



Housing News:

Casey, a familiar face in the affordable housing community in Delaware, announces retirement

After 14 years at the Consortium, Housing Director Dianne Casey will be retiring at the end of the year. Dianne has led the Consortium's housing programs, which include a rental assistance voucher program for people living with HIV/AIDS, as well as being contract administrator for a facility-based housing program for women in Wilmington.



"We will truly miss Dianne's strong leadership of our housing program," says Peter Houle, executive director of the Consortium, "but we are confident that her department is on a strong footing to continue outstanding service to the people we serve."

"I am looking forward to spending more time with my family, especially my first grandchild, who lives in California," says Dianne. "I have truly enjoyed working with everyone at the Consortium, as well as my colleagues who provide housing, case management, and much-needed services for persons living with HIV/AIDS in Delaware. My experience working in this field has brought me incredible satisfaction, both personally and professionally. I am so very proud to have had this opportunity to serve the HIV community and to be an advocate for affordable housing in Delaware."

Housing Case Management

The Consortium will be adding a new full-time housing case manager as part of the Housing department. This person will be responsible for helping to develop transition plans for our clients so that they can transition into what may be more appropriate housing as they get older. This will allow people to come off our waiting list and to gain housing assistance. This position is being funded thanks to increased access dollars provided by our 340B pharmacy program; however, the Consortium is seeking grant funding in support of this program from private foundations.

The Consortium's Housing Assistance Program is supported by funding from HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People Living with AIDS) grants, a Federal program through the U.S.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). After receiving an increase in HOPWA funding from the Delaware State Housing Authority and the City of Wilmington this year, the Trump administration is proposing a 7 percent reduction in HOPWA funding nationally. It is unknown at this time whether this budget will be approved by Congress, or how this will affect each jurisdiction.

AIDS Walk Raises \$75,000

This year's AIDS Walk, held on September 23, raised just over \$75,000 in support of services to HIV/AIDS service organizations in Delaware. The amount raised was almost 25 percent less than last year's walk.



"I think that the many natural disasters that happened just before the Walk definitely affected the proceeds of the event," said Peter Houle, executive director. "However, we still had the same number of walk teams, walkers, and the same level of corporate sponsorship, which means we held a successful event that raised awareness about HIV/AIDS."

The Delaware HIV Consortium and our walk partners - AIDS Delaware - announce that the 2018 AIDS Walk Delaware will be held on Saturday, September 29 at Dravo Plaza, Riverfront Wilmington, and at Grove Park, Rehoboth Beach. We look forward to seeing you next year!



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of the Consortium,

Happy Fall! As we enter the Holiday Season, I would first like to thank you for your enormous support of the Delaware HIV Consortium throughout the year. In order to provide our broad array of direct client services to the HIV community statewide, we depend on the collaboration of many partner agencies and providers, and the financial support of the community at-large. These relationships and support allow the Consortium to continue providing quality services that meet the changing needs of our diverse client population.



While many people may think that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is over, you – our loyal and informed supporters – know that it is not. More than 100 Delawareans will be newly diagnosed with the HIV virus this year, and many of them receive an AIDS diagnosis at the time of finding out their status. Delaware, as a state, has the twelfth highest rate of infection in the US, a slight improvement over the past few years; but we can, and we must do better.

On September 9, 2017, Michael Friedman, a brilliant 41 year old prodigy and up-and-coming NY Broadway composer and lyricist, died after being diagnosed with AIDS only nine weeks earlier in July. His death is a stark reminder that in 2017 an apparently healthy, gay man with insurance and seemingly having all the support and knowledge at his fingertips can still succumb to this disease in less than three months of being diagnosed. Michael's HIV diagnosis was obviously not manageable and his death did not need to occur...but it does make us think: Could we have done more to help him? Even today, in 2017, many newly diagnosed individuals are already AIDS defined. It is our challenge to reach out, find these individuals early in their diagnosis and immediately link them into care. We are guided by the National HIV Strategy and the Continuum of Care.

Delaware can be very proud of the quality and quantity of services provided to Delawareans by the Consortium and by the other dedicated HIV/AIDS service organizations. While medical adherence and viral suppression hovers nationally around 54 percent, in Delaware, it averages 72 percent. Among Christiana Care Community Clinics clients, viral suppression is amazing at more than 90 percent. These statistics are excellent and truly demonstrate that quality care and linkage to care make a difference in our attempt to get to “zero” new infections.

