching precious lives among our youth, the poor, the elderly and the marginalized. There are unique challenges faced by persons impacted by HIV and AIDS in the region: the shortage of medical specialists in rural areas, the widespread lack of awareness, the ingrained stigma and consequent discrimination converge in a humanitarian crisis deserving of an immediate and focused Christ-like response.

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SECCAM encourages Catholic ministries, lay ecclesial ministers, parishes, schools and dioceses to establish creative collaborations for integrating the response of the Catholic Church to the HIV and AIDS crisis into their particular programs and ministries. Our initial step is to invite you to join us at a retreat facility in Norcross, Georgia for our first SECCAM Assembly, SECCAM '08. Join us to reflect and pray, think and learn, listen and speak, share and receive, mourn and celebrate, rest and work. There is a lot of work to do for all the lives touched by HIV and AIDS.

God entrusts us to one another. We hope you can join us in Norcross, Georgia from August 12 - 16.

In Christ, our Hope,

The SECCAM '08 Planning Team

GENERAL INFORMATION

ABOUT THE VENUE

THE LODGE at Simpsonwood is located in a beautiful wooded property nestled along the banks of the Chattahoochee River, 40 minutes northeast of Downtown Atlanta. It is a Christian adult and family **retreat center** whose purpose is to offer a site for conferences and retreats for worship, study, music, recreation, fellowship, and mission in the Judeo-Christian tradition. The Lodge at Simpsonwood welcomes secular and non-profit service groups who offer wholesome, education conferences and programs. It is a Christian ministry of hospitality offering a serene setting for renewal, reflection, relaxation, and enrichment of the mind, body, and spirit through Jesus Christ.

WEATHER IN NORCROSS

Mid-August in North Georgia is warm; temperatures usually reach and may rise above the upper 80s . However, all sessions will take place in air conditioned rooms, so bringing a sweater is recommended, as well as comfortable walking shoes and an umbrella for possible showers.

HOW TO GET THERE

Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport (Code: ATL) www.atlanta-airport.com

ATL has long been known as a major connecting hub serving numerous destinations around the globe. Book your reservations early to get the best rates.

Transportation to SECCAM '08

For an additional **\$67.50**, participants can obtain **roundtrip ground transportation** from the Atlanta airport (ATL) to The Lodge at Simpsonwood and back. Those who choose this option will be served by Sir Ellison Travel Services, a company recommended by The Lodge at Simpsonwood and with a proven record of reliability and responsibility. However, participants are always free to select the transportation of their choice. SECCAM nor The Lodge at Simpsonwood will be held responsible for lost rides, no-shows or other transportation entanglements.

Other Shared Rides services are:

Airport Perimeter Connection	Phone: (404) 761-0260	
AAA Airport Express	Phone: (404) 767-2000	www.aaaairportexpress.com
Airport Metro Shuttle	Phone: (404) 766-6666	www.airportmetro.com
Atlanta Hotel Connections	Phone: (404) 641-0962	www.atlantashuttle.net
Atlanta Superior Shuttle	Phone: (770) 457-4794	www.atlsuperiorshuttle.com
Gwinnett Airport Shuttle	Phone: (770) 638-0666	www.gashuttle.com

Ground Transportation from the Airport

- Taxi service is available at the airport. (Check with taxi service for current rates.)
- If you take the Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA): Board the DORAVILLE train at the airport. Exit the train at the Doraville station. Taxis are available at the taxi stand. For schedules, cost and further information, visit www.itsmarta.com.

- **Car Rentals**

Alamo	(800) 327-9633	www.alamo.com
Avis	(800) 331-1212	www.avis.com
Budget	(800) 527-0700	www.budget.com
Dollar	(800) 800-3665	www.dollar.com
EZ Rent A Car	(800) 277-5171	www.e-zrentacar.com
Hertz	(800) 654-3131	www.hertz.com
National	(800) 227-7368	www.nationalcar.com
Payless	(800) 729-5377	www.paylesscarrental.com
Thrifty Car Rental	(800) 847-4389	www.thrifty.com



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is SECCAM and why was it founded?

SECCAM stands for **S**outheastern **C**onference of **C**atholic **A**IDS **M**inisters. SECCAM was born from the need to strengthen the pastoral response to the People of God impacted by AIDS and addressing specifically the causes of the rising rate of HIV infections in the Southeastern region, now considered "ground zero" for the second wave of the epidemic in the United States. For many years now, the belief that "AIDS is under control" in the United States has resulted in the closing of many diocesan Catholic AIDS ministries. These days, and as the disease continues to take a toll among the poorest of the poor in the U.S., the thirst for a response has been met by a drought in resources.

Last year, directors from several diocesan ministries in the Southeast region of the United States who had recognized the urgency for strengthening the Catholic response to the AIDS crisis in their region, participated in a meeting in Georgia, hosted by the Archdiocese of Atlanta's Office of HIV and AIDS Ministry. As a result of that meeting, they committed to the establishment of a collaborative effort with the goal of assisting the Catholic Church in addressing the root causes leading to the rise of HIV infections in the region, while extending the Catholic response to the epidemic. On May 24, 2007, Feast of Mary, Help of Christians, SECCAM was born.

