



Lighting the way

**ALLIES FOR HEALTH + WELLBEING
ANNUAL REPORT
2020-21**

Shining a light on 2020-21

We marked an important milestone in 2021 – the 40th anniversary of the start of the AIDS epidemic. In the June 5, 1981, edition of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, doctors described cases of a rare type of pneumonia in five previously healthy young, gay men. Since then, more than 35 million people around the world have died of AIDS or its complications.

We have come a long way since those dark days. When the Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force came into being in 1985, our primary purpose was to help people with AIDS die with dignity. Today, as Allies for Health + Wellbeing, our purpose is to help people live long and fulfilling lives with HIV.

We have striven to be a light to people living with and at risk of HIV and AIDS over the 36 years we have been operating. But we could not have done any of this work without the generous support of donors and organizations – people like you.

Your giving spirit has been the light for Allies staffers like Alan Jones, who recently retired from Allies after 30 years. Alan often talks of tremendous losses he witnessed during his early years at PATF and how he could not have imagined then the ways we can treat and support people living with HIV today. Your kindness has been the light that inspired Miracle Jones to join the Allies board to ensure that all people have access to quality healthcare, regardless of their race, gender or background. And your unfailing generosity has been the light that has sustained Allies clients, like Stephanie K., who rely on services like our case management, food pantry and clinic for support.

And with your continued support, Allies can be a light to people at risk of HIV and AIDS for many years to come.

Gratefully,



Sean DeYoung, MSW, LCSW
CEO, Allies for Health + Wellbeing



Sean DeYoung, MSW, LCSW
Chief Executive Officer

Shining a light on Miracle Jones

Miracle Jones, director of policy and advocacy for 1Hood Media and Allies board member, has seen the impact of HIV and AIDS from a young age.

"My mom is a nurse, and during the late '80s, part of the work that she did was working on the AIDS floor," she said.

When she moved to Pittsburgh, she became aware of the work of Allies for Health + Wellbeing through new friends and social media.

"Knowing that there was an organization that was born out of giving people dignity, support and resources, beyond the doctor's visits was really important to me," Jones said.

After working with Allies' staff on the online show that was part of the 2020 virtual Allies Ball, Jones joined the Allies board. She is particularly interested in Allies' dedication to inclusion and social justice.

"We've been able to have really deep conversations about the care people are receiving," she said, "making sure that Black and brown folks are comfortable getting treated."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Black Americans are disproportionately affected by HIV. In 2018, Black/African American people accounted for 13 percent of the US population but 42 percent (16,002) of the 37,968 new HIV diagnoses in the U.S. and its territories.

"AIDS and HIV is still here, and it's still a diagnosis that is impacting communities," Jones said. "And



unfortunately, there is still stigma that causes people so much harm."

As someone who works in advocacy, Jones is happy to see that Allies is returning to outreach with its mobile testing van, but said that there is always more work to be done.

"We forget that newer people coming up and people who are set in their ways are still impacting society," she said, noting that there is always a need for basic information about HIV and AIDS and the resources for care that are available in the Pittsburgh area.

By doing so, Allies can be a light for people at risk of HIV and AIDS for throughout their lives.

"Allies is looking at the future and how people can have healthy lives, relationships, partnerships," Jones said. "While it's doing that hard labor, it's also about supporting people long-term and helping people have healthy, thriving lives."

Shining a light on our clients

Stephanie K., of Royal in Fayette County, has not had a lot of reason to put her trust in the medical system.

"I have a pretty messed up history with doctors," she said. "I was misdiagnosed for about 10 years. I went through a lot to find out what was wrong with me. It was really upsetting. I was brushed off a lot."

Stephanie said that when she was finally diagnosed with HIV in early 2019, she was told that she'd probably had the virus for about 10 years.

Stephanie began working with Allies case manager Amy Commander shortly after her diagnosis. When she decided that she wanted to give therapy a try again, Commander recommended Allies therapist Matthew Reinhart.

"I have been in therapy since about 18 years old," Stephanie said. "This is definitely the first time I've felt it working."

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Stephanie did phone sessions with Reinhart, and the two have been doing EMDR therapy as well. EMDR - Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing - therapy is a psychotherapy treatment that is particularly helpful with accepting and processing traumatic experiences.

"He challenges me in the right ways, and he gives me space to say what I need to say," Stephanie said. "I feel like I've really grown a lot since meeting him, and I trust him 100 percent with everything. That's a



huge deal, when you're trying to heal from trauma."

At a recommendation from Reinhart, Stephanie met with Allies nurse practitioner Ashleigh Garcia, and she switched all her medical care to Allies about a year ago.

"I've never had such a responsive doctor," Stephanie said. "Everybody there is amazing. They actually listen to me. I feel heard, and that's huge for me. They take their time with me. It's not just like I'm a patient and I leave."

Stephanie said that even when she's at Allies for appointments with Reinhart, Garcia will stop and ask her how she's doing.

"The care extends just beyond the appointment," Stephanie said. "I haven't met a single person who I don't love there, from the people who take my blood, to my therapist, to my caseworker - everyone is amazing."



YOU MADE THIS POSSIBLE:

We provided case management to 636 HIV-positive individuals from 11 counties in Western Pennsylvania.

597 clients utilized Allies' food pantry 2,160 times. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most clients received grocery store gift cards in lieu of physical pantry visits.

1,348 individuals made 2,128 visits to our clinic.

Of all visits to our clinic, 13 percent were for PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis)

Our legal aid program offered support to 178 people.

Our testing van made 42 trips to locations throughout Allegheny County

We housed 39 clients and their families in Allies' permanent supportive housing program.

106 individuals received Linkage to Care services under the Minority AIDS Initiative.

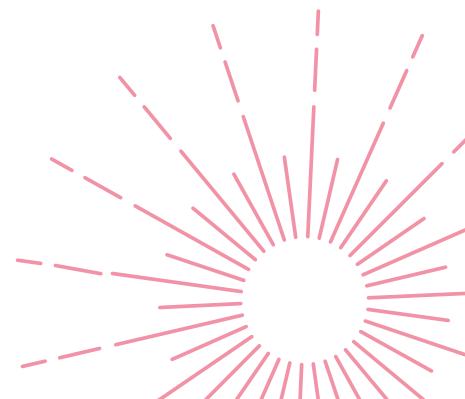
Our mental health therapist saw 49 clients.

Our community health team administered 2,064 HIV tests, and we found and referred 10 HIV-positive individuals to medical care.

We saw 83 individuals for 141 gender-affirming care appointments in our clinic.

We had 1,809 unique patients for our testing services.

All numbers are from fiscal year 2020-21, which ran from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.



Shining a light on Alan Jones

When Alan Jones began working as a volunteer at the Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force in 1990, it seemed like the future was dark for those diagnosed with HIV and AIDS.

"I felt that we were facing a challenge beyond anyone's worst nightmare," Jones said. "The worst part about it was there was no getting out of it. It was very, very clear that nobody would live past 18 to 20 months, tops. It was very hard to be optimistic about a disease that everyone died of."

Jones joined PATF as a case manager in 1991, and within a few weeks, he had a caseload of more than 100 clients, all with AIDS.



Anitra Branch, community health manager, and Alan Jones are pictured by the Allies testing van in March 2021.



**The Allie's staff celebrated Alan Jones's 30th anniversary
at Allie's for Health + Wellbeing in June 2021.**

The Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force and other AIDS service organizations were faced with limited resources – Jones remembers volunteers bringing in toilet paper and office supplies from home so the organization would not have to purchase them.

But through his career at PATF and Allie's, Jones has seen changes for the better. In the mid-1990s, antiretroviral medications were introduced that made HIV a disease that people could live with. Today, HIV can be prevented with pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, and with treatment, people living with HIV can lead long and full lives. And PATF became Allie's for Health + Wellbeing, offering a full slate of healthcare services for people living with – and without – HIV.

"The difference for me, I used to feel horrible when I told someone they're HIV positive," Jones said.

"Today, I don't. Because people are living with this disease today. It's not quite as dire as it was. The fact that we can give people choices, and

"The fact that we can give people choices, and it's a manageable disease ... To be honest, I never thought I would see it."

it's a manageable disease ... to me, it's like night and day. To be honest, I never thought I would see it."

Jones retired from Allie's for Health + Wellbeing in January 2022, but his work will continue to be a light for people in the Pittsburgh area living with HIV.

"I had an old client thank me for saving her 27 years ago, when she first found out she had AIDS," Jones said. "I have had a handful of persons I have been testing for years thank me for helping them through life moments and crisis times. I also remember only too well the clients that I lost to AIDS, and their partners or loved ones that thanked me. I think I will be remembered for the human side of my personality."

Shining a light on our finances

Statements of Financial Position June 30, 2021 and 2020

ASSETS

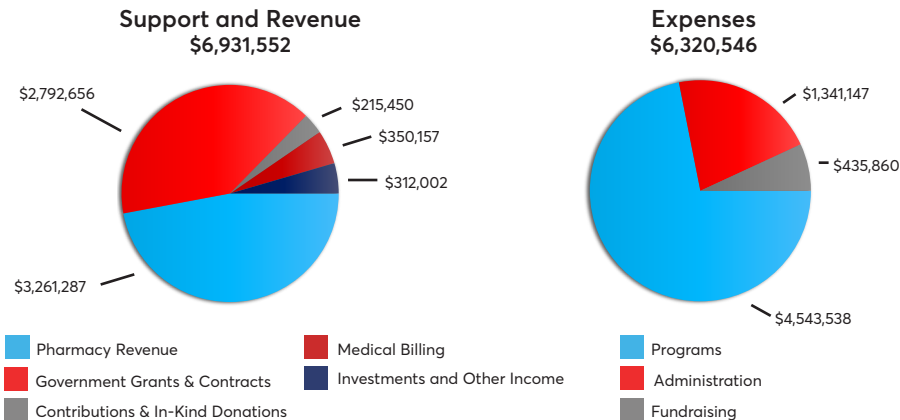
	2021	2020
Cash and cash equivalents	\$169,406	\$636,311
Accounts and grants receivable	\$2,577,105	\$2,087,874
Unconditional promises to give	\$24,145	\$81,708
Investments	\$1,831,041	\$1,087,030
Prepaid expenses	\$48,876	\$37,110
Other assets	\$63,038	\$79,383
Property and equipment, net	\$878,834	\$969,103
TOTAL ASSETS	\$5,592,445	\$4,978,519

LIABILITIES

Bank line of credit	\$50,000	\$400,000
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$1,490,915	\$1,240,267
Deferred grant revenue	\$102,272	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$1,643,187	\$1,640,267

NET ASSETS

TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$3,949,258	\$3,338,252
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$5,592,445	\$4,978,519



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