

*Treatment = Life
Decades of Pride*

TEAMAHF

★ PRIDE TOUR 2023 ★

More information on AHF's 2023 pride activities on page 25.



Pitch Your Story

CONTRIBUTE TO INSIDE SCOOP MAGAZINE

Are you a writer or have an idea for a story? Do you want to nominate someone to be featured in a future Inside Scoop? Scan this QR code to submit your pitch in the form below. Be featured in the staff magazine or help us find a great story.



We The PEOPLE NATIONAL MARCH

The Fight For Freedom

AHF MARCHES TO PROTECT OUR RIGHTS

It's 2023, we're 70 years removed from the civil rights movement, and the United States stands at another critical crossroads. We can move society toward equality, civic justice, and individual freedom, or we can go back to a time of legalized hate, structural violence, and oppression.

Right now, hateful legislations are being introduced that threaten the freedoms that took decades to obtain. More than 1,000 bills are spreading across this country that seek to criminalize virtually every group; people of color, immigrants, women, LGBTQ+, Jewish people, homeless people, and more.

Lawmakers are dictating what we can read, watch, do, and say. They're dictating what we can and can't do with our bodies and what health care we can receive. And they're legalizing the weapons that end young lives far too soon, far too often.

What's happening at this very moment is a blatant abuse of human rights, and it has got to end. If left unchecked, we will cease to be a democracy and end up a dictatorship. If we do nothing, people will go hungry, be without health care, and lose their lives to senseless violence.

AHF won't sit back and do nothing.

In response to the hateful legislation spreading across the U.S., AHF established a coalition of advocates, community leaders, and organizations that have had enough. In partnership with organizations like Planned Parenthood, GLAAD, and Safe Schools South Florida, we form the We The People Coalition, and together, we're fighting for everyone's constitutional rights.

On July 2, 2023, the We the People Coalition will host the We The People March in Fort Lauderdale to protect our democracy, and we need your support.

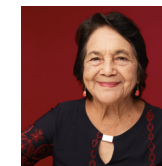
If you are as outraged as we are, if you are as fed up as we are, and if you believe in justice, equality, and liberty, then speak out with us.

Join the We the People Coalition, and march alongside us for freedom.

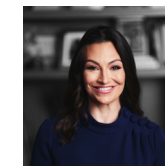
The more momentum the We The People March gains, the farther we can spread our message so it rings loud and clear. We will not let authoritarian lawmakers undo 70 years of progress in establishing rights and freedom for all.

Scan the QR code to RSVP for the march!

If you can't be there in person, you can still make a difference by sharing photos, videos, and information using the hashtag [#WTPmarch](https://www.instagram.com/WTPmarch).



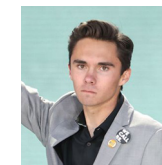
Dolores Huerta, Co-Founder, United Farmworkers Union



Nikki Fried, Chair of the Florida Democratic Party



Equality Florida



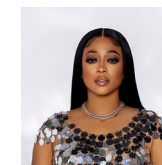
David Hogg, Parkland Shooting Survivor



Marc H. Morial, CEO, National Urban League



National Urban League



Trina, Billboard Music Award Winner



Felipe Sousa-Lazaballet, Executive Director, Hope CommUNITY



Florida Democratic Party



Debbie Allen, Director, Producer, Five time Emmy Winner



Michael Weinstein, CEO, AIDS Healthcare Foundation



Planned Parenthood

FORT LAUDERDALE JULY 2

UNITED we Stand. **TOGETHER** we March.

[WTPMARCH.ORG](https://www.WTPMARCH.ORG)

@WTPMARCH

#WTPMARCH



Columbus Health Department Pays Big

HOW AHF'S RELATIONSHIPS BOOST HIV/STI SERVICES



By Lauren Natoli, Associate Director of Public Health

When AHF arrived in Ohio's capital a decade ago, sexual health services were bare. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Columbus experienced 9,734 cases of chlamydia, 3,220 cases of gonorrhea, and 341 cases of syphilis in 2013—a five-year high for the city.