Who will benefit from this Assembly?

No matter where you live, everyone who is genuinely interested in assisting the Catholic Church in its pastoral response to the AIDS pandemic will benefit from SECCAM '08. We invite diocesan directors, school principals, lay ministers, directors of formation, clergy, religious, DRE's, parishes and schools to join us and learn how to establish creative collaborations for integrating the Church's response to the HIV and AIDS crisis into their particular programs. Catholic AIDS ministers are particularly invited to share their knowledge, experience and programs with those eager to learn.

What should I expect from SECCAM '08?

SECCAM '08 is an assembly without pretensions, with the goal of offering an opportunity for education and formation for Catholics who are honestly interested in addressing the AIDS crisis, while furthering the goals of

Catholic AIDS Ministry. As a Catholic faith-and-Spirit-filled event, the Roman Catholic liturgy plays a central role in SECCAM '08. At the same time, the fact that SECCAM '08 will take place at a retreat center presents an opportunity for participants to receive much needed spiritual nourishment and physical rest.

Is SECCAM '08 the new NCAN conference? Did it move to Atlanta?

The National Catholic AIDS Network (NCAN) held its final gathering in July of 2007 in Chicago, IL, where it had taken place for almost two decades. As of August 31, 2007, the National Catholic AIDS Network ceased its staffing and office operations. SECCAM is certainly grateful to the National Catholic AIDS Network for its many years of leadership in the Catholic response to the AIDS crisis in the United States.

Although SECCAM '08 is not "the NCAN Conference," it will certainly focus on issues surrounding the AIDS crisis at the global and national levels, as well as the urgency in facing the challenges presented by the changing face of AIDS in the United States.

SECCAM strongly encourages the establishment of similar regional Catholic AIDS organizations to focus in addressing the challenges that HIV and AIDS bring to their particular geographical areas.

Are there scholarships available for the Assembly?

We are trying very hard to obtain funding for scholarships but so far they have been hard to come by. We ask for the generosity of the People of God to sponsor persons living with HIV or AIDS, or in financial need, so they may participate in SECCAM '08. Keep checking our website, www.seccam.org, for updates on scholarships.

Will you provide interpretation for Spanish-speaking participants?

We are doing our best to find sponsors to cover the cost of interpreters during the general sessions.

How can I help?

Prayers are always needed! An offering can help sponsor participants who are in financial need, as well as covering other assembly costs. If you would like to partner with us and learn about sponsorship opportunities for SECCAM '08, send us an email at seccaminfo@gmail.com.

We appreciate your generosity and ask the Lord to bless you abundantly!



Please read before completing the Registration Form

- All Assembly attendees, either full-time, part-time or commuters, must register.
- Registration is not confirmed until payment has been effected and applicant receives written confirmation.
- Participants may opt to include an additional payment for **roundtrip ground transportation** from Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson Airport (ATL) to The Lodge at Simpsonwood and back. Please, check Page 4 and Registration Form for details.
- **If you have special mobility needs:** Please let us know on the Registration Form.
- **Cancellation Requests:** Requests to cancel your registration for the Assembly must be submitted in writing to: SECCAM/Office of AIDS Ministry, Archdiocese of Atlanta, 680 W. Peachtree St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30308, no later than June 15, 2008. A \$75.00 refund-processing fee will apply. Refunds will be processed after the conclusion of SECCAM '08 and will be issued by check. **No refunds will be made for requests received after July 10, 2008.**
- Refunds will **not** be reimbursed for no-shows.
- **Room Sharing:** If you have already identified a roommate with whom you will be sharing a room, please list the name on the registration form. However, as the primary reservation holder, you will be responsible for paying the full cost of the room.
- **If you don't have a roommate but would like to share a room,** you will be responsible for paying your portion of the room cost upon registration.
- In an effort to minimize your housing expense, we will make every attempt to match you with a roommate, but we cannot guarantee that a roommate will be found for you. Roommates are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Neither SECCAM, its affiliates nor The Lodge at Simpsonwood assume any responsibility for roommate incompatibility.
- In the unlikely event that we are unable to match you with a roommate, you will be responsible for paying the total room cost, and the balance of the charges will be due on **June 30, 2008.**
- Shared rooms have two queen-sized beds. Rollaway beds, air mattresses or sleeping bags are not allowed.
- Commuter rates are available only to participants who live within 60 miles of the venue. Those who will not participate in the entire Assembly will be charged the daily registration fee and the single room rate.
- **In case of an emergency,** SECCAM '08 organizers would like to be able to contact your loved ones without delay. We are creating a special file with emergency names and phone numbers for all registered attendees. As with all our proprietary information, it will remain confidential. Please provide us with emergency contacts and phone numbers on your registration form. *We cannot stress enough how important and critical this information is.* Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.
- The Lodge at Simpsonwood, SECCAM nor any of the dioceses and/or ministries related to SECCAM will be held liable for lost or stolen items, accidents, injuries, or any mishaps sustained by any participant attending the Assembly.
- The SECCAM '08 Team has worked diligently to ensure an environment where all participants will feel safe and respected. SECCAM reserves the right to request any attendee to leave the premises immediately if his/her behavior is not in accordance with the norms of peace, compassion and non-judgment. SECCAM will not be responsible for any charges incurred by such attendee as a result of this early departure. Furthermore, by being asked to leave, the attendee forfeits the right to a refund of the registration fees or its balance.
- By registering for SECCAM '08 participants agree to be photographed, videotaped, and/or recorded during the Assembly and such photography, videotape, and/or recording may be edited or modified and distributed by SECCAM in any format chosen.
- No person or organizations other than SECCAM may photograph, audiotape, or videotape any portion of the presentations.
- Catholic press coverage will be provided by *The Georgia Bulletin*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. For more information, please contact the Archdiocese of Atlanta's Office of HIV and AIDS Ministry at aidsministry@archatl.com.
- SECCAM reserves the right to change speakers or modify the program.



