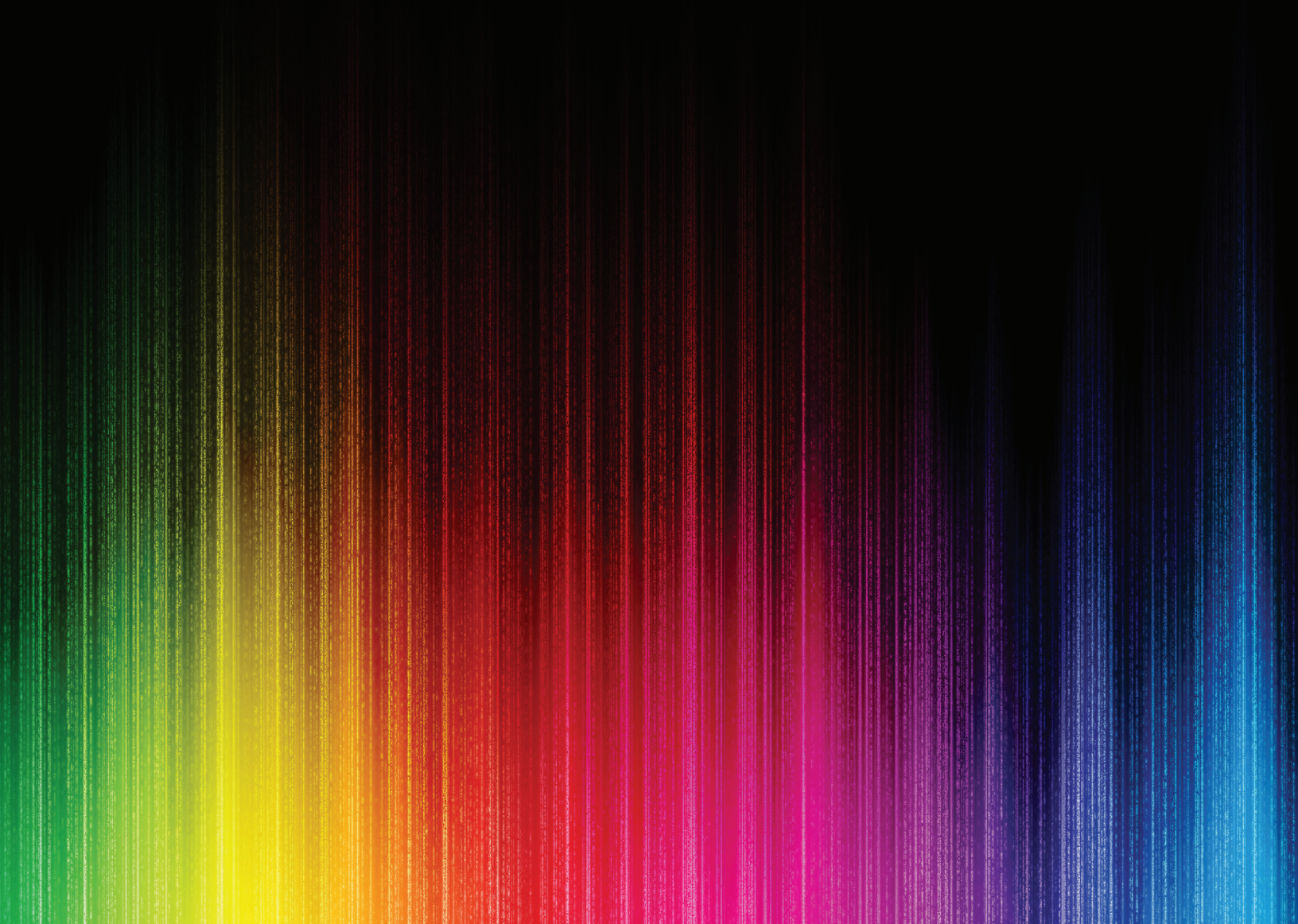




LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER®

2020
ANNUAL
REPORT



LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER

Since 1969 the Los Angeles LGBT Center has cared for, championed and celebrated LGBT individuals and families in Los Angeles and beyond. Today the Center's nearly 800 employees provide services for more LGBT people than any other organization in the world, offering programs, services and global advocacy that span four broad categories: Health, Social Services and Housing, Culture and Education, Leadership and Advocacy. We are an unstoppable force in the fight against bigotry and the struggle to build a better world; a world in which LGBT people can be healthy, equal and complete members of society. Learn more at lalgbtcenter.org.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles LGBT Center is building a world where LGBT people thrive as healthy, equal and complete members of society.

We Value:

RESPECT

We provide a workplace and service environment where individuality is seen as strength and all people are treated with fairness and dignity.

EXCELLENCE

We dedicate ourselves to the highest quality in all our programs and services, and seek employees and volunteers who have a passion for helping others.

INCLUSIVENESS

We believe in the need for different perspectives and commit ourselves to representation from all members of our diverse community.

INNOVATION

We vigorously support pioneering programs and advocacy to meet community needs.

INTEGRITY

We work together to advance the Center's mission, and we honor and apply these values in what we do and say.

2020 EXECUTIVE TEAM LIST

Lorri L. Jean
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Darrel Cummings
CHIEF OF STAFF

2020 SENIOR EXECUTIVE TEAM

Alan Acosta
DIRECTOR OF
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Sharon-Franklin Brown
DIRECTOR OF
HUMAN RESOURCES

Ricardo DeLeon
Mike Holtzman
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS

Calen D.B. Ouellette
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Kari Pacheco
CO-DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES

Terra Russell Slavin
DIRECTOR OF POLICY
AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Michael Mueller
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Loren S. Ostrow
Jayzen Patria
Frank Pond
Don Thomas

MILESTONES

2020

YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF THE CENTER'S WORK TO BUILD A WORLD WHERE LGBT PEOPLE THRIVE AS HEALTHY, EQUAL, AND COMPLETE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY WAS MORE CRITICAL THAN EVER THIS YEAR. THANK YOU!



The 5,500-square-foot community space located on W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. near Leimert Park opened in January. The grand opening community celebration featured remarks by local leaders. Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, hundreds of guests toured the facility and reveled in the daylong festivity which included food, refreshments, giveaways, a resource fair, and entertainment.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

The Center's Policy & Community Building team led our voter registration and education efforts throughout 2020. Resistance Squad volunteers made thousands of phone calls to help turn out the vote, while the Center's voter education campaign included Proposition recommendations, party platform analysis, voter registration information, and information about how to vote safely during COVID-19. A virtual community conversation was held the night after the Presidential election in November featuring Center CEO Lorri L. Jean, U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, Founder of the Black AIDS Institute Phill Wilson, and Center Federal Advocate Dan Maldonado.

