Our Mission

Philadelphia FIGHT is a comprehensive AIDS service organization that offers HIV education, advocacy, social, mental health, and substance abuse services, youth prevention and leadership programs, outreach to people living with HIV and those at high risk, and access to the most advanced clinical research and state of the art, culturally competent HIV primary care. Our goal is to end the AIDS epidemic in the lifetime of those living with HIV.

Our Model

One-Stop Service. It can be very difficult to access and navigate the health care system. We offer comprehensive care in one location to reduce health care barriers. Clients can work with FIGHT from start to finish, from testing to care, case management, mental health therapy, drug recovery, and education. Our varied education programs—Project TEACH, the AIDS Library, Prison Services, and more—make it possible for anyone to obtain the information they need.

Our Clients

In 2010 we served over 8,000 clients and reached approximately 10,000 people through community outreach. We serve some of the city’s most marginalized and disenfranchised individuals. 55% have a history of incarceration, 65% have a history of substance abuse and/or dependence, 55% were men who had sex with men, and 56% present with mental health challenges including depression. See the included graphs for our Lax Center client population.

The last year has brought some extremely exciting news in the AIDS epidemic. First it turns out that pre-exposure prophylaxis -- giving HIV drugs to people at high risk of acquiring HIV – may actually work. Results of the international iPrEx trial, announced at the end of 2010, suggest that for people who are willing to take these drugs, the risk of HIV diminishes by 90%. The other news is related to earlier treatment. Treatment guidelines have been revised to indicate the new understanding that allowing HIV to continue unchecked while a person’s immune system deteriorates may not be the best strategy. The current goals raise the CD4 count at which treatment should be initiated, and suggest that physicians and other healthcare providers consider treatment at what would once have been considered a very early stage.

The reason both of these developments are possible is that the drugs we have today are far less toxic than the drugs we once had. In the past, the balancing act was to identify the moment in which the damage from HIV drugs became less than the damage from HIV or its complications, allowing drugs to start. But today, we can safely use many of these drugs much earlier. We can even use them to prevent HIV.

For the first time in a long time, the HIV/AIDS community has begun to speak of an end to this epidemic.
The Patients We Served in 2010
(Lax Center Patients - By Percentage)

"I have learned so much from being a part of FIGHT...my HIV exists less...it does not control my life. I control my life, and I am making sure that I live a fulfilling one."
-Cheryl, TEACH Graduate

"HIV made me understand what life really means. The experiences I have had with HIV and with FIGHT have changed me for the better. FIGHT gave me a belief and hope...they loved me until I loved myself."
-Nancy, Peer Educator

"I have a great relationship with my provider at the Lax Center...this relationship is a constant source of support for me."
-Colin, Lax Center Patient
Meet Our Program Directors

**Karam Mounzer, MD, Medical Director**

I joined Philadelphia FIGHT as the Medical Director in 2000. It is a pleasure to work in a place where the clinic providers and all FIGHT staff are invested in enhancing each patient’s well-being and quality of life. I am honored to oversee the healthcare delivery at the Jonathan Lax Center and the research studies at FIGHT.

**Kevin Moore, PsyD, Administrative Director of the Lax Center, & Director of the Diana Baldwin Clinic**

I have two primary roles at FIGHT. As Administrative Director of the Lax Center, I work to facilitate a positive environment for staff and patients. As Director of the Diana Baldwin Clinic, I work with psychotherapy clients and supervise therapists. In each of my roles, I aspire to carry messages of hope and personal responsibility for all FIGHT clients.

**Juliet Fink, MEd, Director of Education**

My role is to ensure that FIGHT is a hub for learning, growth, and change for all people in Philadelphia and the AIDS community at-large. Through the AIDS Library, the Critical Path Project, Safety Counts, Counseling and Testing, AIDS Education Month, and Project TEACH, my goal is to enable our community to access the life-saving information they need, empowering individuals to teach others about what they have learned.

**Hannah Zellman, Director of The Institute for Community Justice**

As the Director of FIGHT’s Institute for Community Justice, I oversee FIGHT’s array of prison programming, which is built around our mission to reduce not only the number of people in prison living with HIV, but also the lasting effects of mass imprisonment on communities.

