RADIANT HEALTH CENTERS CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

EXPANDING PrEP PRESCRIPTIONS

AIDS WALK 2020

MEET OUR NEW CFO
Building organizational capacity was a priority for us this past year. We were determined to play a key role in getting proper medications in the hands of those most at risk of contracting or spreading HIV. This is a vital first step to ending the epidemic and we've made headway in doing this through three crucial accomplishments.

MEDICAL STAFF HIRED
Healthcare and social work begins and ends with the people providing it. We have a fantastic team at Radiant Health Centers and were able to add experienced, compassionate care providers to bolster our capacity. With these strategic hires, we have the expertise and resources to provide expanded services such as medical exams and the ability to distribute life-saving medications on site.

- Medical Director – Dr. Rodney Samaan
- Infectious Disease Doctor – Dr. Bonnie Bock
- Advanced Practice Pharmacist – Michelle Sherman, RPh, APH, FASCP, FACA, AAHIVP
- Nurse Practitioner – Jay Kim

MEDICAL CERTIFICATIONS AWARDED
In 2019, an important step was to earn certification and licensing that allowed us to expand our medical care. By earning these certifications and recognitions, we solidified our clinic as a community health resource.

- California Department of Public Health Community Clinic License
- MediCal Certification as a Primary Care Clinic
- Cal Optima Community Network Provider Status

GRANTS AWARDED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT of Public Health to Advance our Work
Finally, our results to date and innovative ideas for approaching community health needs helped us earn public funding to deploy new services that move us toward our mission. The most recent awards from the CDPH included support for the following:

- RAPID ART (Anti-Retroviral Treatment) for individuals who test positive for HIV
- PrEP Navigation which includes medications for high-risk individuals who test negative for HIV

Please join me and the entire Radiant Health Center staff as we celebrate these accomplishments that will have a lasting effect on the health and well-being of thousands of individuals living in Orange County. Although our work is not done and we remain laser focused, today we are closer to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Orange County.

I look forward to another successful year and I am honored to have your support.

Yours in service,

Philip Yaeger
Executive Director/CEO
At an early age, Daphiny knew that she was different from most of her friends, and when she was 15 she decided to come out to her family as a transgender woman. “My mother told me it was a fad – she only identified me as her son,” Daphiny says.

The early years were difficult for Daphiny in her home town in Indiana, which was, and still is, highly conservative, so she moved to New Orleans and took a job in a nightclub. This is where she had the opportunity to talk to other girls and learned about transgender clubs and communities in the area.

In the ‘80s and ‘90s the trans community, with Daphiny as one of its strong advocates, was openly fighting for trans rights, but it was difficult because they faced constant discrimination from both the straight and gay communities.

Daphiny says she was one of the lucky ones. She found a mentor, a mother figure, who gave her strength and shared her own experiences about coming out in the early 1950s. Her mentor also introduced her to an endocrinologist who specialized in HRT—hormone replacement therapy for trans individuals—and was able to help Daphiny access hormones, which were not readily available at that time except on the very expensive, and illegal, black market.

When in California, Daphiny researched and found AIDS Services Foundation, now Radiant Health Centers, via the Internet. She was looking to connect to people that didn’t make her feel different. She just needed medical and emotional support.

Over the years with Radiant Health Centers, Daphiny has accessed a range of services including: benefits counselling, social services case management, nutrition services with our registered dietitian, transportation, dental referrals and most recently nursing case management to assist her with her upcoming surgeries.

“Today I am dealing with new health issues related to my heart and I feel fortunate to have the support of Radiant Health Centers’ staff and programs to help me through this difficult time,” says Daphiny. “Aging as a trans individual and living with HIV is new territory for me.”

One of Daphiny’s case managers, Pau Lagarde, shared the following about his client. “Daphiny has been through a lot but she’s a survivor. A fighter. She always has a bright smile on her face, even on her bad days, and behind that smile there’s a powerful story to be told.” Pau goes on to say, “Daphiny is a pioneer in the transgender rights movement. She helped pave the way for transgender and gender non-conforming people who came after her, especially those living with HIV.”

