

# **AIDS TASK FORCE, INC.**

*Serving northeast Indiana since 1985*

*Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Huntington, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wabash, Wells, Whitley*

**Report for the year ending December 31, 2014**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the AIDS Task Force, Inc. in northeast Indiana is to help improve the quality of life for men, women, and children with HIV and AIDS, to educate the community in order to decrease the incidence of HIV and STD infection, and to increase the public's understanding of and compassionate response to HIV and AIDS.

## **STATEMENT OF CORE VALUES**

We believe that people who are HIV-positive deserve compassionate assistance in living full lives. We believe that public knowledge about HIV and AIDS can contribute to lower rates of infection, better understanding of the disease, and less discrimination against those who are HIV-positive. Finally, we believe that participation of diverse populations in all aspects of the organization improves the quality of service for everyone involved with the AIDS Task Force.

## **PROGRAM SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

In 2014, the AIDS Task Force addressed its strategic priorities of working to ensure those living with HIV had access to direct medical care and other supportive services for increased adherence to medical care and treatment, targeting populations most at-risk for HIV for education and HIV testing, linking people diagnosed with HIV who were not in medical care and treatment into care coordination services, and developing relationships with medical providers and other supportive services agencies for direct services to persons living with HIV. The Task Force is the contracted AIDS Service Organization for the Indiana State Department of Health's Region 3, which covers eleven northeast Indiana counties.

In 2014, the care coordination department assisted 401 HIV-positive clients by providing them with care and support to improve their quality of life through adherence to medical treatment and care and to remain self-sufficient for as long as possible. In 2014, clients accessed internal and external community resources that included insurance, housing and utility assistance, nutrition, medical care and treatment, legal help, education, support groups, and counseling. Care coordination services are enhanced by a Spanish-speaking care coordinator, support specialist for clients with substance use issues, and a housing coordinator to prevent homelessness among HIV positive individuals. The Task Force owns and operates a 17-unit residential facility for persons living with HIV.

The outreach services department provided prevention education, awareness, outreach, and HIV testing and counseling to populations heavily impacted by new HIV infection, as well as the general public. Specific prevention programs targeted at-risk youth, women, African American and Latino men and women, Men who have Sex with Men (MSM), substance users including injection drug users, and other populations heavily impacted by new HIV infection. To raise awareness, staff members attended a number of health and community events and conducted street outreach as well as outreach on social dating sites targeting MSM. During the year, more than 7,000 individuals in northeast Indiana gained new knowledge about HIV, AIDS, STDs, and viral Hepatitis.

In 2014, the AIDS Task Force provided free HIV testing and prevention counseling utilizing the OraQuick HIV© rapid test with HIV test results given in 20 minutes. The outreach department conducted HIV testing and counseling during HIV prevention educations, at special events, during outreach, and established several public testing sites in Allen, Kosciusko, and Steuben counties. The Task Force tested several individuals from social dating sites and held walk-in hours every Friday. Over 1,200 individuals benefited from the free HIV testing and counseling.

In addition to care and support to those living with HIV and ongoing educational and HIV testing efforts, the AIDS Task Force raised community awareness through public events like National Black HIV Awareness Day in February, National Day of Testing in June, National Gay Men's HIV Awareness Day in September, National Latino HIV Awareness Day in October, and World AIDS Day in December.

Volunteers worked alongside professional staff in assisting with office work, committee projects, and event planning. Volunteers played an important role in the Gregory Manifold Food Pantry who hosted pantry parties so people living with HIV could have access to more food and nutrition.

To raise funds for its programs and to build AIDS awareness, the task force sponsored the 18<sup>th</sup> annual AIDS in May and in October received funds raised by the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Lesbian and Gay Dinner Dance, for which the Task Force is fiscal agent and financial recipient of funds raised.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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## **AFFILIATIONS**

*HIV Care Coordination and the CTR program are programs of the Indiana State Department of Health.  
The AIDS Task Force is a Partner Agency of the United Way of Allen County.*

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2014**

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## **STAFF, 2014**

Executive Director, Jeff Markley  
Business Manager, Diondra Miller  
Front Desk Assistance, Reggie Trout

Care Coordinator, Kathleen Menefee  
P/T Care Coordinator, Terry Taylor  
Housing Coordinator, Arien Dillon  
Addictions Specialist, Vanessa Hicks

Director of Client Services, Sara Seifert  
Care Coordinator, Megan Perry  
Care Coordinator, Tabby Lutz  
Care Coordinator, Kelsey Kreger  
Care Coordinator, Kellen Lewis  
Lead Care Coordinator, Tabitha Harris

Director of Outreach Services, Kandace Kelly  
Prevention Outreach Coordinator, Patricia Veazy  
Education Outreach Coordinator, Rose Ellison  
Community Outreach Coordinator, Timothy Price  
CTR Coordinator, Joe Sims

## **DONORS & UNDERWRITERS, 2014**

### **Operating / Event Support**

Foellinger Foundation  
Community Foundation of Greater Ft. Wayne  
The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis  
Ian & Mimi Rolland Foundation  
Gay & Lesbian Dinner Dance  
PHP Foundation  
Meijer  
80/20 Foundation

### **Capital / Asset / Capacity Building Support**

Foellinger Foundation  
The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis

### **Programs for Clients**

Indiana State Department of Health  
Indiana Housing & Community  
Development Authority  
St. Joseph Community Health Foundation  
United Way of Allen County  
Waterfield Foundation  
MAC AIDS Fund

### **Outreach / Prevention / Linkage to Care Programs**

Lincoln Financial Group Foundation  
The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis  
Maximus Foundation  
Indiana State Department of Health  
Community Action Group  
Fort Wayne Health & Education Foundation

The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis  
Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS  
Plymouth Congregational Church

St. Joseph Community Health Foundation  
Parkview Community Health Improvement

***The AIDS Task Force, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization.  
Contributions to the task force are tax deductible to the full extent provided by law.***

***The fiscal year 2013 audit, prepared by Haines, Isenbarger & Skiba, Certified Public Accountants,  
Is available from the AIDS Task Force office  
and on the Task Force's web site [www.aidsfortwayne.org](http://www.aidsfortwayne.org).***