AHF's Public Health Division (PHD) has since become a reliable HIV/STI service provider and a member of the community. The Columbus Wellness Center reports more than 3,800 client visits every year.

Local health departments in Columbus put forth a new RFP (request for proposals to receive additional funds), which provided AHF's Public Health Division the opportunity to demonstrate our footprint and what we plan to achieve in 2023.

Following discussions between AHF and the health department, AHF secured the largest chunk of HIV/STI funds available (\$342,000), which will be used to expand PHD's services in the community.

The Public Health Division's service model is the key to AHF's lengthy and beneficial relationships with health departments in Columbus and across the U.S.

In 2020, in Columbus' Franklin County, AHF diagnosed:

- 3% of Franklin County's chlamydia cases
- 3% of the county's gonorrhea cases
- 2% of its syphilis cases
- 14% of its HIV cases

AHF leverages these relationships to host our many Pride events and other community engagements in the cities in which we operate.



PUBLIC HEALTH
DIVISION

Learning & Development

INTERESTED IN CAREER GROWTH?



The HR L&D Team is proud to present the Learning Path Certification Series where you can refine your skills. Complete certification series through a blend of online and in-person learning to earn badges. Each badge you earn can be displayed in your email signature, on AHF Connect, or be printed and placed on your desk.

Current certification programs:

ELOQUENCE BADGE: BECOME A SKILLED FACILITATOR

This program will provide you with a blend of online and live learning experiences to help you master the art of facilitation. You'll have the chance to learn from experienced facilitators, collaborate with peers, and practice your skills in realistic scenarios.

LEAD TO ACTION: BECOME A BETTER LEADER

Leaders join a 10-15 person cohort to gain the skills to lead teams and strategically reach AHF goals. You'll go through 1-2 hours of self-paced eLearning each week and walk away with actionable tools. Every other week includes live instructor-led cohort discussions and practice opportunities.

Be on the lookout for emails from L&D when these courses open. Registration is first come, first served, after which all other registrants will be waitlisted and invited to join the next session.

Have you heard of AHF Connect?

The new AHF Intranet has launched, and it's called AHF Connect! AHF Connect has all the information and tools you need for anything and everything AHF. Whether you're looking for the employee directory, the handbook, or ways to get involved in advocacy, it's all in one place. Type in the search bar or click on a department tab to navigate to what you need.

Do you want to expand your department page or add a helpful resource for your AHF team? Fill out the L&D request on the Learning & Development page on AHF Connect, and they will help get you started! You can access AHF Connect directly on your desktop or through PingOne.



LGBTQ Youth Face Sleep Disparities

NEW STUDY SUGGESTS STRESS CAUSES SLEEP DISTURBANCES AMONG LGBTQ ADOLESCENTS

In March 2023, the LGBT Health Journal published a study that found sexual orientation disparities in early adolescent sleep. The findings from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study determined that “sexual minorities” (LGBTQ adolescents) are more likely to experience sleep-related disturbances. The study analyzed data from 2018 to 2020 to estimate associations between sexual orientation and sleep problems or disturbance. In a sample of 8,563 adolescents 10-14 years old, 4.4% identified as LGBTQ and self-reported trouble falling or staying asleep.

The results of the study indicate that LGBTQ status may be linked to sleep disturbance in early adolescence in part to the increased likelihood of depression, stress, and family problems. There are two main theoretical models that suggest stress, mental health, and family factors may cause the association between LGBTQ status and sleep problems.

The biopsychosocial model suggests that to understand a health condition, psychological and social factors should be



considered. The vulnerability-stress theory suggests that stressors experienced by LGBTQ people can trigger both mental and physical health problems. Due to stigma, discrimination, and general life stressors, LGBTQ individuals experience greater stress than heterosexual individuals. Stress in turn leads to a higher likelihood of mental health problems that can cause sleep difficulties.


