



# 2014/2015

Toronto People With AIDS Foundation  
ANNUAL REPORT

# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2014/2015 we reviewed new opportunities to strengthen key relationships, partnerships and collaborations and how they might contribute towards our strategic plan, and changing funder and sector expectations. The resulting priorities built on the PWA's culture of engagement and support and focused on documenting and increasing internal agency capacity.

PWA partnered with the OODP (Ontario Organizational Development Program) as a pilot agency to complete the new Organizational Self-Assessment Tool as well as the OHTN (Ontario HIV Treatment Network) through a capacity grant. The identified priority activities strengthened agency sustainability, the impact on PHA well-being, our accountability with funders/stakeholders, and our leadership role within the sector and included:

- 1) Developing an annual client survey;
- 2) Updating policies and procedures;
- 3) Developing an agency research strategy;
- 4) Creating a program evaluation inventory;
- 5) Completing community consultations and report for PWA's Financial Assistance program;
- 6) Increasing staff knowledge and capacity regarding evaluation.

PWA also responded to unexpected changes to our funding relationship with the City of Toronto as well as a deficit in our fundraising revenues in 2014/2015. The entire agency responded and planning minimized the impact on clients and programming while maintaining a commitment to responsible and sustainable finances.

In addition, other exciting opportunities resulted in PWA providing key contributions in larger sector work including:

- **CATIE**, Canada's source for HIV and Hep C information

In 2014/2015, PWA collaborated on the updating of the Starting Points booklet, a resource originally developed by PWA and later updated as a partnership with CATIE to become a national resource.

- **GMSH** (Gay Men's Sexual Health Alliance)

As part of PWA's ongoing leadership roles in Poz Prevention, PWA staff co-led the creation of an exciting new resource, the Engagement Wheel, a tool for reflection and action supporting overall health.

- **UofT PHA** Patient Instructor project

A formalized agreement was completed in 2014/2015 with UofT to partner with PWA in accessing our PHA Peers to act as Patient Instructors with medical students.

Working together, as individuals and as communities, has always been our strength in responding to HIV and we're very proud to have had these key opportunities in 2014/2015.

Sincerely,

Murray Jose-Boerbridge  
Executive Director

Brian Fior  
Board Chair/President

# HEALTH CHAMPION PEER EDUCATORS PROGRAM

This innovative program helps to change and strengthen medical education by collaborating with medical educational institutions and creating active and meaningful roles for people living with HIV/AIDS to educate students about best practices related to patient empowerment and communication between patients and doctors.

## Program Highlights / Outcomes:

- 16 PHAs trained as patient instructors, participated in 45 simulated clinical encounters of pre/post test HIV counselling with 232 2nd year University of Toronto medical students
- 457 healthcare practitioner students attended 43 workshops led by 8 PHA peer educators on HIV disease management, patient empowerment and practitioner communication.
- 63 PHAs attended 11 workshops led by 8 PHA peer educators on HIV disease management, patient empowerment and doctor communication.
- 18 PHAs engaged in one-on-one discussions with 9 medical students about their experiences with medical care, including their HIV diagnosis and relationships with doctors.

Collaborations with University of Toronto, Canadian Naturopathic Collage, Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College and other healthcare educational institutions

This program was supported by funding from Ontario HIV Treatment Network and by a POSITIVE ACTION community grant from Viiv Healthcare

## "I FEEL LESS ALONE WITH MY HEALTH ISSUES"

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

PWA's work would not be possible without the contribution and generosity of organizations and individuals in our community. Their tireless effort not only raises much needed funds for PWA but also raises awareness and helps to build a stronger community.

PWA was once again honoured to be chosen as Charity of Choice by Spearhead L.D.S.C. We are incredibly grateful to the members of Spearhead for their incredible efforts and support for well over 6 years. Spearhead has raised well over \$38,000 for PWA's Essentials Market and food programs as well has collected thousands of pounds of food over the years during their Easter and Thanksgiving food drives.

Another long-time supporter, Chris Edwards presented "The Stars Reach Out to PWA". The evening was filled with Toronto's finest performers including Miss Conception and Georgie Girl and in collaboration with the Scotiabank Team Community Program raised over \$6000.