The fourth annual Black History Month event drew a record crowd of more than 400 people and included keynote speaker Yazmin Monet Watkins, award presentations, live performances, fashion show, art exhibit, resource fair, sit-down dinner, and dancing.

THE FUTURE IS BLACK

Embracing Our Roots



FAB FIVE

Two of the Center's ten locations—Center WeHo in West Hollywood and Mi Centro, the Center's partnership location with Latino Equality Alliance in Boyle Heights—celebrated their fifth anniversaries in October.



Developed and launched through a coordinated effort of staff from across the Center, Pride Pantry helps meet the needs of community members experiencing food insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Pantry distributes food directly from the Anita May Rosenstein Campus, Mi Centro, and Center South locations along with supplying food for seniors at Triangle Square and for delivery through Senior Angels.



A critical virtual conversation in October featured providers of trans-related services throughout Southern California as a call to action to stop the violence against the trans community. The more than three dozen homicides of trans and gender nonconforming people reported in the United States make this year the deadliest on record.

U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff joined members of the Center's community for a special virtual conversation in April. Leading up to the November election, the Policy & Community Building team hosted a panel of grassroots community leaders discussing the intersection of racial justice and LGBTQ issues on the ballot.



To help keep the community up to date on changes to programs and services in response to COVID-19, the Center launched a month-long daily news show streamed on social media featuring critical updates from Center staff members.



Located at the Center's flagship Anita May Rosenstein Campus, the Liberation Coffee House opened in August. The 1,600-square-foot café and community space is operated and staffed by graduates of the intergenerational Culinary Arts program. Revenue from this unique social enterprise is reinvested into the Center.



Launched in October and presented by AIDS/LifeCycle, the ride-at-your-own-pace event for cyclists of all ages and abilities will raise critical funds for the Center's HIV and AIDS related services and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Participants have until June 2021 to complete their collective 1.2 million miles, representing the 1.2 million people in the U.S. living with HIV and AIDS.

AIDS/LifeCycle® @HOME

May 31 - June 6, 2020

With the 545-mile ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles postponed for the first time in history due to COVID-19 safety precautions, AIDS/LifeCycle@HOME featured a week of virtual events to celebrate the spirit of community and philanthropy for the 3,000+ participants who had registered for this year's physical ride. Participants raised an amazing \$8.1 million benefiting San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the HIV/AIDS-related services of the Center.

QUEER THE CENSUS

Led by the Policy & Community Building team, the Center's outreach and education campaign worked to ensure everyone was counted as part of the 2020 Census.



More than 50 TEAM members helped raise \$36,000 to support the Center for The Big 5K during the LA Marathon in March.

This year's Senior Services Prom went virtual, welcoming hundreds of clients to an online dance party, complete with a DJ and hostess Little Miss Hot Mess.



MARCH

The Center's innovative new live Garage Theatre series kicked off with *MARCH*, a suspenseful, starkly political drama of peril and liberation conceived and directed by Jon Lawrence Rivera. Performances took place in the underground parking structure located below the Center's Anita May Rosenstein Campus.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

The Center's 28th annual Models of Pride conference for LGBTQ youth and their allies streamed virtually over two days in November. Organized by the Center's Youth Development program, the conference included an Opening Session, Entertainment Hour, and more than 25 workshops and presentations. The Parent & Professional Institute track included online workshops tailored for adults to better serve and care for LGBTQ youth.



Thousands tuned in for the first-ever two-day virtual event, which is one of the nation's oldest and largest celebrations of the vibrant Trans/Gender Non-Conforming/Non-Binary (Trans/GNC/ENBY) community. Kicking off with a *Big Queer Convo* featuring Isis King and Alexandra Billings, the event included virtual workshops, panel discussions, art exhibit, and the fan-favorite *VarieTy Show*.



In celebration of National Coming Out Day and the film's 20th anniversary, the Center and Lionsgate presented a drive-in rooftop screening of the cult classic *But I'm a Cheerleader* at the parking garage behind the Cinerama Dome and ArcLight Hollywood.



Presented by The Ariadne Getty Foundation, the Center's first-ever telethon aired live on KTLA 5 and streamed online with hosts Jane Lynch and KTLA 5 news anchor Cher Calvin. Featuring performances and appearances by a roster of A-list entertainers, the two-hour show raised nearly \$1.3M for the Center's vital programs and services during COVID-19.



The two-hour event streamed live on the Center's Facebook, YouTube, and Twitch channels with unforgettable performances and appearances by some of the Center's most talented supporters. Hosted by Frankie Grande, it raised nearly \$60,000 to support the Center's COVID-19 response CARE Fund.

CEO SEARCH

In June the Center launched the search for a successor to CEO Lorri L. Jean, who will retire in July 2022. In an unprecedented process, the new candidate will start in May 2021 as Executive Director and will work with Jean and senior staff to assure a smooth transition before assuming the role of CEO in July 2022.



Launched in conjunction with the Hello Club by the Center's Senior Services and Volunteer Resources teams, the Senior Angels program provides food and other essentials to seniors through safe, contactless delivery throughout Los Angeles.



The Center's Volunteer Resources and Senior Services staff created the Hello Club to help connect with seniors isolated at home during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dozens of volunteers regularly call a roster of more than 2,600 senior clients to check in on them and to assess their needs.





IN STORY: 2020

A selection of Center stories from 2020. Read more at LGBTNewsNow.org



• JANUARY 2020 •

CENTER SOUTH OPENS WITH EMOTIONAL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Before a crowd of nearly 250 spectators, Ryan Wooten bravely shared why the Los Angeles LGBT Center’s first-ever expansion into South Los Angeles means so much to so many people.

“A center here in this location means accessibility. It means representation. It means community,” he said at the January 11 grand opening of Center South.

When he was younger and diagnosed with HIV, Wooten explained, he would have to take two busses and a train to travel to the Center’s McDonald-Wright Building in Hollywood for treatment.

“I remember being on the train. I remember being nervous. I remember having symptoms. I remember all of those things,” he recalled. “I hated it. I’d be thinking, ‘Why isn’t there a place to go in this [South L.A.] neighborhood?’”

Programs and services at the 5,500-square-foot facility near Leimert Park will include HIV testing, access to PrEP and PEP services, housing

case management, mental health services, CyberCenter computer lab, drop-in safe space, and more.

