



Carolinascare Partnership

2012 -2013 Annual Report

Providing **C**omprehensive **A**IDS **R**esources and **E**ducation

PROVIDING HIV PREVENTION, COUNSELING, TESTING, HOUSING, AND EDUCATION



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Greetings,

We are pleased to provide you with our 2012 -2013 Annual Report. This report allows the opportunity for the Carolinas CARE Partnership to share with you the impressive accomplishments of our staff, board of directors and volunteers as we all joined together in our fight against HIV/AIDS that is making the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region a healthier place to live.

Our staff have been instrumental in implementing numerous impactful programs that have included:

- Providing housing programs and services for **over 550** people living with HIV/AIDS and their families because we know that stable housing is critically important for people living with HIV/AIDS, as it provides a firm base that allows access for essential medical adherence.
- Providing HIV counseling, testing and referrals in substance abuse centers and other sites to **over 2,615** people who may have been at high risk of HIV/AIDS. As a person gains knowledge of their HIV status they can better protect themselves and, if they are HIV positive, can take steps to get into treatment and thus reduce their chances of infecting others.
- Providing **over 1,400** individuals with information on HIV prevention and how to reduce behaviors that may place them at risk for HIV/AIDS.
- Assisting with the development of an online site where young gay men of color in both North and South Carolina can learn about HIV prevention.
- Numerous trainings conducted by staff and others have helped to provide information on HIV Health Literacy; HIV A to Z; Community Collaboration; Fair Housing; and the impact of the Affordable Care Act on people who are living with disabilities.
- Collaborated with **over 70 community partners**, who supported us in fulfilling our mission in addressing HIV/AIDS in a large regional area.

While we take pride in our accomplishments, we also realize that our job is to keep strongly moving forward to identify new ways and resources to fight and end HIV/AIDS in our community.

We thank you all who have supported us with our efforts, as we recognize that we cannot fight this battle alone, but that we must all join together to make a difference.

Finally, we look forward to continue working with you and others as we work to end this epidemic and look to the day that we can celebrate the end of HIV/AIDS.

Best regards,

Terry W. Ellington
Executive Director

Paula Toynton
Board Chair



2012 -2013 Annual Report

Executive Summary

This executive summary provides a brief outline of the accomplishments of the Carolinas CARE Partnership during our 2012 -2013 fiscal year. Please see our full annual report for more details on our activities in addressing HIV/AIDS in the Charlotte metro region.

- ❖ As the administrator of the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program, the Carolinas CARE Partnership provided funding to ten organizations that provided essential housing and supportive services to **over 550** people living with HIV/AIDS and their families because we know that stable housing is critically important for people living with HIV/AIDS, as it provides a firm base that allows access for essential medical adherence. In addition, over **90%** of the clients served through the HOPWA program retained housing stability.
- ❖ The Carolinas CARE Partnership was instrumental in providing HIV counseling, testing and referrals in substance abuse centers and other sites to **over 2,615** people who may have been at high risk of HIV/AIDS. As a person gains knowledge of their HIV status they can better protect themselves and, if they are HIV positive, can take steps to get into treatment and thus reduce their chances of infecting others
- ❖ The Carolinas CARE Partnership was involved in providing **over 1,400** individuals with information on HIV prevention and how to reduce behaviors that may place them at risk for HIV/AIDS.
- ❖ Assisting with the development of an online site where young gay men of color in both North and South Carolina can learn about HIV prevention.
- ❖ The Carolinas CARE Partnership coordinated numerous trainings conducted by staff and others that provided information on HIV Health Literacy; HIV A to Z; Community Collaboration; Fair Housing; and the impact of the Affordable Care Act on people who are living with disabilities.
- ❖ Collaborated with **over 70 community partners**, who supported us in fulfilling our mission in addressing HIV/AIDS in a large regional area.

Please visit our website at www.carolinascare.org to learn more about our organization and the impact we are making in the community in our fight to against HIV/AIDS. Please also see how you can support us by volunteering or making a contribution to support our mission.

Thank You!





Our Mission Statement:

To foster and to ensure a regional approach to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS and to meet with compassion and dignity the needs of those affected by the disease.





Our History

The Carolinas CARE Partnership, formerly the Regional HIV/AIDS Consortium, was founded in 1990 as a joint effort between the Foundation For The Carolinas and United Way of Central Carolinas. These two organizations were seeking to address the impact of AIDS in the North and South Carolina region surrounding Mecklenburg County, NC. When the Ryan White CARE Act began distributing funds, the Regional HIV/AIDS Consortium was chosen to administer those funds in this region.

