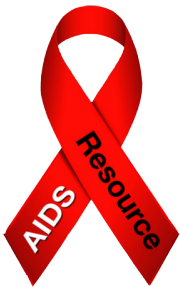


# **AIDS Resource**

## 2019-2020 Impact Report



# A Message from Executive Director, Kirsten Burkhart

Another year has come and gone at AIDS Resource. We have made incredible strides in providing case management, education, prevention tools and testing for the communities we have served over the past year.

While the world pressed pause in early spring, AIDS Resource continued to move forward to serve our clients in different ways. The helping hands of community members, the generosity of partner organizations and the compassion of our staff made it possible for there to not be any disruption in the essential services we have provided for over 160 clients across a 10-county coverage area.

## Case Management & Client Services

AIDS Resource's five devoted case managers have worked closely with every client to offer emotional support and ensure their needs have been met and their treatment has been maintained. Though case management had to be switched to over the phone in March, this did not alter the high quality of care we have provided to our clients. Again and again, we have received positive feedback from clients who are thankful their case manager are still here supporting them through uncertain times.

Our food pantries have become an important part of the services we offer all clients. Twice a month, clients are given a box filled with pantry staples, fresh produce, milk, eggs, meat and more. When we temporarily closed our offices in late March due to COVID-19, we needed to adapt to meet clients' needs. When store shelves were barren, our staff went door-to-door delivering toilet paper, hand sanitizer and face masks. Clients also

received ready-made meals throughout the week to temporarily replace the food pantry.

## PrEP and Testing

Each month, our dedicated board member Dr. Andrew Haussmann and RN Sigfried Aragona see people who are at a high risk of contracting HIV at the PrEP clinic. This vital service provides a safe, confidential space where patients can speak openly about their sexual health and figure out if PrEP is right for them. We have added 11 new patients to our PrEP program, and a total of 21 patients are now taking PrEP to prevent HIV.

Trained staff members test for HIV and STIs at both main offices plus hold frequent testing events at Penn State University and the John Yost Community Center in Lock Haven. Over the past year, we did 398 STI tests and 192 HIV tests for free for the public. Now that our offices have reopened, we are able to test community members by appointment only to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you to everyone who has made it possible for us to remain steadfast in our mission to provide culturally-sensitive support to people infected with and affected by HIV or AIDS.



**Kirsten Burkhart, Executive Director**

## Voices of our Clients

The clients are the heart of AIDS Resource. Their voices and stories are not often told due to the stigma that is frequently attached to HIV. These stories are from five anonymous clients who shared their experiences with AIDS Resource and how the agency has made an impact on their lives.

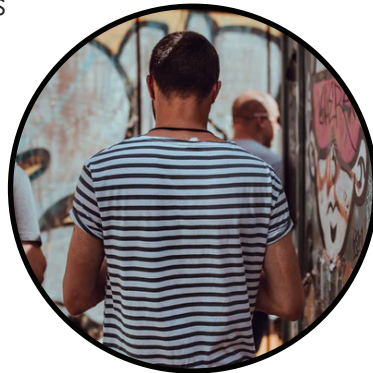
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"For almost 20 years, AIDS Resource has been my backbone. Everyone on staff is doing what they need to do to help us clients plus more. During the COVID-19 crisis, I haven't had to ask for anything. They provide everything we could need like food and masks. Their compassion goes a long way, I could cry they've been so supportive."

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"Everyone is dealing with this mess in their own way. I love my family, but the consistent support that I have always enjoyed has faded. There really has been only one constant: AIDS Resource. Without meaning to, I was taking you guys for granted. What you guys are doing is saving lives. You are saving my life. It's that simple and crystal clear to me."



"I'm a new client but have been HIV positive for years. This is the first time I've received so much support and help from an organization. This is the most excited I've been about taking control of my health since becoming positive. My case manager encourages me and makes sure I have everything I need. I appreciate that so much."

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"When I first got diagnosed I was a mouse in a lion costume. I showed a tough exterior but when I was alone I would break. During my first visit to AIDS Resource, I knew this place was going to help me through this. I don't know how I could have made it through the beginning without this organization. They were, and still are, there for me."



"I have a fixed income these days with rent and bills so there's not a lot of extra money for anything else. The food pantry every two weeks is really helpful. I'm so grateful as a client to have this service available."

