



2006 Annual Report: Test Positive Aware Network

SEEING RED

Dear Friend,

Every day, for nearly twenty years, TPAN has been *the* place where anyone living with HIV can exchange information, discuss treatment options and be embraced as part of an active, empowered community. I am grateful to the volunteers, contributors, board and staff who have helped to create a place of compassionate support for those facing the crisis of being HIV-positive.

At our Aware Affair Gala, we introduced "Seeing Red" as a theme for this year. Indeed, it has been a turbulent year in the local and national HIV arena, fraught with political inaction and short-sightedness. Due to this stagnation and narrow-mindedness, HIV organizations, programs, safety nets and infrastructure that have been built up over two decades are systematically being defunded and dismantled.

We are seeing red when we witness invasive mandatory names reporting for anyone testing HIV-positive. The alarming increase in infection rates among youth, women and communities of color makes us angry. We are frustrated by cuts in proven prevention programming in favor of abstinence only, faith-based initiatives. We see far too much apathy from those once-empowered individuals who are fatigued by having to fight the system as well as HIV/AIDS.

But throughout this year we have channeled our anger and frustration, renewing our passion and activism to fight the complacency surrounding HIV and AIDS. I'm proud to say that we are facing our challenges, and will continue to do so. We are becoming less dependent on governmental funding by reaching out to individuals, corporations and foundations that are willing to invest in TPAN's continued survival and growth.

We are keeping our programs and services going and growing, ensuring that as core medical services extend the quantity of life, attention is also paid to the quality of life.

I look forward to the challenges and triumphs that lie ahead. With the support of allies like you, I am confident that TPAN will continue to have a positive impact on the lives of those living with HIV. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Rick Bejlovec
Executive Director



Mission Statement

Our Mission—TPAN empowers people living with HIV through peer-led programming, support services, information dissemination, and advocacy. We also provide services to the broader community to increase HIV knowledge and sensitivity, and to reduce the risk of infection.

Board of Directors

Michael J. Roberts, President

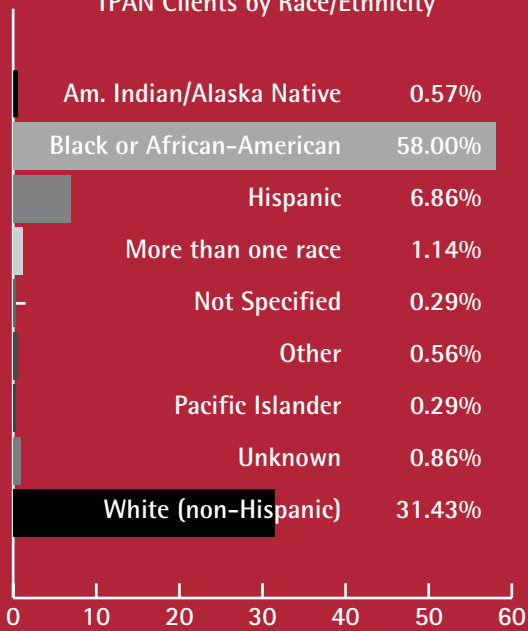
Brian Agne, Gary Bucher, MD, Bill Capille, Brant Dykehouse, Tom Hart, Reggie Jackson, Condon McGlothlen, Swarup Mehta, Catherine Nurmela, Hans Schuster, Jamie Sutherland, Jorge Valdivia, Graham Williams

Staff Directors

Rick Bejlovec, Executive Director

Jeff Berry, Daniel Kopelson, Barbara Marcotte, Ronald Schnorbus, Thomas Setto, Matthew Sharp

TPAN Clients by Race/Ethnicity



clients. TPAN's method of service delivery is a model of providing individual and group programs that focus on clients maintaining or establishing self sufficiency and improved physical and mental health, as well as having a strong knowledge of community resources.