In the past 23 years, the Carolinas CARE Partnership's history has included management of the Ryan White CARE Act that supported many agencies that provided care and treatment and the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program that also funded numerous housing initiatives for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition, we provided supervision of the Regional Case Management Network, initiated the development of a Training Institute, were involved public policy, public awareness, grants procurement and provided oversight and management of programs that provided in-home mental health services and substance abuse treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The Carolinas CARE Partnership has been fortunate and grateful to have received funding and support from the N. C. STD/HIV Prevention Branch, the City of Charlotte's Neighborhood and Business Department; The Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services, the Centers For Disease Control, Duke University's Centers For Health Policy and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.



THE IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS

HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. This is the virus that causes AIDS. HIV disease is used to broadly describe the disease or illness caused by infection with the human immunodeficiency virus. HIV disease compromises the immune system and if left untreated results in life threatening illness. While there is no cure for HIV, if individuals are diagnosed early and begin treatment appropriately, they may live with the illness, managing it as a chronic disease.

The initial cases of what would later become known as AIDS were reported in the United States in June 1981. Since then, more than 1.8 million people in the U.S. are estimated to have been infected with HIV, including over 650,000 who have already died; today, more than 1.1 million people are living with HIV.

While the response in the United States has resulted in numerous successes there are many challenges that remain, because while the number of new HIV infections is down from its highest in the 1980s, new infections have remained at about 50,000 for more than a decade.

HIV counseling and testing is important for prevention, care and treatment efforts. The CDC recommends routine HIV testing for all people ages 13-64. This is due to that 18% of those infected with HIV don't know it, and many people with HIV (32%) are diagnosed late in their illness.

The epidemic's impact varies across the country, and it continues to have a disproportionate impact on certain populations, particularly racial and ethnic minorities and gay and bisexual men.

As of December 31, 2011, the estimated number of living HIV disease cases diagnosed and reported in North Carolina was 26,168

- For 2011, 1,563 new diagnoses of HIV disease were reported
- For 2011, 830 new diagnoses of AIDS were reported

The Charlotte following numbers point to the troubling impact of HIV/AIDS in the Charlotte metro region. In our metro region, there are over 6,000 individual living with HIV/AIDS

- In Mecklenburg County there are over 300 new cases each year.
- Among the HIV disease cases diagnosed in 2011, African Americans represented 68% of all cases. The highest rate (99.3 per 100,000) was among adult/adolescent African American males
- For 2011 adult/adolescent HIV disease cases, men who have sex with men (MSM) was the principal risk factor indicated in 59 percent of total cases, heterosexual transmission risk was indicated in 35 percent, injecting drug use (IDU) was indicated in 5 percent, and MSM/IDU was indicated in 1 percent of total cases



Programs of the Carolinas CARE Partnership

The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program



Housing is Healthcare!

Stable housing is the cornerstone of HIV/AIDS treatment, allowing persons with HIV/AIDS to access comprehensive healthcare and adhere to complex HIV/AIDS drug therapies.

The Carolinas CARE Partnership has, since 1998, administered the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program in six-counties that include: Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Union and York (SC) counties. We are honored to have been able to contract with the City of Charlotte's Neighborhood Business and Services to administer the HOPWA program. In 2012 - 2013, the Carolinas CARE Partnership provided funding to the following organizations under the HOPWA program:

- ✚ Catawba Care - Short-term Rent, Utility, and Mortgage Assistance; Permanent Housing
- ✚ Crisis Assistance Ministry - Short-term Rent, Utility, and Mortgage Assistance
- ✚ The Havens, Inc. - Operating Expenses
- ✚ Hope Haven, Inc. - Supportive services - Substance Abuse After-Care Residential Treatment
- ✚ House of Mercy, Inc. - Supportive Services/Operating Expenses – Residential Care for Persons with AIDS
- ✚ McLeod Addictive Disease Center - Supportive Services - Inpatient Substance Abuse Treatment
- ✚ Community Link - Housing Information Services; Permanent Housing Placement; Short-term Rent, Utility, and Mortgage Assistance
- ✚ Men's Shelter of Charlotte – Housing Information Services; Permanent Housing
- ✚ Urban Ministry Center – Supportive Services
- ✚ Tenant-Based Rental Vouchers – Provision of Rental Subsidies; Supportive Services; and Permanent Housing Placement
- ✚ Carolinas CARE Partnership – Resource Identification

The HOPWA program **served 567 clients** and their family members and **over 90% remained stably housed**. In addition, the majority had contact with a primary health care provider and accessed and maintained medical insurance/assistance. The Carolinas Care Partnership adheres to the purpose of HOPWA which is to perpetuate a continuum of care for people living with HIV/AIDS.



Programs of the Carolinas CARE Partnership (cont'd)

HIV Education and Resource Opportunities

H·E·R·O·E·S

A prevention program for Latino and African American Men



HEROES is a Carolinas CARE Partnership Centers for Disease Control-funded HIV prevention intervention. The goal of HEROES is to enhance individuals' personal sense of risk, develop a plan to reduce that risk, and encourage participants to get tested for HIV.