**Katie Dunphy, Director of the Youth Health Empowerment Project**

I am responsible for ensuring that we fulfill our mission of empowering youth (ages 13-24) to make healthy decisions as they transition into adulthood. Using a harm reduction model, we accomplish this mission through a variety of programs including our drop-in center, youth development programs, family planning clinic, and therapy, outreach and prevention services.
The Jonathan Lax Center offers access to HIV primary care, on-site laboratory services, and on-site medication assistance and adherence programs without regard for ability to pay or insurance status. Our services are provided by HIV specialists in a treatment-team environment that respects the dignity and worth of each individual we see.

We conduct advanced clinical research of new drugs and treatment options. We offer all expanded access protocols to assure that people in Philadelphia get early access to medications.

The Diana Baldwin Clinic offers mental health services such as individual psychotherapy, partner and family counseling, crisis sessions, and a women’s support group. FIGHT also sponsors several peer-run support groups, including a Long-Term Survivors Support Group.

Medical Case Management works with individuals to meet such needs as housing, public entitlements, and health insurance. Case managers work with Lax Center providers to ensure that each individual's needs are fully addressed. Our care outreach workers focus on building client relationships, establishing a strong foundation for successful care.

The HIV Counseling and Testing Team wants you to get tested. If you want to know your status, we offer confidential, rapid testing on-site and outreach testing throughout Philadelphia.

Y-HEP (The Youth Health Empowerment Project) offers a safe space for youth 13-24 to talk about sexuality, gender, and HIV/STIs. YHEP offers a variety of clinical and outreach programs, including the Peer Education Academy, which trains youth to be leaders on social and sexual health issues, and the Drop In Center, a safe space for youth to come in off the streets and have a meal, a shower, get clothes, or simply relax with staff and friends.

The AIDS Library is the only lending library devoted to HIV/AIDS in the United States and offers a friendly environment with a wealth of resources and media to access HIV information. We have a computer classroom on site to build computer and Internet skills.

Project TEACH (Treatment Education Advocates Combating HIV) is our signature education program that focuses on medical information as well as topics that address individuals' psychosocial, social, and economic needs. TEACH welcomes all individuals with varying levels of HIV knowledge. We also offer TEACH Outside for individuals who are HIV-positive and formerly incarcerated and Frontline TEACH for allies who want to gain more information.

The Institute for Community Justice was founded in 2009 and now includes FIGHT’s Prison & Reentry Services Program. The ICJ functions as part of FIGHT’s commitment to locally-rooted, national work to reduce not only the number of people in prison living with HIV, but also the lasting effects of mass imprisonment on communities most affected. Our Care Outreach team is on site daily at the jails to visit inmates who are HIV-positive. We partner with families, providers, and other support networks in the transition home. We offer services tailored to the ex-inmate community such as TEACH Outside, and a support group for the previously incarcerated. The ICJ also operates TEACH In/TEACH Out, Prison Health News, and the Support Center for Prison Advocacy.

The Critical Path AIDS Project was founded by people living with HIV/AIDS to offer a range of up-to-date, online HIV prevention and treatment information and research. Critical Path now encompasses FIGHT’s Public Computing Center initiative, e-mail list-serves, and website hosting.

TEACH Recovery Education and Empowerment (TREE) is an Intensive Outpatient Program for people living with HIV who are also battling substance abuse issues. It meets three times per week and offers individual and family sessions. The group combines recovery support for both mental illness and substance abuse with the educational components of Project TEACH classes.
**Space Expansion**  Philadelphia FIGHT moved its administrative and Project TEACH offices to the 3rd floor of 1233 Locust Street to make room for more clinical space in the Jonathan Lax Treatment Center. The new space for Project TEACH will be a much needed upgrade for the program’s success in keeping a safe, welcoming and confidential area for the sessions to be held.

**The “Still Rising” Women’s Program** began in November at the Jonathan Lax Center to focus on the disproportionate effect HIV has on young women of color. Combining social work, medicine, care outreach, and a support group, “Still Rising” provides care and support for the women in its program.

**Critical Path** had a very successful 2010 when FIGHT collaborated with several other city organizations in receiving two Federal Stimulus grants, one for Public Computing Centers and one for Broadband Adoption. The two grants, totaling more than $2 million over two years, will allow FIGHT to create or enhance 27 public computing centers in Philadelphia and provide computer literacy training to 1500 individuals.