“Today is the realization of a dream of many years, but today is just the beginning,” Center CEO Lorri L. Jean said in her remarks. “By working together with our partner organizations and local community leaders, I have no doubt that, together, we’ll ensure that Center South becomes a vibrant, vital, and beloved part of our South Los Angeles community.”

The Leimert Park location is the latest step in the Center’s long-term strategic plan approved by its Board of Directors in 2008 after a community survey of thousands of people. The plan focuses on how to best meet the needs of the LGBT community moving forward which includes expanding Center services to a much wider geographical area. Just over four years ago, the Center opened Mi Centro in Boyle Heights in partnership with the Latino Equality Alliance, and in 2018, opened the Trans Wellness Center in Koreatown with a handful of partners.

All the programs and services at the Center South location will be provided for free or at low cost to everyone, with a focus on serving the needs of young gay and bisexual men of color ages 12 to 29.

The Center received grant support from Los Angeles County and has teamed with local organizations Bienestar Human Services, Black AIDS Institute, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, and The Wall Las Memorias Project to address the societal and health needs of LGBT people of color living in South Los Angeles.

“The County agreed to fund a new location in South L.A. where we could focus on HIV prevention, testing, and treatment among gay and bisexual men of color,” Jean explained. “But we knew that we wanted—and we needed—to do much more than that. We wanted this to be a mini service center, a gathering place for all LGBT people in the area. So we’ve been raising money to add to what the county is giving us so we could get a bigger space and create this wonderful location.”



Mario J. Pérez, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health - Division of HIV and STD Programs, was credited by Jean as a longtime ally who worked hard to steer money and resources to the area and to the Center South project.

"I grew up a mile and a half from here so this is a homecoming for me in many ways," Perez said from the podium. "This opening is a culmination of visioning, planning, negotiating, physical reshaping, and rebuilding."

Dr. Wilbert C. Jordan, founder of the Oasis Clinic, was recognized at the opening for his four decades of work on the frontlines of HIV and AIDS in South L.A. before the epidemic was identified by the Centers for Disease Control in 1981.

"I saw my first patient in 1979," he said after receiving commendations from the Center and the City. "I didn't know what he had. I think the hardest thing was seeing a young man in the 80s and 90s because, in my mind, I would wonder, 'What is he going to look like a year from now?' and 'Will he still be alive two years from now?' So we have come a long way."

Jordan pointed out that patients once had to take dozens of pills a day to stay alive and now a single dose of PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) daily can help prevent infection.

Center staff member Paul Chavez could barely contain his emotions as festivities for the opening got underway.

"I'm from L.A., and I've been waiting my whole life to see something like this," said Chavez,

the Center's community engagement manager for Health Services. "There are out, proud queer people in these communities who have amazing lives, and now they have something here that they can adopt and make their own—a safe space for queer people of color."

Center South is housed in a space once owned by actress Marla Gibbs (*The Jeffersons*, 227) who for nearly 20 years operated a jazz supper club called Marla's Memory Lane.

"[This was a] place where [Gibbs] trained African American actors, writers, and directors to go on," Los Angeles City Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson said. "It is the spirit of activism that is in the very bones and the cement and all the wood and all the materials—activism and resistance is in the very essence of where you are today."

Jeanette Bronson, who lives in the neighborhood and is chair of Black Lesbians United, was among the volunteers giving tours at the opening.

"This is Marla Gibbs' old place and that makes it even better," she said. "I was so sad when it closed, but I'm so happy to see it repurposed. It's a huge occasion and truly exciting. It makes you feel not only represented, but also feel the general community cares for us as well. People were always running off to Hollywood or West Hollywood to get services—or not going at all." •

Center South is located at 2313 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

• APRIL 2020 •

WE ARE AN ORGANIZATION THAT KNOWS HOW TO REINVENT ITSELF

The COVID-19 outbreak may be changing the way the Los Angeles LGBT Center offers many of its services and programs, but the Center remains open and committed to serving those in need.

"It's extremely important for those who rely on our services every single day that we stay open, but we knew we were going to have to reinvent how we deliver a lot of our services,"

said Center Chief of Staff Darrel Cummings during a recent town hall meeting with the organization's sustaining donors.

Precautions are being taken for clients coming to Center locations for health, senior, and youth services. Many other programs and services, including Senior Services activities, Trans* Lounge groups, and youth mentoring are now happening virtually.

During the call, Cummings connected the organization's responsive shift to COVID-19 to lessons learned during the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s and 90s.

"I am drawing on those experiences every day. We had to learn day by day, hour by hour, and adjust the kinds of programs we were doing and add new ones to meet the community's changing needs," Cummings said. "We



are an organization that knows how to reinvent itself. As a community, we will get through this and get to a better time.”

TELEHEALTH TECHNOLOGY STRENGTHENS HEALTH SERVICES’ PRE-COVID-19 CAPACITY

The Center is one of the nation’s few Federally Qualified Health Centers with providers who specialize in care for LGBTQ people. Normally, hundreds of people a day get health care inside the organization’s bustling four-story McDonald/Wright Building, which includes a pharmacy.

In order to reduce that number under COVID-19, the Center’s Health Services and Information Technology teams collaborated to put in place a telehealth platform that allows a vast majority of routine appointments to take place via telephone or online. Less traffic in the building helps keep everyone safe.

“Telehealth options are helping ensure that we can stay open for those people who need to see a care provider in person,” Cummings said.

All clients must make an appointment to enter the building; walk-ins are no longer allowed. The Center’s pharmacy remains open Monday through Saturday for in-person transactions, but clients are encouraged to use the Center’s free delivery service.

MEALS AND WELLNESS CHECKS FOR SENIORS

In the past year, senior clients were served a hot lunch provided by the Center’s Culinary Arts program and could participate in other programs and activities at the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Senior Center on the Anita May Rosenstein Campus.

The Senior Center is now closed for activities, but boxed lunches are available for pickup each day. Several classes are now also available online, and staff members and volunteers are calling clients at home to find out if the Center can help them with any special needs.

“For our seniors, isolation is one of the worst things that they can experience,” Cummings pointed out. “They have been really appreciative of receiving that phone call and getting the help we’re able to provide.”

Meal service at the Center’s Triangle Square affordable senior housing is now delivered to the residents’ apartments daily. Staff and volunteers are also picking up groceries and medications.

HELPING YOUTH CLIENTS

Before COVID-19, the youth drop-in center at the Campus could sometimes have as many as 120 youth inside at one time having meals, meeting with case managers, or just hanging out.