Another potential cause of poor sleep among LGBTQ adolescents is family dynamics. LGBTQ community reports less supportive and more distant relationships with parents compared with their heterosexual peers. Concurrently, earlier studies have found that there is less parental monitoring among LGBTQ girls compared with heterosexual girls.

In the sample of 8,563 adolescents in the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study, nearly one-sixth (15.5%) reported trouble falling or staying asleep and 28.0% reported overall sleep disturbance. Being an LGBTQ adolescent was associated with a 2.24% higher risk of self-reported trouble falling or staying asleep and a 1.50% higher risk of caregiver-reported overall sleep disturbance.

Insufficient sleep during adolescence has been associated with an increased risk of chronic diseases, psychiatric disorders,



and risky behaviors like drinking and driving, smoking, and unprotected sex. To help combat life stressors like the lack of familial support and disparities in healthcare, AHF’s Affinity groups like Flux and LOUD function as supportive outlets for LGBTQ communities.

Additionally, AHF Affiliates ACQC and SunServe provide programs and services for LGBTQ youth to help mitigate the social and familial stressors they face. 

Uncovering Archives

THE WHO, WHAT, AND HOW AHF'S ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT WAS BORN

AHF Archives is a powerful resource for staff. This vital department saves records, firsthand reports, photographs, and other historical artifacts about our organization, and is run by a small but mighty team of three: Hilary Clifford, Head Archivist; Lonnetta Johnson, Archives Coordinator; and Makaila Lopez, Archives Coordinator.

From our early days as the AIDS Hospice Foundation to hitting 1.75 lives in care, AHF Archives has an extensive collection of historical documents that can inform our work. Most of AHF's archival records have come from people who've just "dropped things off" over the years, including staff, friends of Michael Weinstein, and, in particular, AHF's Senior Director of Communications, Ged Kenslea. Other significant contributors include Terri Ford, AHF's Chief of Global Advocacy, and AHF Media.

AHF's Archive department materialized in 2011 with the help of Miki Jackson (a fierce advocate and long-time AHF supporter who currently works with Housing is a Human Right) who came up with the idea to preserve AHF's history. Miki and Mary Ann Cherry (friend of AHF and author) began sourcing materials, which would eventually become the Archives department. But it would be Whitney Engeran-Cordova, AHF's Vice President of Public Health, who gave the Archives Department a home.

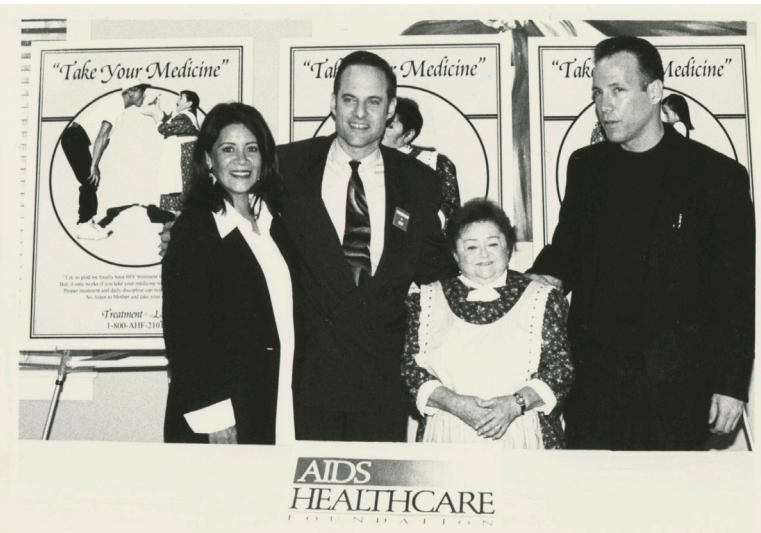
"In its early days, Whitney took Archives under the Public Health Division, and we have been here ever since! Not only is he who I report to, but he has been a staunch supporter and idea-generator for the Archives since the beginning." - Hilary Clifford

The most important function of AHF's Archive Department is preserving the history of communities that have been historically left out of it. This whitewashing of the U.S. canon is one of the reasons why AHF is leading the We The People March: to fight back against the removal of important history from school curriculum.