**FIGHT’s Prison Services Program and Institute for Community Justice** opened at 21 S. 12th Street in April. The program is designed to amplify existing best practices, push for needed policy change, and realize a vision for community-led transformative justice through its core projects: Prison Health News, the Support Center for Prison Advocacy, the Enhancing Linkages Project, and Project TEACH Outside and TEACH In/TEACH Out.

**The 16th Annual AIDS Education Month** was our most successful to date with over 300 attendees at the Youth Summit, over 600 attendees at the Prison Health Care and Reentry Summit, and nearly 800 attendees at the Prevention and Outreach Summit. The AIDS Fund and BEBASHI served as the 2010 co-chairs and Kiyoshi Kuromiya Award recipients included David Acosta, Julie Davids, Roy Hayes and Asia Russell. In addition, AIDS Education month reached nearly 2500 people providing them with HIV 101 educational presentations.

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**Snapshots**

- **FIGHT Staff, Board Members, and friends during the 1st Annual Bar AIDS Fundraiser**
- **Y-HEP Staff Member Tiffany Thompson during the 4th Annual Youth Health Empowerment Summit**
- **Rev. Dr. Marguerite Handy speaks during the 2nd Annual World AIDS Day Prayer Breakfast**
The 20th Anniversary We Remember Gala was held on December 3 at the Ritz-Carlton Philadelphia and honored the work of amfAR for their commitment and significant contributions to ending the AIDS epidemic in the lifetime of those currently living with HIV. It was a grant from amfAR in 1990 which enabled FIGHT to get its start. The event raised over $60,000 to directly benefit the Jonathan Lax Center’s lifesaving work.

Y-HEP represented the USA in dance4life, an international initiative based in the Netherlands designed to empower young people all around the world to push back the spread of HIV. Presentations and interactions culminated in an event at the end of November in which Y-HEP youth were linked by satellite to over a dozen other countries, all sharing the HIV prevention message.

A Special Program of National Significance (SPNS) Grant from the US Department of Health & Human Services for “Enhancing Linkages to HIV Primary Care in Jail Settings” enabled FIGHT to continue to serve hundreds of patients in the Philadelphia Prison System in 2010.

Pap-a-thons  Lax Center Physician Assistants Sarah Smith and Angela Kapalko held quarterly women’s health days promoting gynecological exams and advocacy of women’s issues. In 2011, women will be offered even more services through the new “Still Rising” Women’s Support Program.

The FIGHT Pharmacy (340b Program) ensured that more Lax Center clients have easy and convenient access to their prescription medications, thanks to an ongoing partnership with BioScrip Pharmacy.

Research and Clinical Trials FIGHT participated in several particularly exciting clinical trials of new medications, including a much anticipated one pill/once a day. Tibotec Therapeutics, Gilead Sciences, Viiv Healthcare and other such companies continue to request FIGHT’s participation in their clinical trials. The Wistar Institute and FIGHT engaged in an NIH clinical trial, an observational trial looking at patients with Hepatitis C and HIV, and Wistar’s immunopathogenesis research. FIGHT’s participation in research and clinical trials was the original mission of the organization founded over 20 years ago, and continues to be an important part of our work.

Counseling and Testing Services added 12 new sites in Philadelphia that provide HIV testing on a regular basis.

Prayer Breakfast  The second annual World AIDS Day Prayer Breakfast was held on December 1. Over 75 of the city’s most prominent religious leaders attended the breakfast, which aimed at encouraging congregations to get tested for HIV and practice prevention efforts in transmitting the virus. The Philadelphia FIGHT Faith Advisory Board, a group of pastors committed to ending the AIDS epidemic, led the inspiring event.

Safety Counts, a harm reduction intervention program that works with those in active addiction to help reduce their risk of transmitting HIV and Hepatitis C, had 65 participants in 2010.

Project TEACH, TEACH Outside, Frontline TEACH, and Latino TEACH all held classes in 2010. In all, 11 TEACH classes were conducted and a total of 179 individuals graduated from the four separate class types. Project TEACH staff made great strides in incorporating more female participants to the program and are proud of how many graduates have gone on to peer education or employment following their class.

A Grant from The National Library of Medicine enabled FIGHT to provide homeless shelter staff and residents with HIV information. Over 300 presentations were provided to the community in 2010.