Now, drop-in services and case manage-

ment for youth without housing have moved from the Youth Center to The Village at Ed Gould Plaza’s courtyard located across the street. They can get something to eat there, use the restrooms, charge their devices, and connect with one another from a safe distance.

The Youth Center is now only used by the 100 or so youth in the Center’s residential programs to spend time, have meals, and participate in socially distanced activities.

“The young people we work with have adjusted to this new reality in ways that we think helps protect everybody. Everyone is in masks, and we are taking all the precautions that [the county department of] public health would suggest that we do,” Cummings said.

FUNDRAISING GOES VIRTUAL

AIDS/LifeCycle—the seven-day, 545-mile event scheduled for May 31 to June 6—raises critical support for the Center’s HIV and AIDS-related services along with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation has been canceled.

In order to maintain the current level of HIV and AIDS services provided to the community, both organizations have set a joint fundraising goal of \$13 million—of which more than \$6.5 million has already been raised by the ride’s participants through the innovative My 545 challenge. Instead of actually riding a bike outdoors, the virtual campaign gives people the opportunity to take on a different physical challenge of their choosing within the parameters of social distancing and sheltering in place.

“We really need to keep people fundraising to provide for the services,” Cummings said. “AIDS/LifeCycle is a multimillion-dollar event. We’re trying to do the best we can to recover as much of the fundraising dollars as possible and help people feel connected to the cause.”

The Center has also set up a CARE Fund to streamline donations to the Center’s critical programs and services. Support for the CARE Fund is coming through direct donations as well as several virtual mini-events listed on the Center’s calendar.

Despite all of the Center’s fundamental changes, cancellations, and postponements due to the pandemic, Cummings assured donors of one major revelation at the end of his hourlong address: “We are here for our community. We will be here for our community. We will stay open.” •

“

The Center calls on all of us in the LGBTQ community and our allies to continue the fight for an end to the systems of oppression and inequality.

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LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER

• JUNE 2020 •

BLACK LIVES MATTER

The institutional racism and violence that we've seen over the last few weeks is not new, but the brazen way it has been exposed has no doubt taken a toll on all of us.

Many of you have participated in demonstrations over the weekend that brought attention to this systemic use of violence by

law enforcement against people of color, and in particular African Americans. Others of you have raised your voices to elected leaders, friends, and family members.

And yet, in spite of these efforts, we find ourselves no less troubled today, in part because these legitimate, peaceful protests have

been hijacked by people capitalizing on the unrest for their own ends. We know that some of these individuals, in fact, hope to stoke racist beliefs and actions precisely to undermine the efforts to achieve justice for African Americans and other marginalized people.

In light of all this, we want to underscore how important it is that we take care of each other. And while these are difficult days for all of us, we should all be especially mindful of the pain and stress African Americans are experiencing during this time. In this moment, we need to see beyond our own pain and put ourselves in the shoes of those who are most deeply affected.

Our community has faced brutal repression and injustice in the past, and we have survived, in part, by the kindness and care we have shown to one another. We should all be especially kind and caring to each other in the coming days.

At the same time, the Center calls on all of us in the LGBTQ community and our allies to continue the fight for an end to the systems of oppression and inequality that have such a cruel and dehumanizing impact on every one of us. •

• AUGUST 2020 •

COFFEE, TEA, AND LIBERATION! THE CENTER'S CAFÉ OPENS ITS DOORS TO AN ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC

A delighted Lina Noel happened upon Liberation Coffee House on the northeast corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and McCadden Place completely by random—on the café's grand opening day.

"We were looking for coffee, thought this place looked great, and just walked in," explained Noel, who moved to Los Angeles from New York just weeks ago.

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Los Angeles LGBT Center's new retail café opened its doors on August 17 with little fanfare yet the first-day customers were enthusiastic about the food and the cause.

"They told me this benefits the Center, and I'm so happy to hear that. So happy to help in this way," Noel said as she held a cappuccino in

one hand and a bag with sandwiches and chips in the other. "It's a very easy way to help. That's how you build more community, and that's how you help people who need help. I will be back all the time."

Another customer, Rick Llanos, heard about the opening and decided to head over from Lake Hollywood to check things out. He walked out with a bag filled with sandwiches, croissants, and cookies.

"I got a little bit of everything so I'll be happy for awhile," he said, smiling. "A friend of mine told me about it and said, if I need some lunch and want to come out and support the cause, to come on down. So, I did. It's a good way to support the Center, a nice way to help out. It will be even nicer when (post-pandemic) you can sit down and actually enjoy the lunch instead of having to

take it back home."

Located at the Center's flagship Anita May Rosenstein Campus, the 1,600-square-foot coffee house is a unique social enterprise that will have its revenue reinvested into the Center's life-changing and life-saving programs and services. A socially-distanced line funnels customers through one door and out another, giving them a good look at the vibrant interior space which they will be able to fully enjoy once it is safe to do so.

"We want to showcase the space and have people see it as opposed to just serving them at the door," said Center Manager of Café and Catering Erin Muscatelli.

The café serves Verve Coffee, Rishi Tea, and pastries from locally-owned Bakers Kneaded. The menu of hot and cold sandwiches, flatbreads,



salads, breakfast burritos, various bowls, and other gourmet grab-and-go food items are made entirely by students of the Center’s intergenerational Culinary Arts program, a three-month training program launched last year to prepare the Center’s LGBTQ youth and seniors for employment in the restaurant and hospitality industries.

Liberation Coffee House is staffed and operated by graduates of the program including 56-year-old Gio Bertuccelli who could not hide her joy over being a part of the new venture.

“I am a middle-aged trans woman, and the opportunity to be on the ground level at the opening of this amazing new experience was like a eureka moment,” Bertuccelli said. “The coffee house is more than a great place to get great coffee and pastries. It’s a hub. It’s a beam of beauty and love coming out of our community like open arms stretching out. I grew up around coffee houses in Italy, we call them café bars. I just love the environment.”

Another café team member, Tryron, described

it as “breathtaking” to be working each day in an atmosphere that is diverse and welcoming. In just three years, the 24-year-old went from experiencing homelessness to getting into the Center’s Transitional Living Program to renting his own apartment and graduating from the Culinary Arts program in July.

“When I got the job offer, I was shocked,” he admitted. “I was working really hard to prove not only to myself but to the teachers and to the Center that their time invested in me was well worth it. For me to actually be working for the Center instead of using their resources, it proves I took heed to what people were saying and did the best I could to make the right decisions.”

For now, food and beverage items are only available “to go” due to the pandemic. Safety precautions have been implemented, such as plexiglass windows at the ordering counter, hand sanitizers and disinfecting wipes, cashless payments by way of credit and debit cards, and the closure of indoor seating. Social distancing

and face coverings are being enforced for all café team members and customers.