Archivists are specially trained in preserving and storing historical records, documents, and media. They often appraise the value of these materials and create a catalog for other people to access them. Many begin their careers as historians and then attend classes to learn from experienced archivists. The primary objective of an archivist is to ensure the longevity and accessibility of records that are significant for future generations, and they typically work in libraries, museums, historical societies, government agencies, and corporations.



Left to right: Makaila Lopez, Archives Coordinator; Hilary Clifford, Head Archivist; and Lonnetta Johnson, Archives Coordinator.

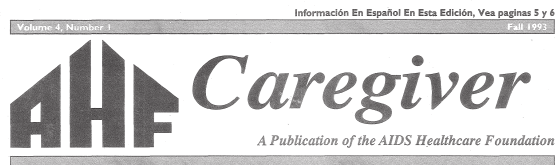


"I'm so glad we finally have HIV treatment that can keep you well. But, it only works if you take your medicine when you're supposed to. Proper treatment and daily discipline can really make a difference."

Materials from the marketing ad campaign of "Mother Says...Take Your Medicine!" with actress Zelda Rubenstein (from Poltergeist, among other legendary films and TV shows).



AHF Newsletters from Years Past



AHF Family Welcomes Two New Clinics

Olmos Clinic Opens in Downtown, AHF Returns to the Valley



Actor Edward James Olmos (right) joins AIDS Health Services (center) in cutting the ribbon at opening of the AHF Clinic-Downtown and the Edward James Olmos Early Intervention Clinic. Joining them are Ray Alvarez, Clinic Director, Dr. Robert AHS, AHS Medical Director and Michael Weinstein, AHS President.

AIDS Healthcare Foundation continues to grow with the recent grand opening of the AHF Clinic-Downtown and the scheduled opening of San Fernando Valley clinic in November, 1993. As a June 11 ribbon-cutting ceremony for the AHF Clinic-Downtown, actor and community leader Edward James Olmos will play a key role in AHF's effort to reach out to communities which have experienced recent surges in infection rates. The Edward James Olmos Early Intervention Clinic will play a key role in AHF's effort to reach out to communities which have experienced recent surges in infection rates. Valley Clinic to Open Soon. As part of its expansion to currently underserved areas, AHF will open the AHF Clinic-Valley at the Sherman Oaks Community Hospital. The target date of the opening is November 1. To date, over 100 persons who live in San Fernando Valley receive care at AHF Clinic-Hollywood. AHF Clinic-Valley will offer an alternative to the County's Olive View Medical for individuals without insurance seeking Level III care (AIDS diagnosis). AHF Clinics will have access to the Hospital's highly acclaimed Inpatient Suppression Units. AHF recently served the San Fernando Valley for more than a year at the Valley Center Hospice, based at Valley Presbyterian. When Valley Presbyterian indicated it required AHF's leased space for its own use, AHF made a public commitment to remain a provider in the Valley.

Tune In for the 2nd Annual AHF Telethon Sunday, December 12, 1993 12 noon to 3 p.m.



See page 4 for story Sponsored by KCAL, Channel 9



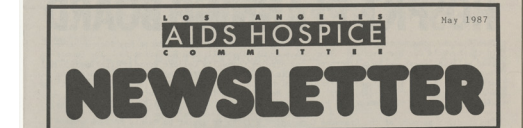
Stars Shine for Telethon \$1.6 Million Raised

The 1993 AIDS Healthcare Foundation telethon raised a record \$1,603,814, culminating a year-long fundraising effort. Returning for its second year of broadcast on KCAL Channel 9, the AHF Telethon is the first and only AIDS Telethon in the nation. Executive Producer was Bill Kraines, Director of Development at the Foundation. The star-studded event was anchored by actor and director Edward James Olmos and was co-hosted by Nancy Dussault, "Too Close For Comfort", Talma Hopkins ("Getting By"), Joan Van Ark, Shaqee Stevens and Tookie Smith. "The great thing about the telethon was that so many people rallied behind it...the folks that raised the money, the volunteers that helped that day," said Ed Parano, Assistant Producer and Assistant Director of Development. "It was a sign of how much support there is in the community for us, how respected our work is."

