

ASPH/CDC Rosenfield Fellow Present at the international AIDS Conference 2010

August 2010

From July 18-23, ASPH/CDC Allan Rosenfield Global Health Fellow in Epidemiology based in Thailand, Ms. Katie McCarthy, attended the XVIII International AIDS Conference in Vienna, Austria. Over 19,000 researchers, programmers, community health workers, policy makers and others interested in HIV/AIDS from almost 200 countries attended the conference. Some of the conference objectives included increasing the capacity of delegates to work in HIV/AIDS, influencing leaders to increase their commitment to HIV/AIDS interventions, and increasing understanding of the synergistic relationship between HIV/AIDS and other global health and human rights priorities (www.aids2010.org).

Ms. McCarthy, in collaboration with researchers at CDC in Bangkok, Thailand, and at the Graduate School of Public Health at University of Pittsburgh, presented her research through a poster exhibition. The poster, entitled “Syndemic analysis of co-occurring psychosocial health conditions and HIV infection in a cohort of men who have sex with men (MSM) in Bangkok, Thailand,” is a continuing research project as part of the fellowship. The results of the analyses demonstrated an association between psychosocial health conditions and HIV prevalence, or syndemic, among MSM in Bangkok. Katie is now working on expanding the results to examine the syndemic relation to HIV incidence. In addition, Ms. McCarthy helped present another poster from the CDC – Thailand HIV Research Program (DHAP), entitled “Focus group study on the acceptability of male circumcision as a measure to prevent HIV infection among Thai men who have sex with men” (T. Chemnasiri).



(Ms. Katie McCarthy)