

# AHF INSIDE SCOOP

NOVEMBER 2022

## Patients in Care by Country

 Argentina 35,605	 Brazil 66,910	 Cambodia 49,781	 Chile 3,824	 China 117,049	 Colombia 2,681	 Dominican Republic 6,135	 El Salvador 3,433
 Estonia 590	 Eswatini 32,980	 Ethiopia 30,897	 Guatemala 13,719	 Haiti 25,091	 Indonesia 12,446	 India 2,886	 Jamaica 15,686
 Kenya 83,594	 Laos 8,765	 Lesotho 42,363	 Malawi 41,801	 Mexico 38,145	 Mozambique 47,202	 Myanmar 22,678	 Nepal 12,869
 Nigeria 24,794	 Panama 1,675	 Peru 25,337	 Philippines 17,458	 Russia 54,593	 Rwanda 33,917	 Sierra Leone 23,699	 South Africa 181,596
 Thailand 72,776	 Uganda 146,483	 Ukraine 57,063	 USA 115,740	 Vietnam 31,937	 Zambia 97,188	 Zimbabwe 59,425	

Total Patients in Care **1,660,811**

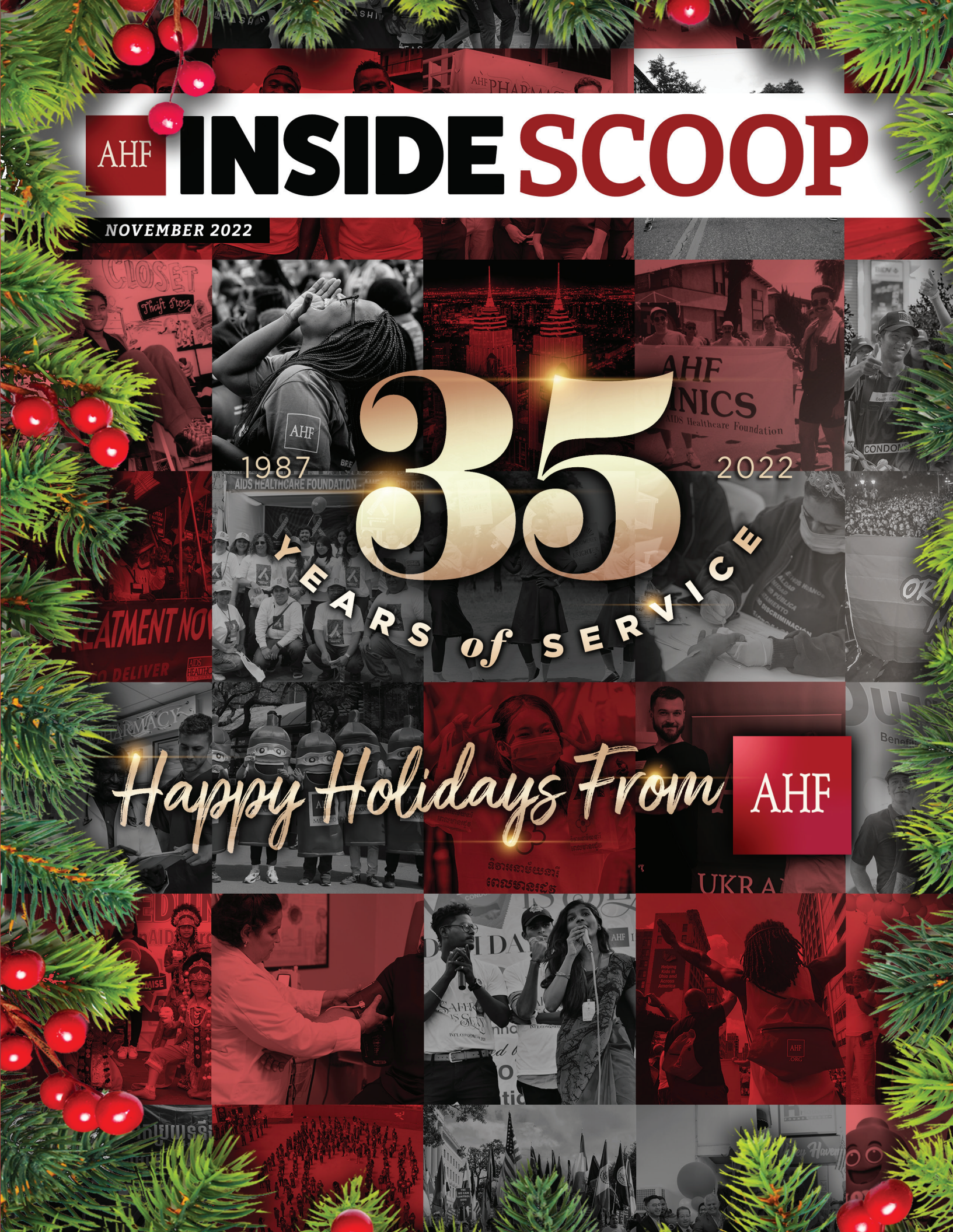
# 35

1987

2022

YEARS of SERVICE

Happy Holidays From



## AHF Around the World

### Center of Excellence Opens in Zimbabwe

The newest AHF-funded clinic in Zimbabwe – the Gweru Center of Excellence (COE) – celebrated its grand opening last month! The state-of-the-art facility can serve more than 3,500 patients in need of HIV-specific care and support.

Hon. Larry Mavima, Minister of State for Midlands Province, represented His Excellency Vice President Constantino Chiwenga for the commissioning of the facility, which will provide significant decongestion from the cramped, one-room opportunistic infection (OI) clinic located within a nearby hospital.

“This [OI clinic] was indeed compromising the quality of services, especially in terms of patients’ confidentiality,” said Vice President Chiwenga in a speech read on his behalf by Minister Mavima. “We are gathered here to witness the results of our national vision, where the tangible output of a modern one-stop-health services shop has been constructed and fully equipped. The health facility was developed after establishing a mutual partnership between the Government of Zimbabwe through the Ministry of Health and Child Care and the development partner AHF...we are very grateful to AHF for constructing the state-of-the-art COE.”

Dr. Nduduzo Dube, Director of Quality Management and Clinical Operations for AHF Africa added, “AHF Zimbabwe is spearheading the process of transforming the OI/ART [antiretroviral therapy] clinics at key central and provincial hospitals into Centers of Excellence in terms of HIV treatment and care. We have also made structural renovations at different sites and are currently supporting OI clinics at several other health facilities in the country.”

AHF has been working in Zimbabwe since 2016 and currently provides HIV/AIDS medical care and treatment to more than 59,000 registered patients.

AHF team members demonstrate the proper way to apply a condom in Malawi.



AHF Zimbabwe representatives commission the Gweru Center of Excellence.

