FIGHT Stories

I was blind for a long time because all I did was get high. Now, I can appreciate seeing a flower bloom.
Tramaine

Since I’ve been on PrEP, my life has been moving in a positive direction. I have become more of a leader. Hopefully, sharing my story will inspire others.
Marcus

I’m big, I’m beautiful, and I’m loud. FIGHT made me see that HIV doesn’t change any of that.
Vernetta

Even after living with HIV for 30 years, I still talk about it. My story shows people that there is hope.
Roy

FIGHT helped me learn how to be an HIV activist. Advocacy is my therapy. I’ll never be quiet again.
Lena

If you have HIV, don’t throw the towel in because it’s not over. As long as God wakes you up and puts air in your lungs, you have a fighting chance.
Levi

Philadelphia FIGHT 2015 in Review

Philadelphia FIGHT marked a major milestone in 2015: our 25th anniversary. What started in 1990 as a small, volunteer-driven research project to address the burgeoning AIDS epidemic has evolved into the Philadelphia FIGHT Community Health Centers—the largest, most comprehensive AIDS Service Organization in the city. As we turn the corner on our second quarter century of service, we have much to celebrate and even more to anticipate.

Last year, FIGHT opened the Office of Dental Services, enabling us to offer oral health examinations and basic dental care to existing and new patients.

In June we presented our 21st annual AIDS Education Month, featuring the first-ever End AIDS Summit. The Summit was our largest AEM event to date, attracting more than 1,500 attendees.

In December we celebrated FIGHT’s 25th Anniversary Gala with Lifetime Achievement Honoree Greg Louganis. With more than 400 people attending, it was our most successful fundraising event yet. We raised over $125,000 to support FIGHT’s HIV primary medical care at the Jonathan Lax Treatment Center and primary care for youth and adults at very high risk of acquiring HIV at the Y-HEP and John Bell Health Centers.

In our 25-year battle against AIDS, we have lived through times of tragedy and miracles. At last the miracles are more frequent; we are winning the FIGHT.

We now have over 30 drugs that effectively treat people living with HIV without making them sick. We have PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis), a one-pill-a-day regimen that prevents HIV infection, regardless of behavior. We continue our long-standing partnership with The Wistar Institute, engaging in research projects to help find a cure for AIDS.

We’ve enabled thousands of people to control their HIV and reclaim their lives. Our patients with HIV know they can lead a normal life with a normal lifespan. We’ve developed and sustained a broad scope of medical and educational programs to better address the physical, spiritual, and mental health of our patients in a way that was almost unimaginable a few decades ago. And we continue to offer all of this to our patients regardless of their life circumstances or ability to pay.

With your support, we will continue to provide top-quality care and programs that bring us closer to our ultimate goal: Ending AIDS in the lifetime of those currently living with HIV. In 1990 we set out with the spirit of hope and belief in doing the right thing. Look how far we’ve come.

Jane Shull
Executive Director
Who We Are

OUR MISSION
Philadelphia FIGHT Leadership is a comprehensive health services organization dedicated primarily to low-income people living with HIV/AIDS and to those at high risk. Our mission is to provide clients with state-of-the-art, culturally competent HIV specialty care, primary care, consumer education, advocacy, social services, outreach, and access to the most advanced clinical research.

OUR CLIENTS
Philadelphia FIGHT serves some of the city’s most marginalized and disenfranchised individuals. Annually, we provide direct services to more than 8,000 people and assist approximately 10,000 through community outreach. Please see page 5 for the demographics of our client population.