HEROES uses RESPECT, an evidence-based intervention that has been thoroughly studied since the 1990s and has been proven to be effective in reducing new HIV and STDs in participants by 20%.

HEROES is appropriate for any Latino or African American man who engages in risky behaviors - unprotected sex or sharing needles with persons of unknown HIV status.

HEROES is conducted by experienced, well-trained staff who are compassionate, dedicated, and knowledgeable.

HEROES gives Latino and African American men access to prevention information and HIV testing in a way that has never before been available in our area.

HEROES provides an opportunity for men to learn the truth about HIV, examine their own risk, and develop a plan for reducing their risk of contracting the virus.

HEROES encourages men to take control of their health, their risk, their sexual behavior and substance use, and teaches them how to be their OWN heroes.

During the 2012 - 2013 fiscal year, the HEROES program tested **738** African-American men and found 6 individuals living with HIV and **669** Latino men with four positive results. All men were referred for care and treatment. These activities helped the men to know of their status that leads to reducing risky behaviors and that makes our community a healthier place to live.



Programs of the Carolinas CARE Partnership (cont'd)



HIV Counseling and Testing Programs

Substance Abuse Centers (SAC) HIV Counseling and, Testing and Referral Services

The Carolinas CARE Partnership's State-funded SAC HIV Counseling and Testing programs allowed for the program to provide HIV prevention and referral services to substance abusers at sites where they are receiving treatment services. In 2012 - 2013, the SAC program **tested 657 individuals** and found on HIV positive person and on person with syphilis and both were linked to care.

Non-Traditional Site (NTS) HIV Counseling, Testing and Referral

Early knowledge of HIV infection is now recognized as a critical component in controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS. The State-funded NTS program allowed the Carolinas CARE Partnership to provide HIV testing at non-traditional sites where high-risk factors may occur. This program helped to identify people who were unaware of their HIV status and facilitated them getting into treatment and prevention services if they were found to be HIV positive. In 2012 -2013, the NTS program **tested 1,958 individuals** and found 8 people living with HIV, of which 6 were linked to care and 4 syphilis cases, and all were linked to care.





The Training Institute

The Carolinas CARE Partnership, as of one of the leading AIDS service organizations in the region, strongly believes in the importance of providing continuous education opportunities for service professionals and clients that leads to an improved delivery of services.

In our 2012 - 2013 fiscal year we were able to provide many free or low-cost training to service providers and consumers. These trainings included:

- HIV A to Z at McLeod Addictive Disease Center, Center for Prevention Services, and at our agency
 - Community Collaboration
 - Community Mapping
 - Social Media
 - Motivational Interviewing
 - ACRIA 's HIV/AIDS Health Literacy
 - Bristol-Myers Squibb on the Impact of Medicaid
 - City of Charlotte's Community Relations Dept. on Fair Housing
 - Domestic Violence and HIV
-
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On Line Safe Space Initiative



According to the Centers for Disease Control, in the United States, gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM) are disproportionately affected by HIV.

MSM represent approximately 2% of the US population, but accounted for more than half of all estimated new HIV infections annually from 2008 to 2010.

Among MSM, black/African American MSM—especially young black/African American MSM—are at highest risk of HIV.

In 2010, black/African American MSM accounted for almost as many new HIV infections as white MSM, despite their differences in population size.

Young black/African American MSM aged 13 to 24 are especially affected by HIV. They accounted for approximately 4,800 new HIV infections—more than any other age group or race of MSM. They accounted for more than half of new infections among MSM aged 13 to 24.

HIV prevention and education program in North and South Carolina for Black men and Transgender women. After several years of expert services under the D-Up! Prevention Is Sexy program, we decided to explore an innovative way to motivate, educate, and empower our community to prevent and decrease the spread of HIV, and improve our overall health.

The Carolinas CARE Partnership collaborated with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte as they established an intervention study that included the development of a website for HIV prevention and health promotion education for young men of color who have sex with men that uses multiple modules of information delivered in the context of a larger social networking website. The project is called the “Online Safe Space Initiative.”

This online “safe space” offers study participants opportunities to participate in a number of educational modules targeting knowledge of sexual risk, condom use, and self esteem in a closed, members-only environment. Intervention effectiveness will be evaluated by pre-test/post-test measurements of multiple variables already proven to be associated with HIV risk.



Our Community Partners



We send our deepest appreciation to our following community partners, who were instrumental in making the Carolinas CARE Partnership being successful in the implementation of all of its programs.