“We want to keep the space open despite the challenges and circumstances, keep our staff employed, and serve the community as best we can,” said Muscatelli.

After purchasing a chocolate croissant and an iced caffè macchiato, customer Steven Halling took a moment to take in the café’s décor, a palette of red, orange, yellow, and green.

“It’s super cute—I love all the plants,” Halling said. “I think it will be a nice place for people to hang out. And it’s connected to the Center with all its other cool things.”

Historical black and white photographs adorn the walls of the café including the first “Liberation House” opened in 1971 by the Center, known then as the Gay Community Services Center.

Liberation Houses provided room and board for \$1.50 a day for homeless LGBTQ youth and adults. It was the nation’s first facility of its kind. By 1972, six Liberation Houses were open throughout Los Angeles.

“It’s liberation for a new generation at the Center,” said Nick Panepinto, the Center’s director of culinary training and operations. “Everyone has been wondering what this empty space was going to be transformed into, and the vision has finally been realized. It’s the first time the community is able to interact with the Center on a daily basis—actually just coming in for your morning coffee. We’re excited that this brings our Center into the community on a whole new level!” •

• AUGUST 2020 •

HOW ‘ANGELS’ ARE TAKING CARE OF LOCAL SENIORS

Pre-pandemic, the community room of the Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Triangle Square senior housing complex would typically be filled with residents sharing a meal, watching a movie, or playing a game.

On a recent weekday morning, the only people inside the large room—now headquarters for Senior Pride Pantry—were volunteers Patrick Driscoll and Morgyn Utzman who were busy

filling bags with groceries and other supplies that were to be delivered to senior clients.

“Did you ever work in a grocery store?” Driscoll asked Utzman. “I’m trying to pack bags like you would at a grocery store.”

They are among the 60-plus volunteers who are the backbone of the Center’s Senior Angels program, an emergency delivery system that has been responsible for more than 1,000 packages

being personally dropped off to those in need.

“I was looking for ways to remind myself that there’s a community out here while we’re all in quarantine,” she says. “It can be easy to stay in your own bubble when there’s a lot of need out here. It’s really rewarding to have a hand in feeding people and making their day and week a little easier.”

Tables inside the community room are stacked



with cans of pantry staples including tuna, soup, beans, tomato sauce, and fruit cocktail as well as jars of peanut butter, bottles of Ensure and Boost nutritional shakes, cartons of almond milk, and cups of instant ramen noodles.

There is also an assortment of pet food, bars of soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, and disposable masks.

"The Angels are driving to Triangle Square and packaging items, which often include handwritten notes, and baked goods and then deliver those packages within 48 hours of a requested need," explains the Center's Director of Community Engagement Rani DeMesme-Anders. "These are volunteers who have really stepped up as first responders."

Among the dedicated volunteers making deliveries each week is Andy Perez whose public relations work dried up during the pandemic.

"The Center pulled this together so quickly and is right there with a lifeline for the senior citizens—getting fresh produce, dry goods, toiletries, cleaning supplies," Perez says. "When you meet these people and bring them their groceries, they are awash with relief because they are being cared for."

He adds: "This is a point in our history where we all need to come together, especially for the most vulnerable in our community, so getting involved with Senior Angels was a no-brainer for me. To be able to talk to people and see what kinds of things they need—groceries, cleaning supplies, or toiletries—and bringing them to their doors is just an amazing experience."

SAFETY IS PRIORITY

Contactless delivery has helped to keep Center clients safe during the COVID-19 pandemic and has offset some of their financial burden during this difficult time.

Senior Angels works in concert with the Center's Hello Club in which an army of volunteers regularly call a roster of more than 2,600 seniors to check in on them and to assess their needs.

Both programs were launched by the Center's Volunteer Resources and Senior Services staff in the early days of the pandemic after in-person programs and activities had to be suspended.

"I was thinking all night, every night, about our seniors," shares Kiera Pollock, director of Senior Services. "Seniors in general are very isolated. Our seniors are even more isolated and typically don't reach out to non-LGBT organizations. Unless we jumped in, they weren't going to have other kinds of connection."

Pollock points out that 21% of seniors were experiencing food insecurity before the pandemic.

"Folks have far less resources than they did before, and the cost of food has not gone down," she explains. "Many of our seniors were living week-to-week with groceries. They were running around to discount stores and farmers markets to get the best deals, and they can't do that right now. It's really important that we supplement these things as we are moving toward what is looking to be a much longer pandemic."

Stephanie Harris, Senior Services activities coordinator and manager of the pantry, has encountered seniors crying on the phone because they are stressed at the prospect of having to go out into the world to shop.

"They are acutely aware of their risk level during this time," she says. "We really want people to stay home and stay safe, especially since so many folks whom we serve are in that high risk category to become immunocompromised. It's really imperative that they stay home. We want to help make that as easy for them as possible."

Volunteer Barbara Friend praises the safe way the program is operated: "You call them at a social distance, pack groceries at a social distance, you drop off the groceries at a social distance. I love that there are so many opportunities to help in a safe and healthy way. You can just tell every time you drop groceries off that you have made someone's day."

SENIOR CLIENTS ARE GRATEFUL

When the pandemic began, senior client Shannon Gosch couldn't leave her apartment even if she wanted to. She had recently had an operation and was out of commission.

"I got a call from a volunteer who wanted to know if I needed anything. Then, the next day a fellow called to go over my requests. He ended the call by saying, 'Have a beautiful day, Shannon,'" she recalls. "There are lovely people running the whole program—it's just amazing. They are very attentive."

Gosch said "a sweet delivery guy" dropped off the food and supplies a few days later. The box included some things she did not expect: homemade cookies, a mask, and a "Love is Universal" bumper sticker.

"I live in Alhambra, and it is amazing they will bring me things—even food for my cats Bala and Rama," she shares. "I was so blown away to also get a handwritten note that said 'We're all in this together.'"

Another senior, Martha Avalos, has been housebound in her North Hollywood duplex during the pandemic. She's disabled with diabetes and is hesitant to go out.

"The deliveries have been really good," she says. "I've received bags filled with things like beans, canned food, fresh produce, and orange juice, as well as supplies I really needed including toilet paper, masks, and soap. It was really, really good. They have been really, really nice and very helpful."

In a thank you letter to Senior Services, a grateful Sydney Bristow uses adjectives like "uplifting" and "life-affirming" to describe his feelings about the Senior Angels program.