### Condoms, condoms, condoms for Malawians!


Engaging in some intimacy is now safer in Malawi after advocates handed out 30,000 condoms during two events and across a region that sees HIV prevalence as high as 5% per year.

AHF Malawi held the first event in late Sept. near a Malawi-Mozambique border crossing, a site that averages a nearly 5% HIV prevalence rate annually. Organizers conducted HIV testing and distributed more than 11,300 free AHF-branded LOVE and ICON condoms to attendees who were entertained by famous local and national musicians and comedians.

A local university with an enrollment of nearly 3,000 students was the site for the second event held earlier this month. Participants were treated to a dance competition, sports activities, poetry readings, and live performances by renowned young artists. Advocates handed out

almost 19,000 free condoms (11,520 from AHF and 7,200 from the government) and offered HIV testing, cervical cancer screenings, and other comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services.

“Including sports activities was a great way to integrate HIV prevention & testing services since it helps students to have a holistic approach when addressing their health needs,” said Lilongwe Technical College Principal Suzgika Mvalo. National AIDS Commission Officer, James Njobvuyalema, added, “The activity was very relevant and aligned well with the objectives of the HIV and AIDS Strategy for Higher Education Institutions.”

AHF has been working in Malawi since 2016 and currently provides HIV/AIDS care and treatment to nearly 41,900 registered patients. 

1

Let's talk about the 340B drug pricing program.



2

It allows safety-net providers to deliver more services to more people.



3

That's because safety-net providers serve the uninsured, underinsured, and individuals who cannot afford the cost of care.



4

340B works by allowing safety-net providers to get drugs at a discount.

\$100 COST OF THE MEDICINE

\$40 340B COST

\$60 SAVINGS FOR THE PROVIDER



# 340B Costs Taxpayers Nothing

IT WORKS AS CONGRESS INTENDED

5

Savings on prescription drugs allow the safety-net providers to stretch their resources to more patients.



6

Drug companies want to strangle 340B to increase their profits.



7

But without 340B, safety-net providers will have to close or turn patients away.



8

Help keep this lifeline open. Scan to learn more and Let340B!



Let340B.org

## Tis the Season For Joy and Giving

TO THE 1.6 MILLION LIVES IN CARE, HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM AHF!

### *Tis the Season For Joy and Giving*

#### **Every year, AHF hosts**

Thanksgiving luncheons for our clients. This year we continued that tradition, providing free meals at our Wellness Centers and Healthcare Centers.