## Key Accomplishments of 2019-2020

**21 patients are taking PrEP to prevent HIV**

**70 boxes of condoms were mailed out to individuals between April and June**

**Delivered 420 meals from Kathy's Cafe and 630 from Farrington Place to clients**

**Provided over \$46,000 in health insurance deductibles, premiums & co-pays; over \$80,000 worth of home-delivered meals; and over \$93,000 worth of housing assistance**

**Staff completed 80 outreach sessions to schools, colleges, groups and health fairs**

**The agency podcast "Hey, Remember Us?" premiered on May 3**

**The food pantries received over 700 uses between July 2019 to March 2020**

**Were named one of the Top-Rated Non-Profits of 2020 by GreatNonprofits**



## Our Partners and Donors

### Business Donors

Chewy.com

The Pajama Factory

Trinity Episcopal Church

### Grants

Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS

Central Susquehanna Community Foundation

Centre Foundation

First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania

First Energy Foundation

Jewish Healthcare Foundation

North Central District AIDS Coalition

Pet Pantry of Lycoming County

Stabler Foundation

Young Men's Democratic Club

### Personal Donors

Rick Andrews

Jessica Annis

Royena Aragona

Sigfried Aragona

Elizabeth Aurand

Jocelyn Bassler

Paula Beiter

Megan E. Bloom

Mary & David Broussard

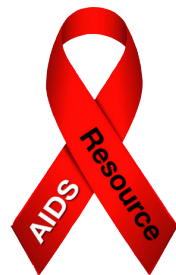
Kirsten & Gary Burkhart

Brady Carnahan

Richard Carpenter

Ian Catherine  
Lu Ann Catherine  
Wes Chicko  
Robin Dadzie  
Anthony D'Augelli  
Jolene Drum  
Jennifer D'Urso  
Eldonna Eicher  
Barbara Eldred  
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Gail Smith  
Deb Shivetts  
Amanda Tyler  
Philip Vonada  
Larry & Rebecca Waltz  
Anonymous

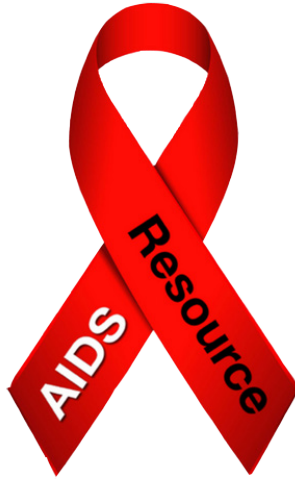


## Our Staff

**Amanda Tyler**, Case Manager/Testing Specialist  
**Amy Harada**, Assistant Director  
**Dennie Fetzer**, Client Assistant  
**Erik Fetter**, Case Manager/Testing Specialist  
**Hannah Krammes**, Case Manager/Community Outreach/  
Testing Specialist  
**Jamie Plocinski**, Counselor  
**Jessica Annis**, Research & Program Development  
Coordinator  
**Jolene Drum**, Case Management Assistant  
**Kirsten Burkhart**, Executive Director  
**Liz Fink**, Office Manager  
**Logan Minnich**, Client Services Coordinator  
**Megan E. Bloom**, Marketing & PR Coordinator  
**Michael Moran**, Software Developer & IT Coordinator  
**Rebecca Huffman**, Compliance Coordinator  
**Robin Dadzie**, Senior Case Manager  
**Sigfried Aragona, RN**, Clinical Case Manager/Sexual  
Health Specialist  
**Theresa Hrzic-Colimon**, Case Manager/Testing Specialist  
**Wes Chicko**, Practice Manager/Outreach Manager

## Board of Directors

**President:** Frederick Schulze, D. Ed., Lock Haven University  
**Vice President:** Anthony Pace, M.A., Pennsylvania College of  
Technology  
**Secretary:** Morgan Churchill, L.P.C., Diakon Family Life Services  
**Treasurer:** Beth Moore, Northwest Savings Bank  
Borja Gutierrez, M.A., Pennsylvania State University  
Andrew Haussmann, M.D., Med Express Urgent Care  
Darrell McBride, D.O., Geisinger Health System  
Cara Rice, Ph.D., M.P.H., Pennsylvania State University



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