"The e-mail exchanges, seeing these volunteers, and receiving a small note which more or less says 'you matter' can do wonders for someone who lives alone and gets really lonely and depressed. I am more than grateful." •



• SEPTEMBER 2020 •

CENTER'S STAR-STUDDED "LOVE IN ACTION" TELETHON NEARING \$1.3 MILLION IN COVID-19 RESPONSE SUPPORT

Midway through the September 12 *Love in Action* telethon benefiting the Los Angeles LGBT Center, co-host Jane Lynch told KTLA 5 and livestream viewers worldwide that she had a feeling in her bones.

"I just know we're going to exceed our \$1 million goal tonight," predicted the five-time Emmy winning actress and TV game show host.

Lynch was absolutely correct.

By the end of the incredible two-hour show a total of \$1,273,063 had been raised for the Center's vital programs and services which have been in more demand since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. As of Tuesday, the Center confirms donations were still coming in with a final total that could exceed the \$1.3 million mark.

Lynch, a former member of the Center's Board of Directors, described the organization as "the model for centers around the world. It's an amazing place which is why I love it so much. The depth and the breadth of programs and services really blows me away. It's like 12 non-profits under one roof."

The *Glee* alum co-hosted the live show with

KTLA 5 News anchor Cher Calvin, who shared with viewers that her father Roger Calvin, a former movie star in the Philippines, came out as a gay man when she was 18. Although her father was a big fan, it was her mother who insisted on naming her Cher after the famous singer and actress.

Then *that* Cher (the Oscar-Grammy-Emmy-winning icon) helped kick things off by asking people to donate, calling the Center "an unstoppable force in fighting bigotry for a better world. We need this desperately right now."

Love in Action was presented by The Ariadne Getty Foundation.

"Because both of my children, Nats and August, are part of the LGBT community, it should surprise no one that much of my work focuses on LGBT causes," Getty told viewers. "I've been a strong supporter of the Center for the past five years. The Center has continued to be a safe haven for all those who show up at its doorstep and call out for help."

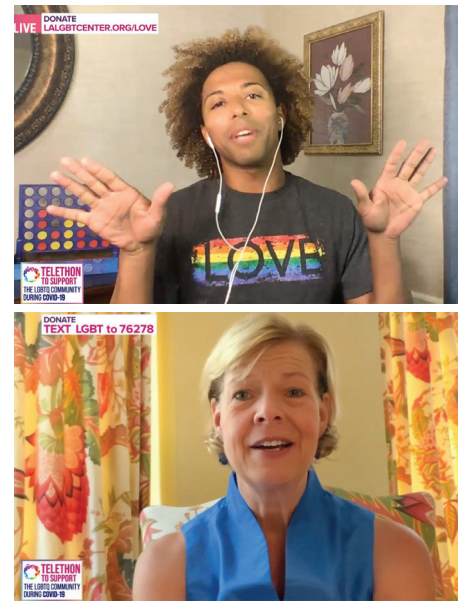
Throughout the show, Lynch and Calvin conducted live interviews with Center CEO Lorri L. Jean, singer k.d. lang, *RuPaul's Drag Race*

alum Shangela, and *Star Trek: Discovery* co-stars Anthony Rapp and Wilson Cruz, who portray a gay couple on the hit science-fiction show.

Appearing from Canada, lang joked with the co-hosts about how her concerts during the 1990s "were the first Tinder." She also spoke about coming out publicly then and continuing to raise awareness today.

"I think it's important that we don't go backwards. It's important that we stay focused," lang said. "I think that's why the Center is so very important because it is an extremely eclectic community—senior and youth and everything in between. It really is the vortex of the community and has been for 51 years. It is immeasurably important to offer a community for the disenfranchised."

During his segment with Rapp, Cruz echoed that sentiment: "I feel the Center is like a starship. It is inhabited by these amazing, genius people who come together to save a community, and I'm inspired by the work that the Center has done throughout my entire life as an inhabitant of L.A. They have been here for me my entire adult life, and I couldn't love them more."



DJ Pierce, aka Shangela, recalled how actress Jenifer Lewis introduced him to the Center when he was working as her assistant.

"I saw the dedication she had to the Center and the belief she had in what they were doing," said Pierce, who video conferenced from Texas. "I took a stand-up comedy class at the Center. It led me to the Comedy Store on Sunset to all around the world."

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, the first openly LGBT woman elected to the nation's Senate, called the Center's work "pivotal in changing the world around us."

"Right now, in the challenging times that we face with COVID-19 we recognize that the need for the Center's services are only growing," she pointed out. "I want to thank the Center for a half-century of advocacy, support, and resources for the LGBTQ community, and I look forward to seeing all of the transformative work you'll continue to do in the years to come."

Trans actor Brian Michael Smith of TV's *9-1-1: Lone Star* and *Queen Sugar* reminded viewers that throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Center's Trans Wellness Center located in Koreatown has remained open for essential services like food and hormone therapy.

"Whether most people recognize it or not, the people representing the T in LGBT are some of the most at-risk members of our community," Smith said.

Other famous faces who shared their personal experiences with the Center, or who introduced segments highlighting various programs and

clients, included Sia, Alexandra Billings, Billy Porter, Billy Eichner, Frankie Grande, Meredith Vieira, Carla Gugino, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Margaret Cho, Peter Paige, Gigi Gorgeous, Nats Getty, August Getty, Coco Peru, Jay Leno, Bruce Vilanch, RuPaul, Pauley Perrette, Tyler Oakley, and Andrew Rannells.

Leno told a touching story from his childhood about why his father would always insist he wear a jacket and tie whenever the family went out to dinner.

"My dad would always say, 'We want to show that we're proud,'" Leno recalled. "To this day, whenever I watch a civil rights march or a gay pride parade or any kind of protest, I always look at the faces of people and see that same expression my dad had when he talked about being proud. Fight the good fight my dad used to say. Do what you can to help out."

Queer as Folk alum Paige shared with viewers how the Center was there for him when he first arrived in Los Angeles 27 years ago.

"I was scared and alone and broke," Paige said. "Someone suggested that I check out the Center to get some help. I did. I found a therapist there for \$10 a week. It changed my life and it changed what I believed was possible for me. There's a direct line from that scared boy to the man you see before you and it goes right through the Los Angeles LGBT Center. I am forever grateful."

Lily Tomlin, a staunch Center supporter, used the telethon to step back into the hairdo of one of her most famous iconic characters: the brash,

tough, and uncompromising telephone operator Ernestine.

According to the skit, Ernestine had left the telephone company and was an out lesbian helping out at the Center nowadays.