Thanksgiving luncheons are another way our staff comes together as a family in service of our clients and community.

This hallmark event is a true representation of AHF's culture.

Thank you to all AHF locations and staff that held luncheons for clients in their community across our North, West, and Southern Bureau.

### *AHF is Celebrating 35 Years of Service*

**Since 1987**, we've provided quality, compassionate care to people living with hiv. Over the years, AHF has become a global force advocating for equity in health care around the world and providing it in 45 countries. This time of year is an opportunity to thank our clients for trusting us with their care.

### *Prep Your Nog, It's the Virtual Holiday Party*

**Attention AHF staff.** Before you know it, holiday festivities will commence, so we want you to mark your calendars for the Virtual Holiday party. All employees who attended last year raved at how much of a hit it was. Don't miss this year's event. More prizes are in store for including a raffle for your attendance. Everyone still on the Virtual Holiday Party Zoom at the end of the event will be entered into a grand prize raffle!

You'll be emailed Virtual Holiday Party RSVP information from the Inside Scoop so stay tuned!



**International Day of the Girl Child** is an international holiday that is observed annually on October 11th. The date focuses on promoting girls' rights and bringing awareness to the challenges they face. During this event, kids from Ukraine and Estonia joined together for a dance class! You don't need language skills to dance! Dancing minimizes stress and is shown to improve emotional and physical health!



**AHF Vietnam** has launched its soft opening of a coffee shop/HIV testing center! The coffee shop is a drop-in center (no appointment required) and will be great for clients in Vietnam who can stop in, get tested, and enjoy some world-famous Vietnamese coffee (yum!). DYK? AHF West Hollywood had a similar coffee shop/HIV center in the '90s!



**Two of our Youth Advocates from AHF Uganda** have won the titles of Mr. Y Plus and Miss Y Plus from the Uganda Network Of Young People Living with HIV. The Y+ Beauty Pageant mobilizes communities to take up the fight against stigma; empower young people living with HIV with life skills and inspire those around them to be advocates in the fight to end HIV.



# The War Against Greed

DRUG PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY, GILEAD'S GREED KNOWS NO BOUNDS.



Gilead routinely jacks up drug prices for safety net healthcare providers like AHF to squeeze larger profits from patients in need.

AHF stood up to Gilead's greed for our patients and for the community staging a protest against the company at the end of October.

A week-long demonstration was held outside of Gilead Headquarters in Foster City, CA, where nearly 60 advocates and AHF-affiliated mobilizers protested the drug company's unethical drug pricing practices.

But AHF is no stranger to taking a stand against inhumane greed. This latest protest was one of three demonstrations AHF held against Gilead this year.

Gilead is guilty of illegally restricting 340B access to its branded hepatitis C treatments when covered entities use contract pharmacies. These unlawful restrictions on safety net providers—mainly Ryan White Clinics—use of 340B drug program pricing adds Gilead to a list of several other drug companies attempting such an assault.

*Gilead puts profits before people by unilaterally making federal policy decisions that 'thumb their noses at federal agencies'.*

The law requires Gilead and other drug manufacturers to give safety net providers access to discounted pricing to allow such providers to reach more patients and provide them with needed services.

*Gilead's actions have torn another major hole in the healthcare safety net by placing unreasonable conditions on the Hepatitis C drug purchase.*

Safety net providers like AHF, who serve patients living with HIV, have the right under the 340B statute to purchase drugs for their patients at a discounted price.

AHF will continue to fight against Gilead's unlawful conditions on when and how it gives discounts for certain drugs. See more from our Gilead activation and other demonstrations on Twitter!



## Tap-in to AHF Action on Social Media

AHF AIDS Healthcare @AIDSHealthcare  
Don't think for a minute that @GileadSciences cares one bit about community pharmacies in the #340B program. Our weeklong protest might end today, but we will never stop holding them accountable for their endless greed! #GreedyGilead #PeopleBeforeProfit

AHF AIDS Healthcare @AIDSHealthcare  
By slashing patient assistance programs, #GreedyGilead is intentionally destroying the HIV healthcare safety net, harming the people who need it most.  
@Gileadsciences doesn't care. They're only interested in profit\$\$, not caring for those living with #HIV. #PeopleBeforeProfit

AHF AIDS Healthcare @AIDSHealthcare  
"For Gilead Sciences, that recurring criticism is drug pricing...this week is being squarely focused on Gilead by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF)..." #GreedyGilead  
AIDS advocacy group hits out at 'Greediad' Gilead for drug pricing hikes @FiercePharma

*From May to October 2022, Jesse Brooks has led the mobilizers protesting in front of Gilead headquarters to denounce its drug price gouging.*



LOUD leaders and members pose for a group photo.