"We were very gratified by the turnout by the community organizations and the Sherman Oaks hospital staff at the ribbon cutting," said Bob Herr, Clinic Director. "They made us feel very welcome in the Valley." Sean Kinsey, an activist in the San Fernando Valley on HIV and AIDS issues, was honored by AHF with the Heart of Gold award. The Heart of Gold is presented to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional commitment and achievement for people with HIV and AIDS.

A highlight of the telethon was the performance by the new song in English and Spanish about AIDS, "If Not Tomorrow, Then The Day After That," one of its first appearances on local or national TV. Russ Ferrante, a veteran of television and stage, directed this year's program. He currently directs the Barbara Walters Special, Susan Abramson, a talent executive who recruited many of the participating celebrities, has been associated with The American Music Awards, Comic Relief and Golden Globe Awards. Also assisting in the effort was Thom Reback, Development Assistant.

In this issue... Staffers go crazy with Karaoke, page 2 See the "sites" with our host, Maggie Mejia, page 6 Japanese nurse visits AHF Clinics/Downtown and Chris Brownlie Hospice, page 2 Benefits and more, page 6



Antonovich Called "Callous and Indifferent" Determined But Peaceful March To LA County Supervisor's Home Held

Participating in the demonstration were a variety of anti-gay, gay and lesbian people. Speaking for members of the Los Angeles County Supervisor's Home Held Antonovich the evening of March 26. According to organizers, the Los Angeles AIDS Hospice Committee (LA-AHC), the march was to protest of the lack of action on the part of the County Board of Supervisors in providing adequate care for persons with AIDS. LA-AHC selected Antonovich's home in particular because he "is both the chairman of the board and the most callous and indifferent member."

Calendar Listing COMMUNITY RELATIONS DEPARTMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 24 February 1998 CONTACT: (213) 860-5225 God Kendeia, Community Relations Director Anthony Schulte, Communications Coordinator (213) 860-5224

Thursdays 6:30pm - 8:00pm AHF Uncorks The Cocktail Hour Innovative Weekly HIV Treatment Discussions at WEHO LOUNGE. LOS ANGELES, CA, 24 February 1998--As part of its stepped up, comprehensive HIV/AIDS community outreach, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), the nation's largest HIV/AIDS medical provider hosts The Cocktail Hour, regular weekly community discussions on the latest on HIV treatments. The Cocktail Hour, which kicked off in May 1997 as part of AHF's TREATMENT-LIFE Division, convenes... WHERE: WEHO Lounge, 8861 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069 HOW: Free to the public. Cocktail Hour topic information: 310.360.0418

INSIDE OUT Issue 2 Welcome to InsideOut! This newsletter is designed to provide you, our Out of the Closet Thrift Store staff, with interesting and useful information on AIDS Healthcare Foundation and OTC news, events, accomplishments, and people. Your input is very important and we encourage you to offer feedback and submit articles on topics that interest you. To get involved, please contact Lori Yeghiayan at 323.860.5227 or lori.yeghiayan@aidshealth.org. Thank you!

On Angels' Wings AIDS, HYPER! ANGELS' GATHERING THURSDAY, AUGUST 10 - AHF'S TOWN HALL As part of its ongoing effort to stay in touch with its employees from the various AHF sites, AHF Senior Management will host another "Town Hall" meeting for employees on Thursday, August 10 at the Grace Simons Lodge in Elysian Park. To accommodate your schedules, there will be two sessions. Session 1 will be from 8 a.m. till 9:30 a.m. Session 2 will be from 4 p.m. till 5:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Michael Nelson by Monday, August 7 if you are able to attend! You may leave a note in his box, or a message on his voice mail. The Grace Simons Lodge is located at 1025 Elysian Park Drive. (A map has been posted in the Nurses' Station.) There is free parking. We urge all CBHS staff to attend this AHF Town Hall meeting.