ACRIA	McLeod Federal Halfway House
Alternative Living Solutions	McLeod Halfway House
Anuvia Day, Evening and Latino Programs	Mecklenburg County Disease Intervention Specialist
Arbor Glenn Outreach Center	Mecklenburg County Health Department
Bethesda Clinic	Melange
Cabarrus Health Alliance	Men's Shelter of Charlotte
Catawba College	Metro Treatment Center
Charlotte Housing Authority	Miracle House of Hope
City of Charlotte's Neighborhood and Business Services	Monarch Substance Abuse Center
City of Purpose	New Birth Church
CMC Myers Park	New Life Ministries
CN Jenkins Church	New Tomorrow
Communities in Transition	NO Wall Ministries
Crisis Assistance Ministry	On-Ramp
CW Williams	Powerhouse Project
Different Roads Home	Pride Charlotte
Dining Out For Life International	Quality Home Health Care
Dove's Nest	Ramsey's Temple
Easttowne Family Physicians	Regional AIDS Interfaith Network (RAIN)
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church	Revival Temple
Gaston County health Department	Rosedale Infectious Disease
Goodwill of Southern Piedmont	Rowan Helping Ministries
Grace Covenant Church	Saint Paul Baptist Church
Hope Haven	Salisbury Health Department
Hoskins Park Ministries	Southeast Addiction Institute and Learning center, Inc. (SAIL)
ID Consultants	St Peters Home
Johnson & Wales University	Temple of Refuge
Johnson C. Smith University	The Rock Church
Juneteenth Festival of the Carolinas	UNC-Charlotte
Livingstone College	Union County Homeless Shelter
McLeod Addictive Disease Center (Charlotte, Concord, Gastonia, Statesville, and Monroe)	Walgreens



We send our deepest appreciation to our Board of Directors for providing their time, strategic planning expertise, and guidance that assisted the Carolinas CARE to remain a strong organization.

Carolinas CARE Partnership 2012 -2013 Board of Directors

Paula Toynton
Vice Chair: Susan Reif, PhD
Secretary: Justin Geren
Treasurer: Richard Grimstad
Immediate past chair: Tangela M. Davis
Thomas Carson
Soreé Finley
Richard Grimstad
Justin Geren
Lewis McCurdy, MD
Lynn Morrow
Tony Salazar
J. Wesley Thompson, MHS, PA-C
Alista "Cozzie" Watkins, RN

We also send our sincere gratitude to our dedicated and professional staff that helped in providing direct services and maintained our programs and financials in a effective and efficient manner.

Carolinas CARE Partnership 2012 -2013 Staff

Terry W. Ellington, Executive Director
Shannon Warren, Program Director
Kathy Kurtz, Finance Director
Lorie Goble, Housing Coordinator
Kay Prioleau, Housing Coordinator
Melonie Grier, Housing Coordinator
Antwine Mitchell, Prevention Coordinator
Dennis Escobar, Prevention Coordinator
Rebecca Garrett, Prevention Coordinator
Darrin Johnson, Prevention Coordinator



The Carolinas CARE Partnership is truly honored and thankful to the following who have provided us with support by their generous donations to our agency. Their support helped to strengthen our programs and the services we provide in the community. The supporters also include the restaurants and sponsors who assisted with making our first-ever Dining Out For Life event a success! Please forgive us if we have left a name off the list and inform us and we will make an update.

OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

California Pizza
David Sindram
Deltas of Charlotte
Dressler's Restaurant and Bar
Ed Smith
Emmet Hunter Dyer, MD
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
ID Consultants
Kirsten Winkle
Latrelle McAllister
Lewis McCurdy, MD
Lynn Morrow

Richard Grimstad
Ruby Tuesdays
St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church
Susan Reif, PhD
The Container Store
The Flying Biscuit
The Junior League
The Leon Levine Foundation
The Phillip Van Every Foundation
Vivace Restaurant
Warren & Associates
Wingzza



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CAROLINAS CARE PARTNERSHIP

Consolidated Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2012, With Prior Year Comparative Totals

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Totals	
			2012	2011
SUPPORT				
Contributions and grants:				
Federal	\$ 1,412,301	\$ -	\$ 1,412,301	\$ 1,569,483
Other	135,655	667	136,322	112,752
TOTAL SUPPORT	1,547,956	667	1,548,623	1,682,235
EXPENSES				
Program services	1,349,567	-	1,349,567	1,460,950
Management and general	101,391	-	101,391	118,899
Fundraising	49,870	-	49,870	54,048
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,500,828	-	1,500,828	1,633,897
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	47,128	667	47,795	48,338
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING	184,207	-	184,207	135,869
NET ASSETS, ENDING	\$ 231,335	\$ 667	\$ 232,002	\$ 184,207

CAROLINAS CARE PARTNERHSIP

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