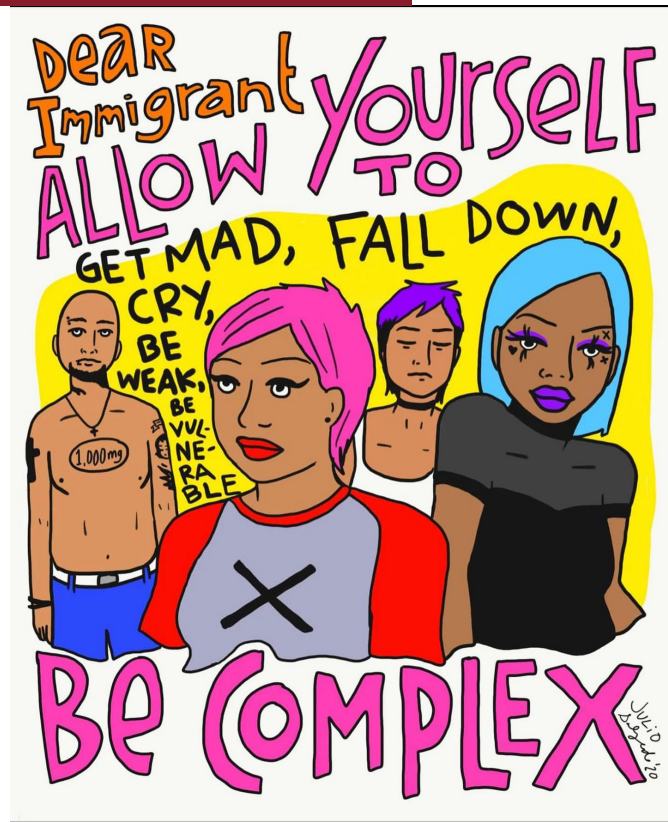
## Learn About LOUD

AHF'S LATINO OUTREACH AND UNDERSTANDING DIVISION (LOUD) WAS FOUNDED IN 2013 BY LATINOS DETERMINED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR COMMUNITY.

Powered by AHF, LOUD works to fight HIV and AIDS in the Latinx community while supporting other critical Latinx issues. Through culturally relevant marketing initiatives, LOUD effectively encourages positive behavioral change in Latinx communities throughout the United States.



Visual Artist and LOUD member Julio Salgado's DACA-inspired illustrations.



LOUD's work connects at-risk youth, LGBTQ+ individuals, women, and undocumented people, with HIV prevention methods and quality medical care. By speaking authentically to the Latinx community, Loud educates, advocates for, and motivates Latinos across the United States.

## LOUD @ Work

LOUD is volunteer-driven. Their work is done for their community by their community. Together, they build healthier and more empowered neighborhoods.

One of LOUD's current and urgent initiatives is protecting the DACA program. DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) is an administrative relief program that protects eligible children from deportation.

The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that DACA is unlawful. This impacts millions of people across the country, harming communities and the economy at large.

LOUD is urging congress to protect DACA recipients and Dreamers NOW.

You can help! Contact LOUD to learn how you can send a message to congress to protect DACA.

## Connect with LOUD

LOUD currently has chapters in Dallas, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, South Florida, Las Vegas, and Puerto Rico. To get in touch with LOUD, follow them on Facebook ([facebook.com/somosloud](https://facebook.com/somosloud)) and Instagram (@[@somosloud](https://instagram.com/somosloud)).

Take a peak at LOUD's Instagram.





Contact your local Healthcare Center, Wellness Center, or AHF Pharmacy to schedule a shot.

## Flu Season + Covid

FALL AND WINTER ARE SYMBOLIC OF PUMPKINS PATCHES, DELICIOUS PIES, MADE-AT-HOME SCARVES AND OF COURSE...THE FLU.

One of the few viruses with a designated season, the flu has the power to rupture into an full-blown epidemic in communities with about 5% to 20% of people in the U.S contracting this bug every year. The past couple of years have been especially burdensome due to the COVID-19 pandemic manifesting at the same time. Both of these viruses are contagious respiratory diseases with common symptoms. For example, the virus that causes COVID-19 and the flu can spread with individuals who are in close contact or poorly ventilated areas. Both pathogens spread through respiratory droplets or aerosols released through talking, sneezing or coughing.


Because COVID-19 and the flu have these similar symptoms, it can be challenging to pinpoint which condition you have based on your symptoms alone.