This is how we will beat AIDS: Testing, early diagnosis, linkage to care, quality medical treatment, and viral suppression. In fact, the CDC recently issued a statement that says that U = Undetectable = Uninfectable. This means that people with HIV who have viral suppression through medication have an almost zero percent chance of spreading HIV.

Despite the many advances, stable funding continues to be a challenge, especially in the realm of prevention education. Money for prevention from Federal government grants over the past eight years have resulted in more than a 10 percent reduction in funding. We are also anticipating a reduction in funding for Housing (through HOPWA). The expectation to do more with less continues.

MICHAEL BROSSETTE MEMORIAL FUND

The Michael Brossette Memorial Fund (MBMF) was established by the Delaware HIV Consortium in September 2000 in memory of former Board of Trustees president and member Michael Brossette. Originally funded by memorial contributions by the Brossette Family and friends, the MBMF provides small grants to assist people in Southern Delaware with HIV/AIDS who are experiencing financial hardship and who do not generally qualify for other private, public or governmental programs. MBMF helps people who might otherwise “fall through the cracks” by offering resources, including financial assistance and information about services.



The MBMF does more than simply pay a bill for someone. It is a source of help for the immediate situation and yet provides an introduction to other available services for future use. Some examples of expenses that might be covered by MBMF include:

- Security deposits and application fees for housing
- Assistance with an outstanding power bill
- An outstanding bill for medical services not covered by other funding
- Co-pays for prescriptions

The program may provide up to \$500 in assistance per applicant. If the applicant's need is greater than that, Consortium representatives may refer that applicant to other financial assistance programs for help. The MBMF is only available to people living with HIV/AIDS in Kent and Sussex County, because of the availability of other financial assistance in New Castle County.

Although originally funded by memorial contributions, long-since depleted, the MBMF now is completely funded by private contributions, fundraising activities, and grant funding from Broadway Care/Equity Fights AIDS.

You can make a contribution to the Michael Brossette Memorial Fund by sending a check, earmarked to “MBMF,” to Delaware HIV Consortium, 100 W. 10th Street, Suite 415, Wilmington, Delaware 19801. You can also donate to MBMF through our website, www.delawarehiv.org.

But, the Consortium, with your help, will do whatever it takes to continue to provide these much-needed services. Please continue to support the Consortium through our “Easy as Pie” Thanksgiving fundraiser, our Holiday ornament sales or a year-end gift to the Consortium. With your help, we can “get to zero”!

Happy Holidays to you and your loved ones. May 2018 be happy, healthy and prosperous. Until there's a cure,

Peter



"EASY AS PIE"

Thanksgiving Fundraiser

**Delicious desserts from Linvilla Orchard,
Achenbach's Bakery, Pellman Bakery, and
Just Desserts by Jekeitta**

Order a scrumptious pie or cake for Thanksgiving for a \$20 or \$25 donation and help two great causes - the Delaware HIV Consortium and House of Joseph II, a residence for people with HIV/AIDS.

Choose from your favorites from Linvilla Orchards, Achenbach Pastries, and Desserts by Jekeitta for \$20 each, or try one of our new Premium Desserts from Pellman Bakery for \$25. Here's what's new from Pellman this year:



Yellow Cake with Chocolate Mousse Frosting

An old-fashioned yellow cake from Pellman Bakery made with honey and buttermilk, iced with chocolate mousse icing.

Strawberry & Cream Cheesecake

A velvety smooth cheesecake set on a graham cracker crust and topped with strawberry puree and whipped cream rosettes.



Banana Cake

The taste of real bananas in this double-layer butter-milk cake topped with butter cream frosting.

Black Forest Cake

Cherries and chocolate mousse lies buried between two layers of fine chocolate cake, topped off with cream cheese icing.



Fudgy Peanut Butter Ripple Cake

A buttery white layer cake sandwiched with creamy peanut butter frosting, covered with peanut butter icing and topped with chocolate ganache and a peanut butter swirl. M-mm!

Triple Chocolate Cake

Four layers of moist, densely textured chocolate cake, finished off with creamy chocolate icing, chocolate rosettes, and chocolate curls. Oh my!



Choose 1 of 4 ways to order!

1. Online: www.delawarehiv.org
2. Phone: 302-654-5471 order with credit card
3. Fax: 302-654-5472
4. Mail order form below.