"A gracious hello. This is the LGBT Center. We're here, we're queer, get used to it," chuckled Ernestine with her classic snort. "No, I don't usually answer the phones here. I heard the Center was in additional need during the pandemic so, heroically, I stepped forward to man the boards. ... Yes, I'm out and proud ... spoken with pride and nothing to hide."

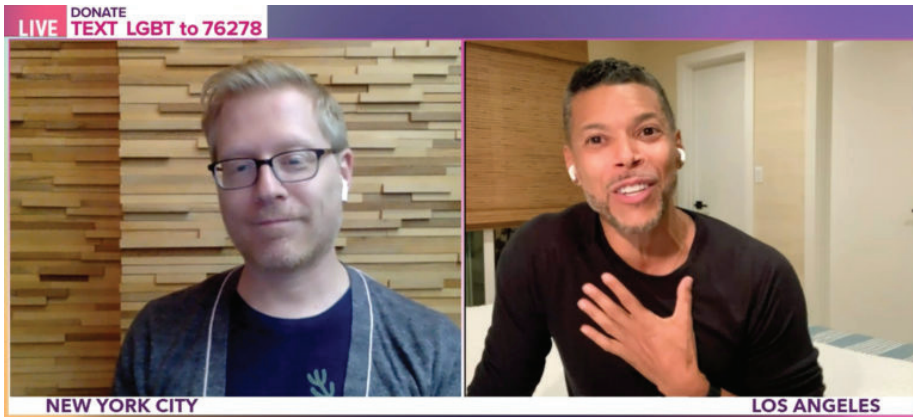
Love in Action also featured powerful musical performances by Leslie Odom Jr., Trans Chorus of Los Angeles, Tonality, and Jenifer Lewis.

Grammy Award-winner Cyndi Lauper appeared in the show's first half-hour to perform one of her biggest hits "True Colors." She shared a story explaining how it became one of her signature songs.

"I first sang this song in 1986 for a friend of mine who was an LGBT youth who experienced homelessness when he was thrown out of his home at the age of 12," Lauper explained. "For decades, when it comes to youth services, the LGBT Center has been giving young people, who have nowhere else to go, a home. In this age of COVID-19, we need the Center more than ever."

Melissa Etheridge performed her classic hit "Come to My Window," which she released in 1993 soon after coming out as lesbian.

"The generation before me didn't always have the luxury of coming out and being accept-



“Non-profits all over town have been closing. Our Center has been determined to keep going. A third of our staff are essential first responders, and they have courageously been on the job every day providing medical care, mental health counseling, services for seniors and homeless youth, affordable housing, and more. We couldn’t stop those services—not when our community needs us more than ever.”

She added: “We’ve had to develop brand new programs to respond to the pandemic at a time when we’ve had to cancel every fundraising event this year.”

When asked what’s next for the Center, Jean responded: “We just have to keep on keeping on. More people are coming to us every day for help.” •

ed and even celebrated,” she shared. “So, they turned to the Center for support. Tonight, I sing for the countless doors and windows the Center has kept open for all the LGBT people of all stripes for more than five decades.”

In her remarks near the beginning of the

telethon, Center CEO Jean explained how the pandemic impacted the Center, which has continued feeding and housing people and providing medical care and social and educational programming.

“It’s been really tough,” she admitted.

• NOVEMBER 2020 •

CENTER CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT-ELECT BIDEN AND VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT HARRIS

Today the Los Angeles LGBT Center and the entire LGBTQ community stand with millions of Americans—people fighting for racial equity and justice, feminists, immigrants, youth, and other people of good conscience—to congratulate President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris.

In particular, we celebrate the election of our fellow Californian, Kamala Harris, to the office of vice president. Senator Harris will become the first Black woman—indeed, the first woman—and the first Indian-American elected to one of the two highest offices in the land. The historic significance and symbolic magnitude of her election and what it represents to all people who have lived in the shadow of discrimination and inequity cannot be overstated.

For four years, the LGBTQ community has faced hundreds of attacks against our collective and individual rights from the Trump Administration—assaults that included attempts to take away our health care, remove legal protections, and threaten the safety and well-being of our youth. Indeed, we have experienced nothing less than a concerted effort to delegitimize our existence and strip us of our humanity.

Today we take a moment to celebrate, to take a deep breath and imagine a new, more hopeful chapter in our ongoing struggle for full equality and humanity. The election of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris does not mean those struggles



have ended, nor does their election end the deep divisions we have experienced as a nation over the last four years. But it does mean that our leaders in the White House share a vision of a nation that includes our community as full and equal participants. From that starting point, we can continue to build a better, more inclusive, and just world for all.

Despite the ongoing attacks of the last four years, the Center and our community never stopped fighting. We continued to oppose the assaults by the Trump Administration at every turn. We fought to affirm the principle that we deserve no less than full equality and equal justice and that no President, no Cabinet member, no Senator, can take that from us.

We are right to celebrate today, but we also know that many LGBTQ people still suffer the pain of racism and anti-Blackness and live under the shadow of deportation, harassment, and discrimination. Transgender women of color still live in fear of brutal violence and daily assaults on their very identity. Queer youth are still disowned by their families and bullied at school. There is still so much to be done. The Center looks forward to working with the new Biden-Harris Administration and leaders at the local, state, and federal levels to create a world in which LGBTQ people thrive as healthy, equal, and complete members of society.

Today we celebrate the possibilities and embrace the dream of full equality. Tomorrow, we go back to work. •



• DECEMBER 2020 •

CENTER ADMINISTERS FIRST BATCH OF COVID-19 VACCINES TO FRONTLINE WORKERS

On December 29 the Los Angeles LGBT Center began to administer the first batch of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to its frontline workers, including Health Services staff members and the Security and Facilities workers who support the Center’s various health care sites.

The Center followed the requirements from the Los Angeles Department of Public Health in administering vaccines to frontline health care workers during Phase 1 of the vaccine rollout in Los Angeles. The Center received 400 total vaccine doses in this first batch and will continue to follow all requirements for future dissemination of vaccines.

“This is a momentous day—a pivotal time for us to help combat the deadly surge of COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles and beyond. Since the pandemic began, our dedicated frontline workers helped to keep our Center open for those in our community who rely on us. This vaccine will help us in that fight,” said Center Health Services Co-Director Dr. Ward Carpenter. “I strongly encourage everyone to educate themselves and consider taking the vaccine—when given the

opportunity—because it is the only way to defeat this highly-contagious virus, to save lives, and to bring normalcy and joy back to our lives.”