From Hospice to Healthcare

A TURNING POINT IN AHF HISTORY

The biggest change in AHF history happened when anti-retroviral treatments were released in 1996. A year's worth of this ARV cocktail treatments cost \$12,000 for one individual, and the government was slow to set up reimbursement systems for providers such as AHF. But AHF President Michael Weinstein chose to buy the expensive treatments anyway, risking bankruptcy to pay for the AIDS cocktail by putting hundreds of AHF patients on the drug therapy as quickly as possible. There were weeks of uncertainty if AHF could stay afloat financially, but no matter what, "AHF refused to let patients die when there was life-saving treatment available."

As it became possible to survive with treatments, AHF's number of hospice residents plummeted, which resulted in less government funding while the bill for the drug therapy was in the hundreds of thousands. That's when AHF shifted its focus away from hospices to providing affordable or free health care. From there, the Treatment=Life program was born. AHF promoted this campaign insisting



patients, "Take Your Medicine" during the 1997 Pride. Eventually, government systems were put into place to reimburse AHF for purchasing the AIDS cocktail. The organization stabilized, and instead of caring for the dying, AHF would grow to become the largest provider of HIV treatment in the world. Ultimately, Treatment=Life meant prevention AND treatment, and that was the birth of PHD, the current home of AHF Archives.



Hilary Clifford, Head Archivist

"I love working at AHF, and I feel lucky to be the first official hire of the Archives department. I have been able to shape the department (over 6 years) and hire an incredible team. I'm lucky to work for an organization that's been

helping people since the 80s and preserving the past of a community that has been historically marginalized and stigmatized. I want to aid in the process of history being told through the lens of the community it happens to. History is often told incorrectly, and it is important to be able to fill in the gaps when the truth is being wholly left out."



Pride Throughout the Years



Lonnetta Johnson, Archives Coordinator

"I feel honored to be here. I feel valued. I grew up during the height of AIDS, and I didn't know it was happening here in L.A.—not just S.F. and N.Y., and I've learned so much that I wouldn't have without this job. Now we're doing things like helping the homeless, which is also a passion of mine. I feel like I'm bringing something to AHF and AHF is bringing something to me. Seeing the history and documenting it; you become a part of it."



Makaila Lopez, Archives Coordinator

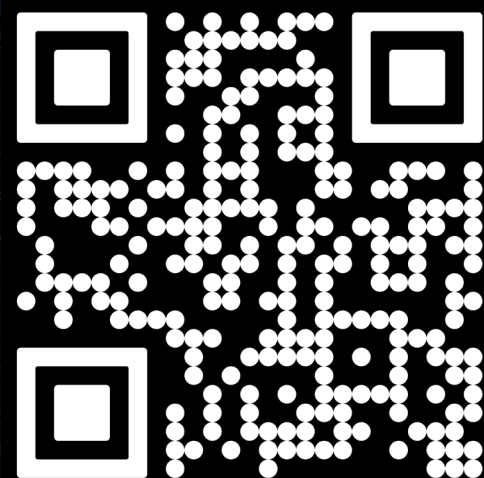
We're all a unit. We're all very passionate about what we do. Archives is an exclusive institution usually reserved for telling the history of cis het white men. As a queer woman with chronic illness, I get to preserve the history of people whose history is not usually preserved.



The sexiest rendition of West Side Story is back July 21 & 22 in LA

Don't miss your chance to see a live performance that will wow you with wit and delight you with dance numbers. Scan the QR code to reserve your seat for AHF's Safer Sex Celebration, A West Side Story Burlesque Show. This is a must-see production.

Free tickets are going fast. Save your spot today by using code "SHOW" at checkout to reveal early-access seats!