The majority of TPAN clients served are without income or fall within the federal poverty guidelines. We have seen a high need in communities of color, formerly incarcerated individuals and those who are addicted to drugs or alcohol or in recent recovery from addictions. TPAN takes pride in providing client-centered services to these individuals. Programs staff meets clients where they are in life and provides them with specific peer-led support and intervention. No matter who you are, you can walk into TPAN and find a staff member or volunteer who is or has been in your shoes. This makes TPAN unique and irreplaceable in the Chicago community. TPAN is a place where people can come and feel comfortable no matter who they are.

A new program developed in 2005 for TPAN is Positively Wired. Positively Wired provides computer courses with group and individual instruction that assists clients in learning basic and advanced computer skills with a goal in providing HIV+ individuals the opportunity to return to work, acquire employment, seek volunteer opportunities or fine tune their skills regarding advocacy issues. Currently funded through a grant from the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Positively Wired collaborates with the I-4 employment initiative led by Chicago House and involving several partner agencies.

TPAN currently hosts 13 different support group meetings throughout the week. All of TPAN's groups are peer led and peer facilitated. TPAN has seen a need in the community to expand our Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and Crystal Meth Anonymous groups. Because of this the agency has expanded our Tuesday evening group in order to serve a greater community need. We also host three other community recovery groups during the week.

TPAN's registered client base continues to grow. With the addition of our Data Evaluator to the staff and the implementation of a federal client database called "CAREWare," we have made improvements in our client tracking system and program evaluation, and instituted outcome-based logic models for all programs. Currently TPAN has 350 registered clients from almost every zip code in the city of Chicago and many suburbs as well. Additionally, due to our history and program structure, there are many individuals not registered as clients but still receiving services or attending TPAN programs.

Volunteers have always been and will continue to be the major resource for TPAN and our programs. They are the engine behind our peer-led service model and without them we could not fulfill our mission. From leading support groups to working the reception desk, from conducting educational programs to assisting with data collection, from volunteering as massage therapists to being peer buddies, we thank them for sharing their knowledge and experience while empowering themselves and their peers.

TPAN Publications

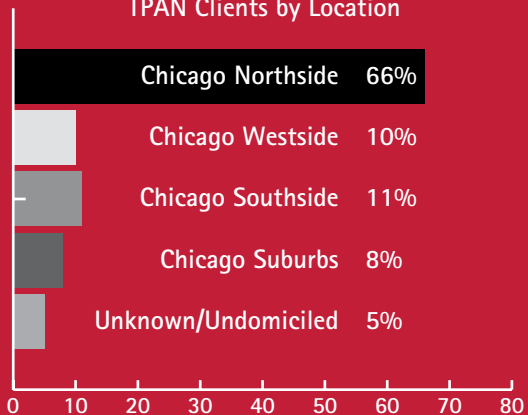
Positively Aware magazine and the Publications team experienced tremendous growth and change this year, while continuing to fulfill our mission as one of the most trusted community resources for accurate, up-to-date treatment



TPAN Programs

Test Positive Aware Network's Programs Department has experienced much growth and change during the past fiscal year. These changes have allowed us to deliver enhanced services to engage our client base. The result of these changes has been empowering to TPAN

TPAN Clients by Location



information and related news for people living with HIV/AIDS and their advocates.

This year we went after some tough issues with a series of articles in *Positively Aware* on the "Politics of HIV," including interviews with U.S. Senator Barack Obama and U.S. Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky. We covered other heavy-hitting subjects such as AIDS in Africa, youth and HIV, harm reduction and protecting our communities of color. The Annual HIV Drug Guide lists all of the current and soon to be approved medications for HIV, with tips on how to use each drug and a pull-out color chart. It continues to be our most popular issue, year after year, and is available in both English and Spanish.

Positively Aware also reported in-depth on the three leading HIV scientific conferences: Retrovirus, ICAAC, and the 3rd International AIDS Society Conference held in Rio de Janeiro. With additional funding we were able to produce two special supplements of *Positively Aware*, each focusing on a specific topic of importance to those living with HIV, one on drug resistance and another on how to impact treatment outcomes.