WHEN ASKED “WHAT IS THE ONE THING YOU’D LIKE PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT RADIANT HEALTH CENTERS?”

DAPHINY ANSWERS, “THE PEOPLE MAKE YOU MATTER.”
Radiant Health Centers has received a $459,000 grant from the California Department of Public Health to provide PrEP navigation services to HIV negative individuals from high priority populations for three years. This funding will allow Radiant Health Centers to expand the number of PrEP prescriptions provided to patients and amplify community outreach efforts to educate young people about the benefits of staying protected.

The Orange County Health Care Agency reports that there are 6,369 persons living with HIV who are aware of their status and another 893 estimated persons who are unaware of their HIV status. In 2018 alone, there were 280 persons diagnosed with HIV. Of those, 57 were concurrently diagnosed with AIDS. Studies have shown that PrEP is highly effective when taken daily and reduces the risk of getting HIV by about 99%.

The funding from this grant will support Radiant Health Centers in ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Orange County by offering full access to PrEP through testing, prescriptions and support for medication adherence for high-risk individuals who test negative for HIV.

Radiant Health Centers’ services are vitally important because not all healthcare providers are familiar with PrEP or comfortable prescribing it. This underlines the importance of Radiant Health Centers’ mission to provide medical services to the LGBTQ+ community that are compassionate and comprehensive while continuing to serve those living with and affected by HIV.

One client shares,

“I am incredibly thankful for Radiant Health Centers and their dedicated staff. I had been trying to get on PrEP for two years but was unsuccessful. My doctor didn’t feel comfortable prescribing me PrEP and when she finally did, my insurance was going to charge me $1,700 for a 30-day supply. It wasn’t until I met with Radiant Health Centers’ staff that I learned about my options. I was able to get access to the medication I needed on my first visit. The staff was incredibly helpful, knowledgeable and professional. I am so relieved to say that after two years of seeking help, I now have access to the care and medication I need to stay healthy.”
Radiant Health Centers, a nonprofit that offers free HIV testing and other specialized medical and comprehensive social services to Orange County’s LGBTQ+ community, welcomes Daniel Seargeant, DrPH, MBA as its new Chief Financial Officer.

Dr. Seargeant is an experienced CFO, internal audit manager and financial consultant in the acute care, outpatient services, medical groups, home health and managed care sectors. He holds a Doctor of Public Health in health management and an MBA with a finance and IT emphasis, both from the University of California, Los Angeles.

“Daniel Seargeant’s experience in public health and educational programs made him a natural fit for Radiant Health Centers and we are thrilled to have him on our team,” said Phil Yaeger, CEO and Executive Director, Radiant Health Centers. “We are also excited to have his extensive experience in opening new health service locations, which will assist with our new Family Clinic in Santa Ana.”

Dr. Seargeant was previously the CFO of Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties, which provides essential reproductive health care, comprehensive primary care, nutrition services and education programs to the community.

Radiant Health Centers provides the LGBTQ+ community medical services that are compassionate and comprehensive while continuing to serve those living with and affected by HIV. Learn more at www.radianthealthcenters.org.

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

We would like to give a big THANK YOU to Dr. Armida Acosta, Psy.D for her 10 years of service with Radiant Health Center and Rob Natsuhara for his 18 years of service with Radiant Health Centers.

Dr. Acosta is our Director of Mental Health. Armida has helped expand services to individuals living with HIV and the broader LGBTQ+ community. Her team consist of Mental Health Counselors and interns working on their licenses.

Greatest accomplishment: Creating a robust Clinical Training program for master and doctorate level interns.

Rob Natsuhara is our Case Manager & Benefits Counselor. Rob assists our clients with applications, enrollment and management of their health insurance and medications coverage.

Greatest accomplishment: The ability to assist individuals who are ill and unable to work to stay connected to their doctors and maintain their medication schedules.

Thank you, Armida and Rob for your years of service!
Radiant Health Centers raised more than $920,000 at their 34th annual gala at the Yost Theatre in Santa Ana on Saturday, Feb. 15. The funds raised also included a substantial gift from the trust of the late Leslie A. Timmons who was celebrated during the event.

