



CASEY HOUSE

CASEY HOUSE WELCOMES WORLD-RENOWNED HIV/AIDS EXPERT

Dr. Mark Wainberg keynote speaker for HIV/AIDS health care symposium on September 24

September 17, 2008 - (Toronto, ON) On September 24, 2008, Casey House will present a full-day symposium entitled *Maintaining Excellence in Health Care for People Living with HIV/AIDS*, at the Ramada Plaza Toronto, 300 Jarvis Street. Keynote speaker will be **Dr. Mark Wainberg**, a world-renowned trailblazer in global HIV/AIDS research and advocacy.

Dr. Wainberg is a past president of the International AIDS Society and co-chaired the 16th international AIDS conference in Toronto in 2006. He is director of the McGill AIDS Centre, which he founded in 1984. In 1989, he was the first to identify 3TC as an effective antiviral drug. In 2001, he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada for his “major contributions to the study and treatment of HIV/AIDS.” In August of this year Dr. Wainberg was named a Chevalier de Légion d'honneur, France’s highest order, for his work in the field of AIDS. In addition to his peerless clinical knowledge, Dr. Wainberg possesses a unique vantage point from which to describe the evolution of HIV/AIDS as a global epidemic over 25 years, and is an outspoken activist.

Other presenters that day will be **Elisse Zack**, Executive Director of the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation; **Dr. Gordon Arbess** of St. Michael’s Hospital; **Mark Fisher** of the TCPI Information and Access Working Group and **Cindy Shobbrook** and **Lisa Shishis**, consultants in palliative pain and symptom management. The day is free of charge and is targeted to health care workers caring for people with HIV/AIDS.

About Casey House: Founded in 1988 by June Callwood and a team of volunteers, Casey House is the first free-standing HIV/AIDS hospice in Canada. A unique, compassionate approach to care has been evolving since that time, allowing Casey House, a specialty hospital with community programming, to deliver on its mission to “provide exemplary treatment, support and palliative care for people affected by HIV/AIDS.”

Details about the symposium are available at www.caseyhouse.com

Casey House would like to acknowledge the generous support of Abbott Virology.

-30-

For more information or to book an interview, please contact:
Kathleen Sandusky, Media Relations & Communications, Casey House
416-434-7763 (cell) / ksandusky@caseyhouse.on.ca