A new collaboration between *Positively Aware* and the American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM) was formed this year, expanding the distribution of the magazine so that it now reaches more than 2,000 accredited HIV-treating physicians and their patients around the country. In addition, *Positively Aware* is now distributed to all Walgreens HIV-specialty pharmacies nationwide.

Finally, through the assistance of Illinois State Representative Larry McKeon, TPAN secured much needed funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health to continue to publish the *Chicago Area HIV Services Directory*. Funding for the directory was eliminated last year as a result of federal budget cuts. This vital tool is utilized by both case managers and clients alike, and lists nearly 400 agencies and 200 professionals who provide services for those living with and affected by HIV. The grant also allowed us to expand and redesign the online version of the directory, making it an even more user-friendly and powerful searchable database, available at www.tpan.com.

Positively Aware and Test Positive Aware Network continue to make a difference both locally and nationally, and forever remain "committed to living."

TPAN Development

In a time of continued funding uncertainty, TPAN has had more than its fair share of challenges during this fiscal year. Our agency has truly espoused a holistic approach, where board, staff and volunteers realize the importance of diversifying our funding and being good stewards for our resources. Also recognized is our need to work with appropriate partner agencies to allow us to fulfill our vision with the most efficient use of resources.

As the federal government issues more mandates to fund direct medical services, there has been a massive reduction in Ryan White funding for the Minority AIDS Initiative in Chicago. This fiscal year TPAN lost more than \$130,000 in funding. We have redoubled our efforts to investigate and pursue alternate government funding sources at the local, state and federal level. During this fiscal year we have included the Centers for Disease Control, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Illinois Department of Public Health, United States Conference of Mayors, and Chicago Department of Public Health in our list of applications for funding.



We have fortified our effort to pursue and obtain new and additional monies from private and corporate foundations. This has resulted in communicating anew the mission and vision of TPAN to organizations previously unfamiliar to our agency. More than \$100,000 of revenue from sources new to TPAN has been raised through activities in the past year, a three-fold increase over the previous year. Additionally, we have enhanced our individual giving initiatives with support requests disseminated through *Positively Aware* and our TPAN mailing lists.

The Aware Affair Gala, held September 9, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency, was a huge success increasing by 40% net income over the previous year. The Ride for AIDS Chicago, a two-day bicycle ride from Chicago to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin and back, was held on June 3rd and 4th, raising more than \$70,000 for TPAN and our partner agency Better Existence with HIV (BEHIV.) A new event, "Chicago Takes Off," is in the planning stages for February 2007. Through the generosity of many community partners, TPAN was the beneficiary of a host of activities held throughout Chicago during the year. These organizations are listed with our funders in this report.



Photos: Previous page, TPAN Programs Staff.
This page, top, TPAN Publications Staff, bottom, TPAN Administration and Development Staff.

Seeing Red Ribbon design courtesy of Kevin Pütz, Toolbox Inc.

TPAN Education

"Knowledge is Power" is a hallmark of TPAN and key to the empowerment of people living with HIV/AIDS. TPAN has always been associated with informing people about HIV treatment through educational forums and publications, especially *Positively Aware*. Our current educational programming is the foundation for client support and management at TPAN and drives our clients to take better overall care of themselves.

The TEAM (Treatment Education Advocacy Management) peer-led training program provides a foundation of treatment and prevention information in an 18-hour training that explores HIV pathogenesis, health and the body, the immune system, complications of HIV, sexually transmitted infections, mental health and substance use. Upon completion, participants are certified and encouraged to stay in TPAN programming to receive continuing education and support through monthly Committed to Living forums, an educational update on specific treatment and psychosocial topics, and the Buddy Program, a mentorship support program.

We also take TEAM outside of TPAN to agencies and communities that have less access to the Chicago north side. The Luck Care Center, Bonaventure House and Chicago House have all received TEAM training.