FIGHT Leadership

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jare Shull

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
President: Scott Wilds
Vice President: Bishop Ernest McNear
Secretary: Lovada Washington
Treasurer: Rick Lombardo
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Chair: Ronda Goldfein, JD
Livio Azoni, MD, PhD
Michael Casey
Kate Locke
Jenny Pierce
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RESEARCH PARTNERS
Cepheid
Gilead Sciences
Janssen
Merck
Penn Center for AIDS Research (CFAR)
Pfizer
The Wistar Institute

Statement of Activities

REVENUE
Patient Fees and Insurance ........................................... 20,830,104
Government Contracts and Grants ............................... 5,236,650
Other Grants and Contributions .................................. 292,875
Industry Research Studies ........................................... 277,797
Miscellaneous Income ............................................... 7,298
Total Revenue ......................................................... 26,645,134

EXPENSES
Patient Services - Medical .......................................... 17,721,390
Educational Programs ................................................ 2,596,380
Patient Services - Behavioral Health .............................. 1,018,279
Client Services ......................................................... 924,372
Institute for Community Justice .................................. 595,814
Faith-Based Initiatives ............................................... 181,125
Total Program Expenses ........................................... 23,037,159
Administrative Expenses ........................................... 2,470,876
Fundraising Expenses ............................................... 505,340
Total Expenses ....................................................... 26,013,375

NET ASSETS
Net Assets, Beginning of Year .................................... 5,460,829
Net Assets, Ending of Year ......................................... 6,092,588
Change in Net Assets ............................................... 631,759

Client Population

% BY RACE
- Black/African American: 60%
- Caucasian/White: 30%
- Hispanic: 7%
- Asian: 2%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: <1%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: <1%

% BY AGE
- Under 13: <1%
- 13 - 24: 17%
- 25 - 44: 33%
- 45 - 64: 47%
- 65+: 3%

% BY ETHNICITY
- Non-Hispanic: 89%
- Hispanic: 11%

% BY GENDER
- Male: 68%
- Female: 31%
- Transgender: 3%
(MTF: 93%; FTM: 2%; Gender Fluid: 5%)

% BY SEXUAL ORIENTATION
- Heterosexual: 76%
- Bisexual: 24%
- Lesbian: <1%
- Gay: <1%

% BY GENDER IDEN
- Male: 52%
- Female: 48%
part of Wistar’s randomized clinical
FIGHT has been collaborating
clinical research of new drugs,
Clinical Research
circumstances.

Clinical Case Management
Our staff helps individuals secure
housing, health insurance, government
benefits and the necessities of daily
living. Case managers work closely with
patients and their medical providers to
decline barriers to wellness and to
make sure that each individual’s needs
are fully addressed. Our goal is to ensure
that all of our patients are treated with
dignity and respect, regardless of their life
conditions.

Clinical Research
FIGHT conducts advanced
clinical research of new drugs,
vaccines, and treatment options,
and we are working to find a cure.
FIGHT has been collaborating
with The Wistar Institute for more
than two decades and is currently
part of Wistar's randomized clinical
trial (one of the largest of its kind), using an immune system
modulator to
decrease the HIV viral reservoirs of
chronically infected patients. This is
an easily accessible strategy and, if
successful, it will be a milestone in our quest to find a cure for HIV.

Clinica Bienestar
In partnership with Prevention Point
Philadelphia, Philadelphia FIGHT
established Clinica Bienestar (Well-Being
Clinic) in December 2013. Located in
North Philadelphia, it is
funded by a Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) grant.

Supported by the extensive case
management, medical, and social services
of Philadelphia FIGHT, Clinica Bienestar
provides primary HIV medical care to
Spanish-speaking individuals with a
history of injection drug use.

JOHN BELL HEALTH CENTER
The John Bell Health Center provides
primary medical care to everyone in the
community with special emphasis on
addressing the burden of chronic diseases
among ex-offenders and on serving
patients with special circumstances,
such as homelessness or mental illness.
Our team strives to provide a safe
space for formerly incarcerated people
to access health care upon their release
and to mitigate certain socioeconomic
factors, which are often linked to their
imprisonment.