Easy as Pie Order Form

All orders must be received by Friday, 11/17/17, 12 NOON.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Choose Your Desserts

(Please fill in the quantity on the corresponding line)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| ____ Dutch Apple Crumb | ____ Sweet Potato Pie |
| ____ Pumpkin Pie | |
| ____ Apple Caramel Walnut | Pellman Premium Desserts - \$25 |
| ____ Pecan Pie | ____ Yellow Cake/Choc frosting |
| ____ Lemon Meringue | ____ 16 oz Plain Cheesecake |
| ____ Coconut Custard Pie | ____ Choc. Chip Cheesecake |
| ____ No Sugar-added Apple | ____ Straw. Cream Cheesecake |
| ____ Pumpkin Roll | ____ Pumpkin Spice Cake |
| ____ Red Velvet roll | ____ Banana Cake |
| ____ 7" Carrot Cake | ____ Black Forest Cake |
| ____ 7" Boston Creme Cake | ____ Straw. Cream Cheesecake |
| ____ 7" German Chocolate Cake | ____ Triple Chocolate Cake |

Number of pies ____ x \$20 (\$25) ea. = \$ _____

I would like to make an additional donation of \$ _____

TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT = \$ _____

Choose a Pick-up Location

- ____ CAMP Rehoboth - Rehoboth Beach
- ____ Community Service Bldg. Parking Garage - Wilmington
- ____ Crimson Moon Tavern - Wilmington
- ____ Everything but the Kitchen Sink - Hockessin
- ____ Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant - Wilmington
- ____ Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant - Newark
- ____ Kent/Sussex Community Services - Dover
- ____ Ministry of Caring - FXN Center - Wilmington
- ____ Peco's Liquor Store - Bellefonte
- ____ Village Gym - Middletown
- ____ Wild Thyme Flowers - Centreville

Method of Payment

Cash Check Credit Card

Complete for credit card orders only. Check card type.

Visa ____ MasterCard ____ Am Ex ____ Discover ____

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Security code: _____

Signature: _____

Make a Year-End Donation

2017 Holiday Ornaments on Sale

2017 Holiday Ornaments from the Consortium are now available! This year's snowflake ornaments are made of brass and feature the AIDS Awareness Red Ribbon and the message of hope, "Til There's a Cure." The ornament is being sold for \$20 (+\$3 shipping and handling for online orders) as a fundraiser in support of the Consortium's services to people with HIV/AIDS. Ornaments can be ordered at www.delawarehiv.org, Consortium Offices in Wilmington during regular business hours, or at CAMP Rehoboth.



Make purchases through Amazon Smile and support DHC!

If you're a frequent Amazon shopper, you can enroll in their Amazon Smile program. Every time you make a purchase, Amazon will make a donation – a percentage of your purchase – to the Consortium. Sign up here: www.smile.amazon.com.

Personal Care Items Closet and how you can support it

The Delaware HIV Consortium began offering a Personal Care Items Closet to its case management clients in 2014. This closet features bath soap, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, skin lotion, and – sometimes – household cleaning supplies. What started as sporadic donations by staff and Consortium supporters, quickly grew to include a program for all Ryan White Care Act clients statewide. The Consortium now actively seeks donations and grants, and has committed fundraising dollars to support this important service that helps improve the quality of life for the people we serve, many who are living below the poverty line. You can contribute to the Personal Care Items Closet by directing your donation to Personal Care.



Delaware HIV Consortium
100 W. 10th St., Ste. 415
Wilmington, DE 19801
Ph. 302.654.5471 • FAX 302.654.5472
www.delawarehiv.org

CONSORTIUM STAFF:

Peter Houle, MBA, Executive Director
Suzan Abdallah, Community Planning Coordinator
Dianne Casey, Director of Housing
Kyle Chopack, 340B Pharmacy Program Specialist
Jackie Coverdale, A.M. Reception/Program Assistant
Barbara Devlin, Program Assistant
April Feague, Case Manager, Georgetown
Andrea Killian, Office Manager
George Lincoln, Case Manager, Wilmington
Kristine Loller, Case Manager, Wilmington
Raphia Noubissi, Case Management Supervisor
Audrey Nwokocha, Case Manager, Wilmington
Scott MacKenzie, Dir. of Development & Communications
Brad Shannon, Director of Programs
Charmaine Quarles, Housing Program Manager
Robert Raup, CPA, Director of Finance & Administration
Joshua Sheets, Case Manager, Smyrna
Ed Weightman, CDP Assistant/P.M. Reception

2017 WOW Sponsors



Save the Date – 2018 WOW

Save the date for the
2018 WOW Awards Gala,
scheduled to be held on
Friday, April 27,
2018, at Hockessin
Memorial Hall.