Graduates from TEAM can also enroll in TEAM Action, a public speaking class that teaches participants how to present their stories. TPAN was a facilitator of the successful Chicago TORCH project, which also provided skills to peers who wanted to learn to be better advocates. In fact, most TORCH participants were TEAM graduates. TORCH was a project dedicated to Charles Clifton, TPAN's former executive director and *Positively Aware* editor.

Our educational programming is unsurpassed in Chicago and in the U.S. TPAN is one of the only AIDS service organizations in the country that has maintained a fully functioning peer-led HIV treatment education training program despite continuing funding setbacks. We also provide other opportunities for forums on special topics in the community. A recent forum called the "Real Deal in Black and White" brought black and white communities together to address barriers to care for African Americans living with HIV. Every other year, TPAN sponsors a gay men's health summit focusing on the health and well being of gay men in the Midwest. We also conduct the bi-annual Women Living conference for HIV-positive women.

Other educational opportunities around HIV vaccine information have been presented by TPAN. We also regularly present HIV update information on CAN-TV, Chicago's educational cable TV program. We also are host to pharmaceutical companies who provide educational information to the community about new drugs in clinical studies.



As we continue to educate clients, our unique programming is also offered to Chicago service providers through Committed to Caring, a bi-monthly forum offering continuing education units to people working in AIDS service organizations. The forums provide educational treatment and psychosocial topics with a case consultation format.

Outside of the agency TPAN is working to create new and innovative HIV education programming in communities hardest hit by the epidemic on the West and South Side of Chicago. Mobile TEAM is a new program that will be tailored to fit the Austin neighborhood focusing on treatment, prevention and HIV rapid testing.

We are currently working to create an online educational resource that will be housed on the AIDS Foundation of Chicago's website and will assist in linking people newly diagnosed with HIV to treatment and care through peer instructional videos.

TPAN will continue its commitment to create precedent-setting, peer-led educational and outcome-based programming as the HIV epidemic changes. Challenges to coping with and understanding HIV will be addressed as the years move on.