"IT'S A VERY WELCOMING AND FRIENDLY PLACE WITH GREAT DEDICATED STAFF ALWAYS WILLING TO ASSIST OR HELP YOU ACCORDING TO YOUR NEEDS AND DEMANDS; I FEEL SO SECURE WHEN I GO THERE AND I AM SO APPRECIATIVE OF ALL THE GREAT WORK AND EFFORT THAT EACH OF YOU ARE DOING FOR US!!"

## GOVERNMENT FUNDERS

AIDS Bureau, Ontario Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care  
City of Toronto, Toronto Urban Health Fund  
Public Health Agency of Canada,  
AIDS Community Action Program  
Toronto Central Local Health Integration Networks

## AGENCY PARTNERS

### VISIONARY (\$50,000+)

M\*A\*C AIDS Fund  
Scotiabank

### LEADER (\$20,000 - \$49,999)

BMO Financial Group  
Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine  
Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College  
Ontario HIV Treatment Network  
Viiv Healthcare

### MAJOR (\$12,000 - \$19,999)

Clif Bar  
Sheraton Centre Toronto  
Starbucks Coffee Canada  
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre  
TICOT Social Society

## MEDIA

NOW  
Xtra!  
Proud FM

## CORPORATE & FOUNDATION DONORS

### \$5,000+

General Motors  
Rubbermaid  
Out Adventures  
Vega  
YMCA

### \$2,000+

Cabbagetown Pet Clinic  
CIBC  
CHUM Charitable Foundation  
Churchmouse & Firkin  
Corporate Specialty Services Inc.  
Distributors' Choice Inc.  
McGregor Industries Inc.  
McMaster University  
Ontario Nurses Association  
Research Management Group  
The Beer Store

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

### \$10,000+

Zahid Somani  
Anonymous

### \$2,000+

Gary Akenhead  
Todd Davies  
Albert Haddad  
Trevor Hopman  
Ann Hunt  
Russell Laishley  
Harvey Malinsky  
Tim Moseley & Yung Dai  
MarkAaron Polger  
John Ribson  
Robb & Sara Spalding  
Michael Zaranyik  
Anonymous (5)

## COMMUNITY DONORS & PARTNERS

Champion Systems  
Miss Conception  
Chris Edwards  
Jade Elektra / DJ Relentless  
Gust Creative  
Hughs Mortgage.ca  
IceBoy  
International Financial Data Services  
Live to Play Sports  
Loblaws  
Moksha Yoga  
Norco Bikes  
Qlix Studio  
SGM Law  
Southern Accent  
Spearhead LDSC  
Steamworks  
Stonemill  
Toronto Historical Bowling Society

## ESTATES

The Estate of Robert Townshend

## FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

### Outstanding Corporate Support

GABLE at P&G Canada  
Small Wonders Pets

### Outstanding Community Support

Phoenix Community Works  
Enterprise  
The Churchmouse and Firkin

### Outstanding Volunteer Support

Karen O'Connor  
Dave Skitch



# 2014 FRIENDS FOR LIFE BIKE RALLY PWA'S ANNUAL SUSTAINING FUNDRAISER!



Year 16

299 volunteer riders and crew

\$1.1 million raised

More than \$13 million raised in 16 years

46000 volunteer hours

## The David Linton Award

David Linton (1964-2011) was the co-founder of PWA's Friends For Life Bike Rally and a long-time rider and supporter. As well as past board member of Toronto People With AIDS Foundation he was a long-time supporter of the agency. His commitment to improving the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS in our community was inspiring and his passion shaped a Bike Rally that has endured and continues to grow.

2014 Recipient, Todd Davies was honoured with the David Linton Award for his dedicated 11 years of volunteer service and his enthusiasm and commitment to building community on the Bike Rally.