Rest assured, AHF is here for you. AHF Healthcare Centers and Pharmacies are currently offering the flu vaccine and COVID booster to whomever wants one. Though they should not be administered concurrently, getting the flu and COVID booster is the best way to keep you and anyone who's around you from getting sick.

Some may take for granted that it is harmless to skip your flu shot. It is not. Think about what you and your body are missing out on if you decide to skip a year or two of getting a flu shot; reduce the severity of the flu; lower risk of a major cardiovascular event; the shot impedes flu related doctor visits and the big bonus...the flu shot has the potential to protect the brain from dementia.

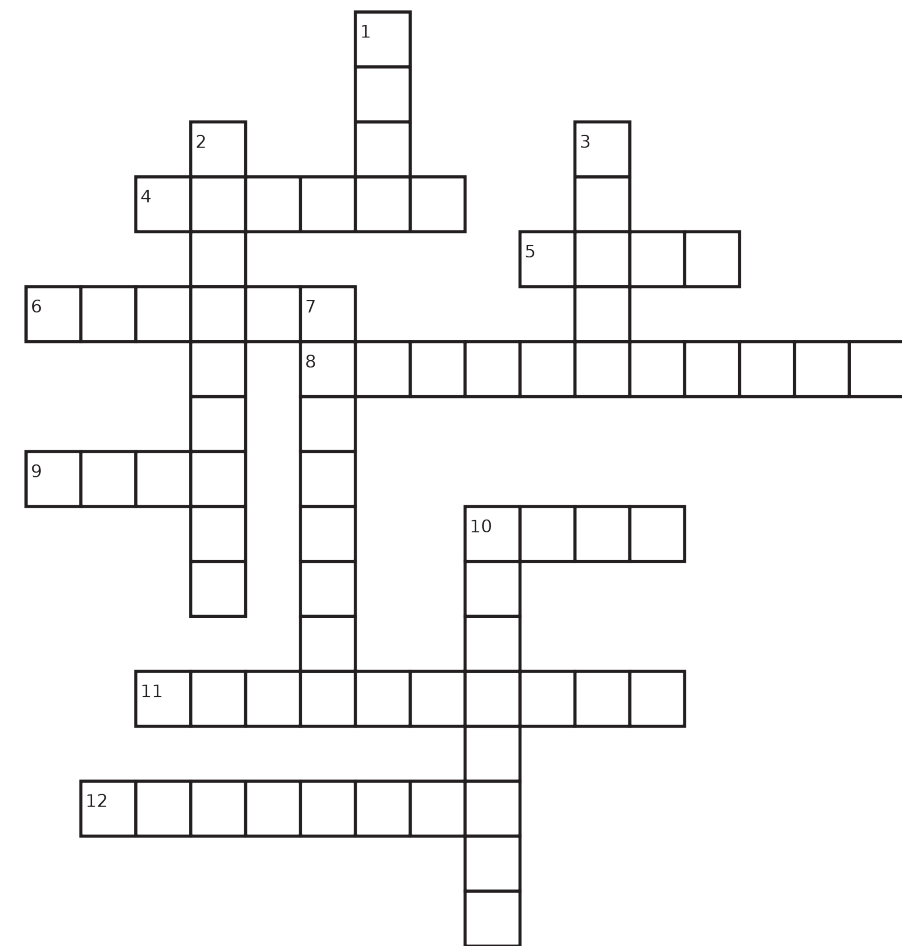
The flu vaccine doesn't prevent you from getting COVID-19. Although, there is good evidence that the flu antigen can actually lower your risk of getting the COVID-19 infection.

A 2021 study from researchers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that adults who got vaccinated were 26 percent less likely to be admitted to the intensive care unit and 31 percent less likely to die from the flu compared to those who were unvaccinated. The flu vaccine is made from an inactivated form of the influenza virus or virus components that cannot cause the infection. Some individuals do experience side effects that will typically go away in a day or so.

Because your health and wellness should always be a priority, AHF is a proven strategy for helping you take care of you. 

## November Crossword Puzzle

FIND THE ANSWERS INSIDE THIS ISSUE!



### Down

1. LOUD urges congress to protect this program.
2. 340B is a drug pricing program that helps \_\_\_\_\_ providers.
3. Without 340B safety net hospitals will have to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. 340B allows safety net providers to get drugs at a \_\_\_\_\_.
10. AHF yearly Thanksgiving event.

### Across

4. LOUD's first listed chapter is in this city.
5. Latino Outreach and Understanding Division.
6. Greedy Drug company.
8. Sharing Virtual Holiday Party information.
9. AHF-branded XL condom.
10. AHF-branded condom.
11. Gilead Sciences Headquarters.
12. The Gweru Center of Excellence opened here.