Y-HEP HEALTH CENTER
The Y-HEP Health Center offers
low-cost or free primary care and family
planning services to young adults aged 13
to 24. The center provides HIV testing and
counseling on-site and at a variety of off-
site locations, including universities, clubs,
and other places where youth gather.

DIANA BALDWIN CLINIC
The Diana Baldwin Clinic provides
HIV-informed behavioral health services
to address the psychological, social,
and medical factors that drive the AIDS
epidemic as well as those that commonly
affect individuals living with HIV.

TREE
TREE (Treatment, Recovery, Education,
Empowerment) is a program for people
living with HIV/AIDS who have alcohol
or drug abuse problems. TREE takes an
intensive empirical approach to establishing
and maintaining recovery.

PROJECT TEACH
Project TEACH (Treatment Education
Activists Combating HIV) is an innovative
health education program that trains
people living with HIV/AIDS to act as
teacher educators, activists, and advocates
in the underserved communities hardest
hit by the AIDS pandemic — low-income
communities and communities of color.
TEACH focuses not only
on prevention, but also on
treatment education, outreach,
and advocacy.

INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY
JUSTICE
The Institute
for Community
Justice (ICJ)
offers innovative
prevention-focused programs in a
stigma-free space that
empower, educate, and
support people affected by
the parallel crises of HIV
and mass imprisonment. ICJ
protects community health
and raises consciousness around issues of
social justice.

CRITICAL PATH PROJECT
The Critical Path Project is a digital
literacy training and advocacy program
that provides low-income people with
access to the Internet and the skills to
use it, empowering them to find critical,
trustworthy, lifesaving health information.

HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING
The Counseling and Testing team seeks to
reduce HIV acquisition and transmission
by providing the most up-to-date
information about HIV to those who need
it most. The program also helps people
create personalized risk reduction plans
to protect themselves and others from
contracting the virus.

PrEP
Established in 2013, Philadelphia FIGHT’s
PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis)
program aims to provide barrier-
free access to Truvada, a safe, highly
effective medication that can be used
to prevent HIV. Truvada for PrEP is a
one-pill-a-day regimen that is nearly
100% effective in preventing HIV
infection when taken as prescribed.
FIGHT’s PrEP program is the
first and one of the largest in
Philadelphia. It also is recognized
critically for its leadership in high-
quality care, innovative delivery and
implementation practices, and advocacy
and policy for PrEP access.

AIDS LIBRARY
The AIDS Library is the only public lending
library in the world dedicated to HIV/AIDS
information. Our professional librarians are
available to answer HIV-related questions
and to provide referrals to regional and
national resources.

Y-HEP: YOUTH HEALTH
EMPOWERMENT PROJECT
The Youth Health Empowerment Project
(Y-HEP) is a drop-in center and outreach
program for young people aged 13 to 24.
In addition to a safe place for high-risk
youth, Y-HEP offers food, laundry services,
leadership activities, mental health
counseling, support groups, holistic health
services, and sexual health education.

AIDS EDUCATION MONTH
Since 1994, Philadelphia FIGHT has hosted
AIDS Education Month (AEM), a series of
events throughout Philadelphia to increase
AIDS awareness and to bring people
together to find strategies to combat the
virus. Over 10,000 individuals are directly
reached by AEM every June.

FAITH INITIATIVES
The Office of Faith Initiatives tends to
spiritual health by offering hope,
wholeness, and transformation. Through
spiritual guidance, relationship building,
outreach, programs, and education, our
team seeks to create an environment
where people living with HIV/AIDS and local faith
communities can engage and bring light
and life to one another in holistic ways.
Clinical Research

The Lax Center supported 12 clinical trials. These included investigator-initiated studies designed by the center’s own clinicians and presented at national conferences; studies sponsored by the pharmaceutical industry aimed at both treating and preventing HIV; studies testing devices intended to streamline the assessment of HIV viremia, and collaborative studies with Merck and with The Wistar Institute on the immunologic aspects of HIV.

Dental Services

In 2015 the Lax Center hired its first dentist, Dental Director Kari Hexem, DMD. After spending the summer and early fall setting up and ordering supplies, FIGHT was notified that the Dentaire Foundation would fund our panoramic x-ray system. In addition, the 11th Street Family Health Services generously donated five examination chairs. In December the center hired Jasmine Pruden, Expanded Functions Dental Assistant, and Sandra Collett, Receptionist.

JOHN BELL HEALTH CENTER

The John Bell Health Center has grown steadily, serving a unique and diverse population. With the recent hire of two new physicians, the John Bell Health Center has increased visits and patient population by 200%. In addition to primary care, the center also offers substance abuse and mental health services with the help of a behavioral health consultant (BHC). The BHC provides short-term problem-solving interventions to improve patients’ ability to self-manage disease afflictions and to lessen their risk of substance abuse. The center stands in honor of the late John Bell, AIDS activist and mentor to former prisoners. Through our team, his legacy continues each day. We hope to inspire others to mirror his hard work and dedication.

Dentist, Dental Director Kari Hexem, Dental Assistant, and Sandra Collett, Receptionist.

Y-HEP HEALTH CENTER

The Y-HEP Health Center has experienced significant growth since it opened in 2013. In 2014 the center more than doubled its capacity and was moved to a new, larger space on the second floor of 1417 Locust Street. In March the Y-HEP Center added primary and preventive health care to its services and hired five new employees. Each month the center continues to receive more patient visits than the month before. October 2015 reached a peak with 119 visits, a more than 250% increase over the previous October.

DIANA BALDWIN CLINIC

In 2015 the Diana Baldwin Clinic served a total of 163 patients during 2,149 visits. The Diana Baldwin Clinic runs a weekly women’s support group that includes self-identified women. The clinic also has added two more psychosocial groups that have been met with great enthusiasm: the Percussion Group, which uses music to teach healthy emotional expression, and the Creative Writing Group, which helps participants express themselves through storytelling.

TREE

In 2015 TREE served 139 patients in its intensive outpatient program. The 9-to-12-month program consists of three weekly groups, weekly individual sessions, a computer course, and a wellness recovery action plan (WRAP). Individuals who successfully complete these.

Sarah Smith, Lancaster Administrative Director
requirements graduate with the tools to create a productive, substance-free life.

**PROJECT TEACH**
In 2015, 170 people graduated from a TEACH program. This includes graduates from our classes for people living with HIV, Project TEACH, TEACH Outside, Latino TEACH, Women’s TEACH, and our newest program, Youth TEACH. FIGHT also ran two Frontline TEACH classes for HIV-negative friends and allies and graduated 21 people.

With the support of a grant from the National Library of Medicine, FIGHT launched Youth TEACH to people aged 18 to 30 who are living with HIV. Youth TEACH focuses on treatment, self-advocacy, and building the critical digital literacy skills young people need to manage their health care and transition successfully into adult HIV care. In its pilot year, Youth TEACH graduated 31 students and all were linked to adult service agencies, community groups, churches, health fairs, and more. In 2015 we added four new team members.

**INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE**
In spring 2015 the Institute for Community Justice (ICJ) moved to a new location at 1207 Chestnut Street, co-locating services with the John Bell Health Center. Since the move, ICJ has been steadily increasing services at its Reentry Drop-In Center, which now offers laundry services, a larger clothing bank, and expanded programming. As part of FIGHT’s continuing initiative to enhance services for women, transgender, and gender-nonconforming participants (WTGNC), ICJ has launched a monthly drop-in specifically for those communities.

In the fall ICJ hired a full-time case manager, which helped streamline service delivery and collaboration with other programs and departments at FIGHT. ICJ works closely with the Jonathan Lax Center, the John Bell Health Center, and the Y-HEP Health Center to create sustainable pathways to healthcare and access to public benefits through BenePhilly. Since 2009, we have partnered with Prevention Point Philadelphia and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia on the Critical Path Project staffed by TEACH graduates, reached nearly 10,500 Philadelphia with valuable information about HIV prevention and treatment. Peer educators travel to more than 40 sites throughout Philadelphia, including social service agencies, community groups, churches, health fairs, and more. In 2015 we added four new team members.

**CRITICAL PATH PROJECT**
FIGHT was awarded a SPNS (Special Projects of National Significance) grant from the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) to work with The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia on using social media to link HIV-positive youth to care and to help retain them. In addition, Critical Path will be adapting our APPify Your Health workshops to introduce a mobile app designed for and by HIV-positive youth.

In 2015 the Critical Path Project staffed four public computing centers (the Critical Path Lab, the AIDS Library, ICJ, and Y-HEP), which provided more than 3,000 hours of open access time and accommodated 19,495 visits. Our trained public computing center assistants provided 528 one-on-one tutorial sessions to assist patrons with job applications, navigating social media, creating résumés, attaching documents to email, and many other tasks. The Critical Path team taught 58 digital literacy classes and workshops across our four sites in 2015—a total of 704 hours of instruction for 346 students.

**HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING**
In 2015 the CDC awarded FIGHT a new grant that will be used to create a navigation team to help link those who are HIV positive to care and those who are HIV negative (and identified at high risk) to crucial medical services and benefits.

Through this grant, we have partnered with Prevention Point Philadelphia and (continued on page 12)

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**Noteworthy News and Accomplishments**

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**NOT MENTIONED: Y-HEP**

Finding Y-HEP made me realize that I needed to move forward and they have helped me do it. I always felt a strong sense of community at Y-HEP. Even though I grew up with a family that provided for me, I didn’t learn the values of family and love until I came to Y-HEP. At FIGHT, I learned that it’s not over. HIV will not be my cause of death. I learned I could still go to school, still get a job and still go out and be whatever it is I want to be. Without Y-HEP or FIGHT, I would still be lost and trying to find my way. Now, I have a plan. I live to love and to do what is right.

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**MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
**Scott Drake**
Director of Development and Communications

**MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
**Hannah Zellman**
Director of ICJ

**DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**
**Chip Alfred**

**PRACTICE COORDINATOR**
**LaRoshia Tucker**
Jonathan Lax Center

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National Sexual Health Internal Medicine Meeting; the American College of Physicians Opportunistic Infections; the Conference on Retroviruses and large national conferences—the community. Additionally, several staff, and members of the Philadelphia Health Department AIDS Service Organizations, social service agencies and other health systems, staff of prescribing clinicians sessions have included FIGHT the surrounding areas. These individuals in Philadelphia and externally to over 500 on PrEP both internally provided training and workshops of clients enrolled. FIGHT has seen an almost fivefold increase in the number Philadelphia neighborhoods. Since FIGHT's PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) program began in 2013, we have selected 21 to care.

FIGHT's PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) program began in 2013, we have seen an almost fivefold increase in the number of clients enrolled. FIGHT has provided training and workshops on PrEP both internally and externally to over 500 Philadelphia neighborhoods.

In 2015 FIGHT hosted the largest, most ambitious event in AIDS Education Month (AEM) history: the End AIDS 2015 Conference. End AIDS combined FIGHT's three signature summits—the Faith Leaders and Community Summit—and the Faith Leaders and Community Summit—into one activity-packed day of learning and community. With three keynote speakers (Piper Kerman, author of Orange is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison, Julie [JD] Davids, AIDS activist and managing editor of TheBody.com; and Everett Gillison, Chief of Staff)

FIGHT will use the funds to grow Y-HEP's therapeutic services and provide PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis) to more young people. DJ Foxx Boogie and the legendary DJ Spinderella from Salt-N-Pepa provided the entertainment. Y-HEP presented the Youth Health Empowerment Award to Jacqui Ambrosini, its founding director.

(a) Is How We Do It 20th Anniversary in March 2015 with This Is How We Do It, a '90s fundraising jam. With over 200 in attendance, the event was a tremendous success, raising $40,000. FIGHT will use the funds to grow Y-HEP's therapeutic services and provide PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis) to more young people. DJ Foxx Boogie and the legendary DJ Spinderella from Salt-N-Pepa provided the entertainment. Y-HEP presented the Youth Health Empowerment Award to Jacqui Ambrosini, its founding director.

AIDS LIBRARY
In 2015 the AIDS Library served 2,395 individuals across all services. On an average day, about 30 people came to browse our collection of over 3,280 book titles and 90 DVD titles, 94 of which were added in 2015. Staff signed up 108 people for library cards and lent 97 titles from the library's circulating collection. Many patrons prefer to peruse materials in the comfort of the library itself; they enjoyed 993 books, DVDs, newspapers, magazines, and pamphlets while there, often with assistance from the librarians or support staff.

The staff and volunteers of the AIDS Library answered 1,107 requests for information. These ranged from inquiries about the best bus route (to a potential rental apartment) to scholarly articles on the link between anxiety and social subordination. Library staff also answered 1,425 letters from incarcerated individuals as part of the Prison Health News program, providing medical information and reentry resources for this population.

The library's computer lab was open for 947 hours in 2015, serving 571 individuals through a total of 4,652 sessions. Staff provided 153 one-on-one tutorial sessions for patrons to help with everything from deleting a Facebook post and searching for housing on Craigslist to creating a résumé. In addition, 151 students enrolled in digital literacy and employment courses offered in the computer lab, including Computer 101, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Job Readiness, and Workforce Development.

Y-HEP
Philadelphia FIGHT celebrated the Youth Health Empowerment Project's (Y-HEP's) 20th Anniversary in March 2015 with This Is How We Do It, a '90s fundraising jam. With over 200 in attendance, the event was a tremendous success, raising $40,000. FIGHT will use the funds to grow Y-HEP's therapeutic services and provide PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis) to more young people. DJ Foxx Boogie and the legendary DJ Spinderella from Salt-N-Pepa provided the entertainment. Y-HEP presented the Youth Health Empowerment Award to Jacqui Ambrosini, its founding director.

AIDS EDUCATION MONTH
In 2015 FIGHT hosted the largest, most ambitious event in AIDS Education Month (AEM) history: the End AIDS 2015 Conference. End AIDS combined FIGHT's three signature summits—the HIV Prevention and Outreach Summit, the Beyond the Walls: Prison Healthcare and Reentry Summit, and the Faith Leaders and Community Summit—into one activity-packed day of learning and community. With three keynote speakers (Piper Kerman, author of Orange is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison, Julie [JD] Davids, AIDS activist and managing editor of TheBody.com; and Everett Gillison, Chief of Staff)

(continued on page 14)
to Mayor Nutter) and more than 75 workshops, the End AIDS 2015 Conference offered content for people from all walks of life. The more than 1,500 attendees included HIV-positive individuals and those at high risk, service providers and clients, those in the reentry community, representatives of faith-based organizations, activists, clinicians, and many others. Throughout June, FIGHT collaborated with more than 100 community partners to deliver the high-quality program content our clients and attendees expect. Other highlights from AEM 2015 include Mayor Nutter’s memorial tribute to Gloria Casarez at the Opening Reception, Ms. Doon Haywood’s Kiyoshi Kumonji Award acceptance speech at the Award Ceremony, Teyana Taylor’s exciting performance at the Hip Hop for Philly concert; JJ Hairston and Youthful Praise and various Church of God in Christ, featured headliner JJ Hairston and Youthful Praise and various faith community choirs.

In September Eddie Davis joined the Office of Faith Initiatives as a part-time assistant. In October, the Reed newsletter released its final printed edition in spring 2015 and is transitioning to digital format. The Office of Faith Initiatives will continue to produce a small number of print copies to accommodate those in our senior community who are not Internet users.

As part of the End AIDS Conference, during AIDS Education Month in June, the Faith Summit was held for the first time in collaboration with both the Prevention and Prison Summits at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The annual Gospel Concert, which was held in 2015 at Mt. Airy Church of God in Christ, featured headliner JJ Hairston and Youthful Praise and various faith community choirs.

In September Eddie Davis joined the Office of Faith Initiatives as a part-time assistant. On December 1 the seventh annual World AIDS Day Prayer Breakfast, featuring the Rev. Dr. Wayne Croft Jr. as keynote speaker, attracted more than 300 attendees. By all accounts, it was one of the most dynamic annual breakfasts to date.

**DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS**

**AIDS Walk Philly**

Philadelphia FIGHT kicked off its 25th Anniversary Celebration at AIDS Walk Philly. The walk/run took place on October 18, 2015, near the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. To mark the anniversary, we picked “25 and Still FIGHTing!” as our team’s theme and recruited more than 150 people. FIGHT raised $13,000. As a partnering organization of AIDS Walk Philly, we retain 100% of those funds, which will be used to support FIGHT programs.

We sincerely thank all of our walkers, runners, volunteers, and supporters for making this possible.

25th Anniversary FIGHT for Life Gala

Thanks to our sponsors, guests, and staff, FIGHT’s 25th Anniversary Gala was the largest and most successful fundraising event yet. Over 400 people attended, celebrating over cocktails, dinner, and dancing. Our Lifetime Achievement Honoree, Olympic champion and AIDS activist Greg Louganis, presented an impassioned speech. We raised over $125,000. The proceeds will support FIGHT’s HIV primary medical care at the Jonathan Lax Treatment Center and primary care for youth and adults at very high risk of acquiring HIV at the Y-HEP and John Bell Health Centers.

IN MEMORIAM

FIGHT mourns the loss of two dedicated, longtime board members, Fred Dunston and Sam Morales. A leading HIV activist in the Latino community, Sam Morales also cofounded FIGHT’s Latino TEACH. Both Fred and Sam will be missed greatly.
Sources of Revenue

PUBLIC FUNDERS AND 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 University of Pennsylvania and Temple University)
National Library of Medicine

City of Philadelphia
AIDS Activities Coordinating Office
Department of Human Services
Department of Public Health
Office of Addiction Services – Coordinating Office for Drug and Alcohol Abuse Programs

Community Partnerships
Access Matters
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Kari Hexem, DMD
Director, Dental Services
Rebecca Keuch, CRNP
Nurse Practitioner, Y-HEP Health Center
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Dan Uzupis
Director of Information Technologies
AIDS LIBRARY
Lucy Geysteen
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Library and Digital Librarian Manager
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FIGHT STORIES

Jeanette
I think about the individuals who battled HIV and are no longer here. That is why I say you have to live life. You can’t let life live you.

Enid
I have learned how to let go of my guilt. I don’t feel like I’m carrying a burden anymore. I am happy in my own skin.

Derrell
FIGHT has helped me share some light, stay peaceful, and stay confident.

Asha
Without Philly FIGHT, there would be a lot of lost Philadelphians.

Monet
Y-HEP makes me feel good about who I am. They teach us about growing up and becoming independent. There are not a lot of programs like that, especially in the LGBT community.

McKenzie
When I came to FIGHT, it felt tremendous to take the off the mask and be open with people. I could relax and come out of hiding.

Maurice

FIGHT has helped me share some light, stay peaceful, and stay confident.

Asha
Without Philly FIGHT, there would be a lot of lost Philadelphians.

Monet
Y-HEP makes me feel good about who I am. They teach us about growing up and becoming independent. There are not a lot of programs like that, especially in the LGBT community.