"EVERY YEAR THE ENTHUSIASM WE SEE, BOTH ON THE RIDE AND FROM THE COMMUNITIES WE PASS THROUGH, IS INSPIRING AND HELPS US  
MOVE FORWARD TOWARDS OUR COMMON GOAL..." —TODD DAVIES

# ESSENTIALS MARKET & COMMUNITY GARDEN

It takes a community of volunteers to plan, plant, weed and harvest a bountiful Community Garden! It's the dedication of our volunteers that has helped the program grow from 4 garden beds in its first year to 17 garden beds now in its third year.

The volunteers expanded the variety of crops to include Kale, Red & White Swiss Chard, Baby Bok Choy and a variety of fresh herbs. Harvested weekly throughout the summer and fall, the crops provided much needed fresh produce to the Essentials Market – and it doesn't get much fresher than that!

Not only is the garden program providing local fresh produce which reduces the cost of produce during the growing season, but gardening has been proven to be very therapeutic both mentally and physically, thus benefitting our dedicated volunteers as well.



"PWA'S ESSENTIALS MARKET IS A GREAT PROGRAM"

2014/2015

PWA supplied approximately 260,419 services to 7,766 individuals including:  
40,575 significant and unique practical services to 2,541 PHAs,  
219,844 referral, information and outreach services to  
5,225 individuals, as well as training and education  
opportunities to 1,111 individuals.

#### REVENUES

\$2,831,275



#### EXPENSES

60% COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



293 new clients were registered at PWA

**Essentials Market** is PWA's largest program providing over 14,000 distinct services to 1,122 individuals in 2014/2015 (not including 3,578 units of Ensure provided to clients).

PWA's Essentials Market saw a 5% increase in overall visits and a significant 47% increase in requests to visit more than twice per month.



33% increase in clients accessing pet food



## PRACTICAL SUPPORTS

5,607 meals were provided to 53 PHAs through the Food for Life meal delivery program in 2014/2015 in collaboration with Dixon Hall Neighbourhood Services



558 clients accessed over

**\$180,000**

in financial assistance which includes the Medical Disability Fund and the Medical Assistance and Treatment Fund.

PWA had a 90% increase in clients accessing the Positive Senior's Fund

## HEALTH & THERAPEUTIC CARE



309 PHAs accessed 1,564 Therapeutic Care services



106 Yoga sessions

506 Massage



303 Reflexology/Reiki/Shiatsu

629 Acupuncture



The above stats does not include approximately 2,500 sessions through the Community PHA Naturopathic Clinic in collaboration with the Sherbourne Health Centre

#### VOLUNTEERS PROVIDED



**38,405**

HOURS SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAMMING AND ACTIVITIES

## DREAMING & ENGAGEMENT

PHAs Engagement – Poz Prevention  
682 significant outreach conversations, a 315% increase from last year



47 PSYCHOLOGICAL EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS WERE PROVIDED TO 897 INDIVIDUALS



1,111 PEOPLE HEARD PHAS PWA PEER OUTREACH VOLUNTEERS TELL THEIR STORIES OF LIVING WITH HIV



PWA helped 335 PHAs get access to HIV medications



62% of Income & Community Liaison appointments related to government income support programs

## COMMUNITY ACCESS

726 clients, of which 20% female accessed PWA's Income & Community Liaison program



35 case consultations with community partners relevant to food access



63.1%  
**GOOD WORKS RATIO**

PWA has provided services to over 9,000 individuals living with HIV/AIDS since our inception in 1987.





# MISSION

**We engage people living with HIV/AIDS in enhancing their health and well-being through practical and therapeutic support services and broader social change, and we inspire them to live into their dreams and discoveries.**



# VISION

**We live in affirming, sustaining communities where we find inspiration and support for our dreams, health, wellbeing and meaningful contributions.**

Charitable Registration #: 13111 3151 RR0001

200 Gerrard Street East, 2nd Floor, Toronto, ON M5A 2E6  
416-506-1400 [www.pwatoronto.org](http://www.pwatoronto.org)

"GUYS YOU ARE THE BEST. YOU MADE ME TO  
ACCEPT MY HIV STATUS, WITHOUT YOUR HELP  
I WAS NOT GOING TO MAKE IT. I LIVE A  
POSITIVE LIFE. THANK YOU SO MUCH"