In order to participate in the Assembly, all registrants must agree with the provisions stated above. Thank you.



1st Assembly of the Southeastern Conference of Catholic AIDS Ministers
August 12-16, 2008 Norcross, GA

Registration Form

Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. Most Rev. Msgr. Rev. Sr. Bro. Dr. Rev. Mr.

Name: _____

(Arch) Diocese and Dept. or Organization: _____

Position: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone(s): _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Emergency Name and Contact Number: _____

T-Shirt - Please state size (available in Medium to 3XL): _____ (One T-shirt included with paid registration. Additional shirts: \$15/each)

Registration Fees:

Check One: Early Bird Fee (Postmarked by **Saturday, May 31, 2008**): \$360

Regular Fee (Postmarked by **Monday, June 30, 2008**): \$395

Room and Board (Rates are per person and include meals, and state and occupancy taxes):

Please check ONE of these options

OPTION 1: Attending the Entire Assembly (beginning Tue., Aug. 12 at 5:00 pm through Sat., Aug. 16, 2008 at Noon)

SINGLE Room (\$140/day = **\$560 TOTAL**) **DOUBLE (Shared) Room** (\$105/day = **\$420 TOTAL**)

OPTION 2: Attending one, two or three days only.

Daily Fee for Registration: \$100/day **Single Room Rate for Room and Board:** \$140/day

Day(s) attending: Wed. Aug. 13 Thurs. Aug. 14 Fri. Aug. 15

I need Room and Board for the following date(s): _____



Roundtrip Ground Transportation from the Atlanta Airport (ATL) to The Lodge at Simpsonwood and back is available for an additional **\$67.50** per person. *If you want to make your own transportation arrangements, or for more information about transportation to the Assembly, please refer to page 4 of this packet.*

If you are including \$67.50 for transportation, please check here. _____




Registration Form (Continued)

Commuter Rates (Only for persons living within 60 miles from venue)

Please, check the sessions you will attend:

Wednesday, Aug. 13: ___ Morning Session \$60 ___ Afternoon Session \$60 ___ Full Day \$100
 Thursday, Aug. 14: ___ Morning Session \$60 ___ Afternoon Session \$60 ___ Full Day \$100
 Friday, Aug. 15: ___ Morning Session \$60 ___ Afternoon Session \$60 ___ Full Day \$100
 Saturday, Aug. 16: ___ Morning Session \$60



I WANT TO HELP!
 Enclosed is my love offering of \$_____ to help fund the participation of a person living with or affected by HIV/AIDS; of a participant in financial need; or to help cover assembly costs.



Special Needs
 ___ Check here if you have mobility needs that require special attention.
 ___ Check here if you need wheelchair access.

By signing and submitting this registration form, I certify that I understand and agree with the provisions described on page 6 of the Registration Packet.

Signature _____

Date _____

Method of Payment

Make a check or money order payable to Archdiocese of Atlanta and specifying "AIDS Ministry - SECCAM '08" on the Memo line. Mail registration form along with payment to:

Archdiocese of Atlanta
Office of HIV and AIDS Ministry/SECCAM '08
680 W. Peachtree St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30308-1984

Early Bird Registration Deadline: May 31, 2008

General Registration deadline: June 30, 2008

Registration is not confirmed until payment has been effected and applicant receives written confirmation.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RCV'D IN ATLANTA: MM/DD/YYYY INITIALS: _____

RCV'D IN RALEIGH: MM/DD/YYYY INITIALS: _____

PROCESSING DATE: MM/DD/YYYY INITIALS: _____

(E)MAIL CONFIRMATION DATE: MM/DD/YYYY

SENT TO RALEIGH: MM/DD/YYYY INITIALS: _____

INITIALS: _____

COMMENTS: