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BIANNUAL REPORT



MISSION


*The AIDS Funding Collaborative (AFC)
strengthens the community's response to
HIV/AIDS as a public/private partnership
providing coordination, leadership, advocacy,
and funding in Greater Cleveland.*

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE TO HIV/AIDS

In 2014, the AIDS Funding Collaborative celebrated its 20-year history of investing in organizations that support people living with HIV/AIDS, reduce health disparities, and prevent new infections. Over the last 20 years, the AFC has leveraged and invested over \$9.5 million to support HIV/AIDS prevention and care services in Cuyahoga County. Cuyahoga County is one of the few urban areas in the state that is not experiencing an increase in new HIV infections and that has consistently kept infections attributed to injection drug use low. The AFC is grateful for our public and private funding partners for 20 years of support to the Greater Cleveland community.

AFC ACTIVITIES AND FUNDING STRATEGIES

The AFC engages in a wide range of activities in support of its mission. The AFC continually assesses funding gaps in the community and strategically allocates resources to strengthen the community's capacity to address the local epidemic and prioritize efforts in an ever-changing landscape. Through a variety of grantmaking and program strategies, the AFC is able to be responsive to the community, build capacity among service providers, and fill gaps other, more targeted funding streams cannot. In 2012 and 2013, the AFC allocated a total of \$792,538 in grant awards and community initiatives including the AIDS United AmeriCorps program.



**The Affordable Care Act in Ohio &
Access to Care for People Living with HIV/AIDS**

*Robert Greenwald
Clinical Professor of Law
Director, Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation of Harvard Law School
May 2013*

**“The AFC is a unique model in Ohio
and greatly benefits the region.”**

Vignetta Charles, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, AIDS United

HIGHLIGHTS

AFC/AIDS United AmeriCorps

The AIDS United AmeriCorps program was founded in 1994 with support from the Corporation for National and Community Service. Operated in collaboration with AIDS United community partnerships, the program was the first national AmeriCorps program to focus exclusively on HIV/AIDS. Service members – who provide 11 months of direct service to their host communities – are selected through a competitive national recruitment process, extensively trained, and placed at HIV/AIDS prevention and care organizations.



In 2012, the AFC competed for and was selected as the newest program Operating Site and brought on additional staff to support the increase in programming. In 2013, the AFC launched its first cohort of service members, providing “living grants” to five local agencies:

**Care Alliance Health Center • MetroHealth Medical Center
Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center
Recovery Resources • Ursuline Piazza**

Community Restructuring

In 2013, the AFC was invited to be part of the first national cohort of the AIDS United Community Restructuring Investment Program. Through the program, grants and technical assistance were provided to communities across the country grappling with changes impacting HIV/AIDS services resulting from implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The AFC leveraged the national technical assistance opportunity for an AIDS service organization in Cleveland, to plan for maximizing the Affordable Care Act including an increase in the proportion of HIV positive clients with Medicaid and other forms of health insurance, and anticipated changes in Ryan White program.

HIGHLIGHTS: (CONTINUED)

Capacity Building Initiative

In response to the changing health care landscape and to fill a local training gap, in 2013 the AFC coordinated a series of CEU-accredited forums to enhance provider and community expertise in the following areas:

- ***The Fundamentals of HIV/AIDS*** – a training for new providers facilitated by local experts, Dr. Ann Avery of MetroHealth Medical Center and Julie Patterson of Case Western Reserve University
- ***Health Reform and the Future of HIV/AIDS Services*** – nationally recognized expert from Harvard's HIV Law and Policy Center, Robert Greenwald, presented on the intersection of Affordable Care Act and HIV care and prevention, its impact in Ohio, and important advocacy points to ensure continuity and quality of care for people living with HIV/AIDS
- ***Smarter Sex, Safer Sex*** – a two-day training facilitated by National Harm Reduction Coalition trainers, Bryan Kutner and Michael Everett, to educate providers on harm reduction strategies for men who have sex with men
- ***5 Game Changers*** – national capacity building expert Ed Tepporn from the Asian and Pacific Island American Health Forum presented the five game changers (Affordable Care Act, National HIV/AIDS Strategy, High-Impact HIV Prevention, Treatment as Prevention, and the funding environment) that will impact community-based organizations involved with HIV/AIDS prevention and care

***“In my almost 10 years in this field,
this was by far the most engaging,
informative, and enlightening session.”***

Smarter Sex, Safer Sex training participant, 2013

Community Survey for High-Impact HIV Prevention Implementation

In 2011, the CDC released its High-Impact HIV Prevention guidelines—strategies considered to be proven, cost-effective, and scalable—in order to meet the prevention goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy. In 2013, the AFC commissioned consultant Judy Simpson to survey the community's implementation of High-Impact Prevention activities and identify gaps in service delivery. The survey highlighted ongoing needs for collaboration to incorporate the new prevention guidelines, increased access to pre-exposure prophylaxis education and treatment, and further integration of HIV prevention services across mental health and substance abuse agencies.

Discretionary Grant Awards

The AFC allocates up to \$25,000 each year for discretionary grants, not to exceed \$5,000 for one-time or time-sensitive community needs. Discretionary grants in 2012 and 2013 totaled \$48,642 and were awarded to the following agencies:

Advocates for Youth
AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland
Asian Services in Action, Inc. (ASIA)
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC)
Case Western Reserve University –
Francis Payne Bolton School of Nursing
Cleveland Pride, Inc.
David's Challenge
Funders Concerned about AIDS (FCAA)
Imani Church of Christ
Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center
St. Paul's Community Outreach
The Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland
Ursuline Piazza

Targeted Grant Awards

Targeted grants are strategic and often multi-year partnerships with the community. These grants are invited by the AFC Advisory Committee. The AFC's 2012–2013 targeted grants totaling \$220,993 were made to:

- The Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland for its Syringe Exchange Program–\$95,000 (2012) and \$108,317 (2013). Credited with the county's extremely low rate of HIV infection attributed to injection drug use, the SEP exchanges over 13,000 needles a month at two locations in Cleveland.
- Case Western Reserve University for its Syringe Exchange Program Evaluation–\$17,676 (2012). This IRB-approved evaluation of the SEP operations and impact, includes in-depth interviews of injection drug users.

Community Responsive Grant Awards

Community responsive grants are awarded to applicants responding to the annual request for proposals issued by the AFC and focus on targeted priority areas. In 2012 and 2013, the AFC awarded \$437,403 in community responsive grants.

2012 COMMUNITY RESPONSIVE GRANTS

Agency	Program	Amount
The LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland	Be Sex Smart	\$33,200
St. Paul's Community Outreach	Men's Group	\$23,234
AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland	Mpowerment Core Group	\$59,400
Bellefaire JCB	Protect Yourself	\$40,447
Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland	Ursuline Piazza Capacity Building	\$10,766
Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center	Strengthening Proyecto Luz	\$36,000
	2012 Community Responsive Grant Total	\$203,047

2013 COMMUNITY RESPONSIVE GRANTS

Agency	Program	Amount
The Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland	HIV Service Enhancement and Care Coordination	\$9,706
The LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland	Be Sex Smart	\$30,000
Care Alliance Medical Center	Mobile Testing and Counseling Initiative	\$37,700
AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland	Youth Leadership Training Academy	\$50,000
Recovery Resources	HIV Risk Reduction Integration Program	\$36,450
Ursuline Piazza	Ursuline Piazza Capacity Building	\$10,500
Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center	Legal Clinic	\$60,000
	2013 Community Responsive Grant Total	\$234,356

2012 - 2013 AFC INITIATIVES AND AWARDS

Agency	Program/Award	Amount
Judy Simpson, TRANSFORM Consulting	High Impact HIV Prevention Community Survey	\$14,500
AFC Capacity Building Initiative	Professional Training Series (4 trainings)	\$10,000
AIDS United - AmeriCorps	AmeriCorps Service Member Placements (5)	\$59,000
St. Paul's Community Outreach	Award Honoring Mark Harris' AFC Service	\$250
Care Alliance Medical Center	Award Honoring Vincent Kaval's AFC Service	\$250
Planned Parenthood	Award Honoring LaTida Smith's AFC Service	\$250
The Gathering Place	Award Honoring Margo Roth's AFC Service	\$250
Recovery Resources	Award Honoring Steve Schreiber's AFC Service	\$250
The Free Clinic of Greater Cleveland	Award Honoring Janet McGrath's AFC Service	\$250
Bellefaire JCB	In Memory of W. Joseph	\$550
	AFC-Led Initiatives & Awards Total	\$85,500
	Community Responsive Grants Total	\$437,403
	Targeted Grants Total	\$220,993
	Discretionary Grants Total	\$48,642
	GRAND TOTAL	\$792,538

AFC Advisory Committee Members, 2012 – 2013

Shelly Galvin, AFC Chair
The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation

Sabrina Roberts, AFC Vice-Chair
Cuyahoga County

Dr. Reginald C. Blue
*Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health
Services Board of Cuyahoga County*

Jan Briggs
Community-at-Large Member

Bob Bucklew
*AIDS Clinical Trials Unit/Center for AIDS
Research Clinical Core at Case Western
Reserve University*

Councilman Joe Cimperman
City of Cleveland

John Corlett
Saint Luke's Foundation

Valeria A. Harper
*Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health
Services Board of Cuyahoga County*

Mark E. Harris, Jr. (2012)
The George Gund Foundation

Cecelia Huffman-White
Cuyahoga County

Fei Li (2013)
The George Gund Foundation

Tammie Jones
City of Cleveland

William R. Joseph (2013)*
United Way of Greater Cleveland

Vincent R. Kaval (2012)
United Way of Greater Cleveland

Rick A. Kemm
*Alcohol, Drug Addition, and Mental Health
Services Board (2012)
Community-at-Large Member (2013)*

Marcia Levine
The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation

Gordon D. Martin
The Cleveland Foundation

Janet McGrath, Ph.D. (2012)
Community-at-Large Member

Nancy Mendez (2013)
United Way of Greater Cleveland

Paul Putman
The Cleveland Foundation

Margo Roth (2013)
Community-at-Large

Steve Schreiber (2012)
Community-at-Large

LaTida Smith (2012)
Saint Luke's Foundation

Heather Torok (2013)
Saint Luke's Foundation

** Deceased*

Funding Partners (as of December 2013)

Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health
Services Board of Cuyahoga County
The City of Cleveland
The Cleveland Foundation

Cuyahoga County
The George Gund Foundation
The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation
Saint Luke's Foundation
United Way of Greater Cleveland

Program Sponsor

AIDS United

AFC Staff

Melissa Federman, director
Lindsay Marcus, program coordinator
Dr. Willie H. Oglesby, The Center for Community
Solutions, Staff (non-voting member, 2012)

Susan Ackerman, The Center for Community
Solutions, Staff (non-voting member, 2013–2014)
Dr. Cheryl Morrow-White, The Center for
Community Solutions, Board (non-voting member)



AIDS Funding Collaborative

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The AFC is located within The Center for Community Solutions, which provides fiscal and administrative oversight. The AFC's finances are included in the audited financials of The Center for Community Solutions. Contact the AFC with any questions.