The Center—the world’s largest provider of programs and services to LGBTQ people—secured refrigeration units required to effectively store the vaccine and was approved earlier this month to serve as a vaccine distribution site. Adhering to all guidelines, the Center then began planning the vaccination rollout with first priority given to frontline workers.

The vaccines were delivered to the Center on Monday morning.

“I’m extremely hopeful that we are on the path to end the pandemic. As a Black man living in America, I have seen my community disproportionately impacted by COVID-19,” said Health Services Quality Coordinator Keith Leach, the first Center employee to receive the vaccine. “I know firsthand just how dangerous COVID-19 can be. People whom I care about have been affected by the virus—it’s hit me very close to home. I knew I needed to get the vaccine to protect myself and, hopefully, to show others that they should do

the same. Getting vaccinated is essential to our wellbeing and our future.”

There is no live virus in the vaccine, according to health professionals, and it is not possible to contract COVID-19 from the vaccine. People may experience a sore arm, fatigue, headache, muscle and joint pains, and body chills lasting two days on average.

“The pandemic has killed more than 9,000 Angelenos already and sickened more than 700,000,” said Dr. Carpenter. “While some of us may be uneasy about receiving the vaccine, it is our only way back to the life we all remember: to holidays with family, to working side-by-side, to hugs, and to so many other things that make life worth living. This is our chance.”

The vaccine does not provide full protection until after the second dose is administered 28 days after the first dose. Additionally, it is not yet known how effective the vaccines are in preventing asymptomatic spreading of COVID-19. Everyone, including vaccinated staff, should continue to maintain social distancing, wear face coverings, and practice frequent hand washing. •

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<i>June 30,</i>	2020	2019
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,393,144	\$ 19,430,841
Restricted cash AMR Campus construction	-	2,280,181
Restricted cash NMTC CDE's fee reserve	1,542,473	1,850,173
Accounts and other receivables	318,479	68,164
Receivable from affiliates	-	1,831,919
Clinic fees receivable, net	8,281,958	7,292,006
Contracts and grants receivable, net	8,476,549	7,468,484
Pledges receivable, net	761,561	1,498,105
Short-term investments	15,554,623	15,139,404
Inventories	1,035,104	978,504
Total current assets	53,363,891	57,837,781
Noncurrent assets		
Contributions receivable - held in trust	2,505,399	2,862,706
Beneficial interests in trusts	2,475,865	2,403,589
Receivable from affiliates	5,396,881	5,199,674
Leverage loan receivable	28,910,100	28,910,100
Pledges receivable, net	781,016	956,672
Long-term investments	1,674,863	1,805,194
Property and equipment, net	92,108,325	87,481,438
Other assets	4,296,355	3,661,434
Total noncurrent assets	138,148,804	133,280,807
Total assets	\$ 191,512,695	\$ 191,118,588
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,962,460	\$ 7,264,189
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	8,453,641	8,127,951
Retainage	219,980	2,472,145
Unearned revenue	1,769,669	1,217,941
Interest payable	466,722	269,515
Current portion of annuities payable	183,333	196,233
Current portion of long-term debt	3,870	25,162
Total current liabilities	14,059,675	19,573,136
Noncurrent liabilities		
Annuities payable, net of current portion	914,721	984,941
Long-term debt, net of current portion	45,921,807	45,878,833
Total noncurrent liabilities	46,836,528	46,863,774
Total liabilities	60,896,203	66,436,910
Commitments and contingencies (Note 17)		
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	122,094,585	115,057,119
With donor restrictions	8,521,907	9,624,559
Total net assets	130,616,492	124,681,678

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

<i>Year ended June 30, 2019</i>	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Public support and other revenue			
Public support:			
Special events revenue:			
Gross receipts	\$ 8,164,749	\$ 499,885	\$ 8,664,634
Less costs of direct benefits to donors	(203,672)	-	(203,672)
Net special events revenue	7,961,077	499,885	8,460,962
Program fees	90,249,916	-	90,249,916
Grants	22,203,980	-	22,203,980
Contributions	5,658,363	1,118,152	6,776,515
Contributions - Capital Campaign	8,018,021	-	8,018,021
Contributed goods and services	923,729	-	923,729
Other operating revenue	505,854	-	505,854
Total public support and other revenue	135,520,940	1,618,037	137,138,977
Net assets released from restrictions:			
Satisfaction of program restrictions	2,371,155	(2,371,155)	-
Total public support and other revenue and net assets released from restrictions	137,892,095	(753,118)	137,138,977
Operating expenses			
Program services	113,304,098	-	113,304,098
Supporting services:			
General and administrative	976,127	-	976,127
Fund-raising	7,540,113	-	7,540,113
Total supporting services	8,516,240	-	8,516,240
Total operating expenses	121,820,338	-	121,820,338
Change in net assets before non-operating income/gains (losses) and other revenue	16,071,757	(753,118)	15,318,639
Non-operating income/gains (losses) and other revenue			
Net investment return	859,138	-	859,138
Unrealized loss on trusts held by third parties	-	(180,597)	(180,597)
Change in value of split-interest agreements	-	(198,652)	(198,652)
Other nonoperating revenue	639,244	-	639,244
Total non-operating income/gains (losses) and other revenue	1,498,382	(379,249)	1,119,133
Change in net assets	17,570,139	(1,132,367)	16,437,772
Net assets, beginning of year	97,486,980	10,756,926	108,243,906
Net assets, end of year	\$ 115,057,119	\$ 9,624,559	\$ 124,681,678

See accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes to the consolidated financial statements.

2020

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GIVING

We extend our thanks to the following Corporations and Foundations for their generous support:

\$200,000 ANNUALLY

California Community Foundation
Cedars - Sinai
Gilead Sciences
L.A. Care Health Plan
May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust
Wells Fargo

\$100,000-\$199,999 ANNUALLY

Ahmanson Foundation
Carl & Roberta Deutsch Foundation
Citi Community Development
Delta Dental Community Care
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The Eisner Foundation
The Ariadne Getty Foundation
Health Net
Open Society Foundations
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S. Mark Taper Foundation
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\$50,000-\$99,000 ANNUALLY

Amazon Studios
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MAC Aids Fund
Max Factor Family Foundation
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Hearst Foundations
Tito's Handmade Vodka
U.S. Bank
United Way of Greater Los Angeles

\$25,000-\$49,999 ANNUALLY

Activision Blizzard
Alberstons Companies Foundation
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Ares Management
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SCAN Health Plan
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LEADERSHIP CIRCLE \$100,000–\$149,999

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LEADERSHIP CIRCLE \$75,000–\$99,999

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