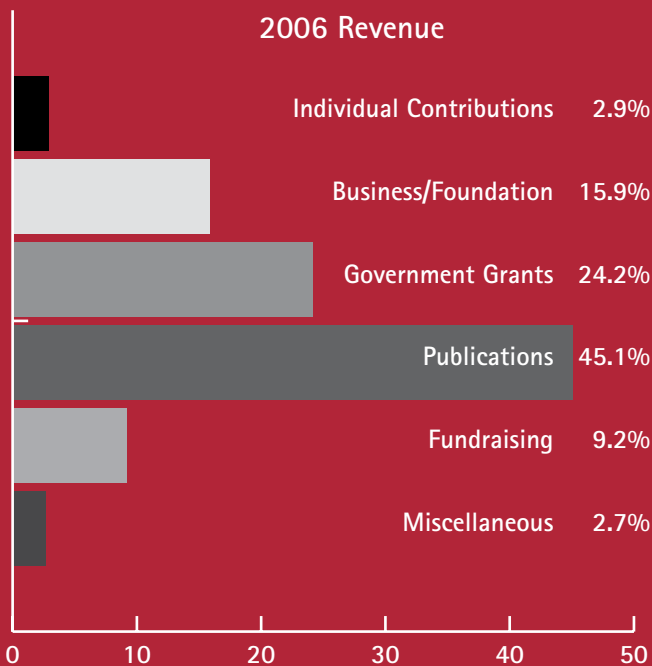




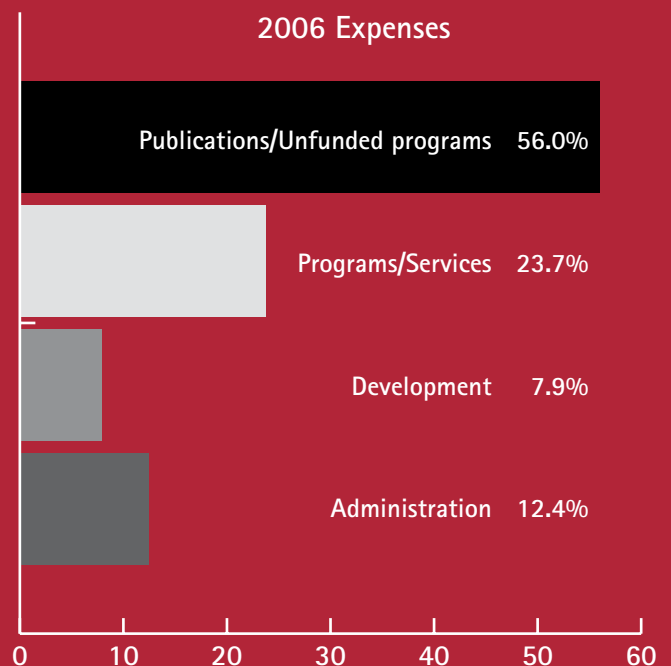
2006 Revenue and Expenses (Fiscal year ending June 30, 2006)

	2006 <i>(unaudited)</i>	2005 <i>(revised)</i>
Revenue		
Public Support		
Individual Contributions	53,475.00	29,447.00
Business/Foundations	286,952.00	455,801.00
Government Grants	440,806.00	426,776.00
Earned Income		
Publications	820,500.00	689,016.00
Fundraising	167,378.00	157,393.00
Miscellaneous	48,858.00	829.00
Total Revenue	1,817,969.00	1,759,262.00
Expenses		
Publications	1,029,777.00	1,013,541.00
Programs/Services	434,550.00	400,721.00
Development	146,215.00	72,903.00
Administration	227,909.00	107,628.00
Total Expenses	1,838,451.00	1,594,793.00
Revenue in excess of expenses	(\$20,482.00)	164,469.00

2006 Revenue



2006 Expenses



TPAN Supporters

TPAN is proud to have the support of the local and national community including; Abbott Laboratories, Access Community Health Network, Ada S. McKinley Community Services, AIDS Foundation of Chicago, ANM Healthcare Solutions, BBJ Linens, Big Gay Cocktail Club, Bioscrip Pharmacy, Bloomingdale's, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, Boehringer-Ingelheim, BoysTownChicago.com, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Broadway Cares, Chicago Community Trust, Chicago Department of Public Health, Chicago Foundation for Women, Chicago In Bloom Floral and Events, Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association, ChicagoPride.com, Chicago Spirit Brigade, CNA Insurance, Comer Foundation, Contract Creatives, Dance for Life Chicago, DIFFA Chicago, Friend & Associates, Gay Chicago Magazine, Gilead Sciences, GlaxoSmithKline, Grabby Awards, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Hydrate, Illinois Department of Public Health, Instinct Magazine, J & L Catering, Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, Lucky Horseshoe, MAC AIDS Fund, Michael Leppen, National AIDS Fund, National Minority AIDS Council, Northend Bar, Northstar Healthcare, Orbitz, Polk Brothers Foundation, Print Services, Inc., NBC-5 TV, Resurrection Healthcare/St. Joseph Hospital, Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corp, Roche, Season of Concern, See Eyewear, Serono Laboratories, Sidetrack, Steamworks, Stoli, The 37 Group, Tibotec, Toolbox, Inc., UBS, Virginia Wolff, Inc., Wachovia Securities, Walgreens, WildeC3 Designs, Windy City Athletic Association, Windy City Media Group, X/O Chicago.



You Can Help

There are a variety of ways that you can assist TPAN as we educate and support those who are HIV positive:

- Join as a volunteer
- Make a donation
- Designate TPAN through United Way or your employer's giving program
- Attend a TPAN educational, support group or special event
- Ride or pledge for the Ride For AIDS Chicago

Contact TPAN at 773-989-9400 or www.tpan.com

Photo: Louis Spraggins, Rachel Reich, Dr. Michael Marcotte, Barb Marcotte at TPAN's Women Living Conference



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