The evening’s festivities hosted over 225 Orange County community members and supporters and included a silent and live auction and featured the heartfelt story behind the sizeable donation from the trust of the late Leslie A. Timmons, presented to Radiant Health Centers’ CEO Phil Yaeger during the event.

“The evening was so much fun and a great success,” said Larry Will, gala co-chair and Radiant Health Centers board member. “We were thrilled to exceed our fundraising goal, which means Radiant Health Centers can provide even more care, for our deserving clients.

The significant donation from the trust of Leslie A. Timmons was presented by Timmons’ friend, Bill Lawrence, to Radiant Health Centers’ CEO Phil Yaeger during the event. Lawrence shared the story of his friendship with Timmons that he and his partner, Jeff Stuckhardt, fostered for almost 10 years.

A commemorative bronze plaque honoring Leslie A. Timmons will be showcased at Radiant Health Centers to acknowledge her generosity.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GALA SPONSORS:

Gold Sponsors:
Mr. & Mr. Howard Gleicher and Damon Chen

Silver Sponsors:
ADP, Avita Pharmacy and Union Bank

Bronze Sponsors:
Gilead and Pacific Life

Radiant Health Centers provides the LGBTQ+ community medical services that are compassionate and comprehensive while continuing to serve those living with and affected by HIV. Learn more at www.radianthealthcenters.org.
OUR SPONSORS
Special Thanks to the Private Foundations, Public Grantors and Corporate Supporters committed to advancing Radiant Health Centers’ mission.

Angels Baseball Foundation Inc
Avita Pharmacy
Bank of America
California Department of Public Health
CalOptima
Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation
CDC
Chevron Corporation
City of Anaheim, Community Development
City of Fullerton
City of Santa Ana
Council on Aging Southern California
County of Orange
CVS
Debann Investment Co
Desert Shelter For Animals
Digital Value Creation LLC
Disney VoluntEARS Community Fund
Edwards Lifesciences Foundation
Essential Access Health
FDP Charitable Foundation
Fred Siegel Foundation
George Hoag Family Foundation
Gilead Sciences
Hoag Community Benefit Program
Hyundai Motor America
IBEX Foundation
Janssen Therapeutics
Loan Depot
M.A.C. AIDS Fund
Marisla Foundation
McDermott, Will & Emery LLP
Meals on Wheels Associate of America
Merril Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated
National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.
O L Halsell Foundation
Operation Be Kind
Orange County Bar Foundation
Orange County Health Care Agency
Orange County Imperial Court, Inc.
Pacific Life Foundation
Ralph’s Community Fund
Room & Board
San Diego County Credit Union
Schwab Charitable Fund
Shopoff Realty Investments, LP
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
State of California - Department of Public Health
Stater Bros. Charities Harvesting Hope
The Allergan Foundation
The Kling Family Foundation
The MOCA Foundation
The PIMCO Foundation
UniHealth Foundation
Union Bank Foundation
UnitedHealth Group
Viasat, Inc.
VIIV Healthcare
Walgreens
Wells Fargo Foundation
Wright On Communications

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH
HUNTINGTON BEACH BOARDWALK
(HUNTINGTON STREET & PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY)

EVENT FESTIVITIES: 8:30AM • WALK TO BEGIN AT: 9:30AM

JOIN US IN OUR MISSION TO END HIV AND AIDS
TO REGISTER TO WALK OR TO FORM A WALK TEAM, VISIT:
WWW.RADIANTHEALTHCENTERS.ORG/AWOC

ENJOY LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, VENDOR FAIR, FUN ZONE AND FOOD TRUCKS
EVENT PARKING: $15 PER VEHICLE
Questions & Feedback:
Editor Susan Caumiant
17982 Sky Park Circle, Suite J
Irvine, CA 92614
Phone: (949) 809-5700

Save the Date
MARCH 28, 10AM - 4PM
TRANSGENDER HEALTH & WELNESS RESOURCE FAIR
1475 S. State College Blvd Anaheim, CA 92806

MAY 30
AIDS WALK 2020
HUNTINGTON BEACH BOARDWALK