Computer Classes at the AIDS Library graduated over 30 students, equipping them with the basic computing skills necessary in 2010.

The Reentry Center at ICJ increased its programming in 2010 to include GED preparatory classes, a support group for families of people in prison, a lending library, yoga classes, and a support group which works to improve possibilities for people returning home from prison and jail.
**Revenue**

Patient Fees & Insurance $4,870,609  
Government contracts and grants $3,799,250  
Other grants and contributions $515,826  
Industry Studies $120,278  
Interest/miscellaneous income $1,306

**Total Revenue** $9,307,269

**Expenses**

Clinical services $5,260,038  
Educational programs $1,656,558  
Y-HEP $715,678  
Client services $440,471

**Total Program Expenses** $8,072,745

Administrative expenses $591,114  
Fundraising expenses $71,272

**Total Expenses** $8,735,131

**Change in Net Assets** $572,138
Fiscal Year 2010 Sources of Revenue

Public Funders & Partnerships

United States Government
340B Drug Pricing Program
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health - National Institute on Drug Abuse (in partnership with the Univ of Penn)
National Library of Medicine
City of Philadelphia
AIDS Activities Coordinating Office
Office of Addiction Services - Coordinating Office for Drug and Alcohol Abuse Programs
Department of Public Health
Department of Human Services
Community Partnerships
Family Planning Council
Health Federation of Philadelphia
University of Pennsylvania Health System

Clinical Research Studies

Abbott Laboratories
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Gilead Sciences
Massachusetts General Hospital
Merek and Company, Inc.
OraSure Technologies, Inc.
Pfizer Inc.
Schering Plough
Tibotec Therapeutics
The Wistar Institute
CORPORATION & FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS

Abbott Laboratories
ActionAIDS
AIDS Fund
AIDS Law Project of PA
APM, Inc.
Attic Youth Center
Atwater Kent Foundation
Auxilium Pharmaceuticals
BioScrip Pharmacy
Boehringer Ingelheim
Bread and Roses
  Community Fund
Bristol-Myers Squibb
  Company
Canon Business Solutions
Congreso
Creative Characters
CVS CareMark CarePlus
Drexel University
EMD Serono
Esperanza Health Center
Five Star Cleaning
Genentech
Gilead Sciences
Glaxo SmithKline
Grace Baptist Church
Inverness Medical
  Innovations
Johnson and Johnson
  Family of Companies
Jones Apparel Group
Keystone Hospice
Kievit Agency Inc
Kosansky Family Fund
LabCorp
Leprechaun, LLC
MANNA
Masco Communications
New Hope
  Chamber of Commerce
Northeast Treatment
  Centers, Inc.
Ortho Biotech
Pew Charitable Trust
Pfizer, Inc.
The Philadelphia
  Foundation
Philadelphia Healthcare Trust
Presbyterian Hospital
Public Health Management
  Corporation
Quest Diagnostics
Reading Connection
Robert John Russo Galleries
Roche
Schultz Technology Solutions
Sellers Dorsey & Associates
Solvay Pharmaceuticals
St. Christopher’s Hospital
  for Children
Tibotec Therapeutics
van Ameringen Foundation
Viv HealthCare
Wachovia
The Wistar Institute
YIKES

Snapshots

Jane Shull with Philadelphia
  Mayor Nutter at the
2010 We Remember Gala

Staff at the new offices of
FIGHT’s Prison and Reentry
Services at 21 S. 12th Street

Roy Hayes,
AIDS Activist, and FIGHT
President Scott Wilds during
AIDS Education Month
**2010 Sources of Revenue** (continued)

**INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

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- Dina Akbar
- Mike Amato
- Brent Anderson
- Randy Appar & Allen Black
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- Katherine Baltazar
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- James Thomson
- Kimberly Tindale
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- Marty Tuzman
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- Robert & Marilyn Vogel
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- Wendy Waldman
- Ivan Walker
- Stefan Wester
- Bill Whalon
- Harriet Whitehead
- Edward Wierzalz
- Roxanne Wolf
- Nicholas Wood & Tariq Burroughs
- Steve Worthington
- Vernon Wright
- H Jean Wright II
- Mark Young
- Sydelle Zove & Stephen Kaufman
2010 Philadelphia FIGHT Staff