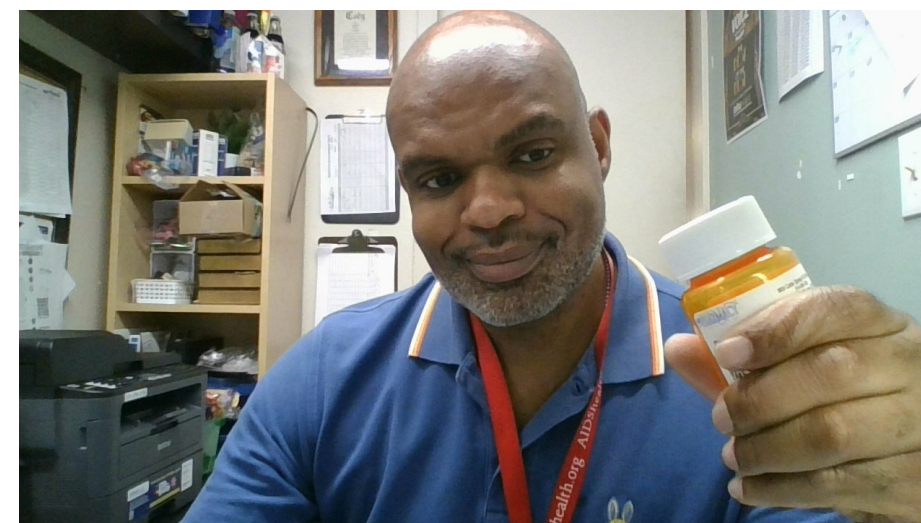
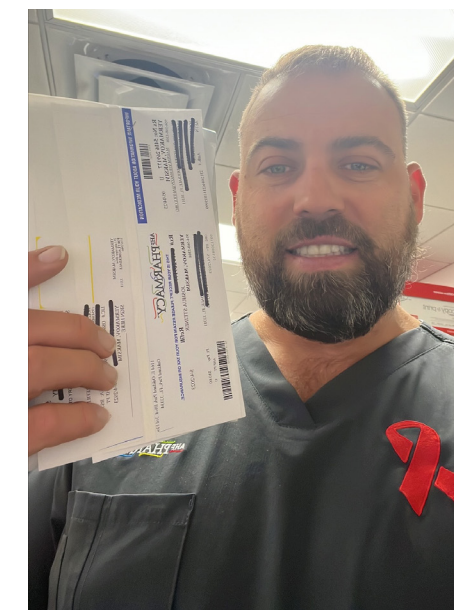
Introducing WeRx

AHF STAFF FILL BETTER WITH AHF PHARMACY

WeRx is a new employee program here to help us make a difference! We're encouraging staff to use AHF Pharmacy to fill their prescriptions so that we can better serve our 1.75 million clients. The more people who fill with AHF, the more resources we'll have to expand our reach in areas with limited HIV care.

Get 5,000 Above & Beyond points when you show proof of an AHF Pharmacy prescription!

Scan the QR code to learn more and switch to AHF Pharmacy. 



International Food for Health

FIGHTING HUNGER AROUND THE GLOBE

AHF launched its Food for Health (FFH) program in August 2021, in Los Angeles, CA, and it has since expanded to several countries. These programs fight hunger, help clients stay on treatment, and some locations allow participants to earn an income.

FFH programs vary country-to-country, and several of them provide business and agricultural training to participants. Take a trip with us around the world and learn about the global FFH programs.

Zimbabwe

Fifty-five AHF clients in Zimbabwe manage three greenhouses full of produce and receive portions of the produce they harvest as well as income from what is sold.

Lack of income can often prevent clients from traveling to their clinic or taking medication properly. The greenhouses promote client retention by providing a source of income and food.

Cambodia

The Cambodia FFH program produces fowl, fruit, vegetables, and more—including enough fish to serve 1,000 clients and their families. Cambodia clients also receive farming and business training, and representatives from AHF, IMPULSE, and Girls Act all participate, making FFH truly a community-based initiative.

Lesotho

Lesotho often experiences natural disasters and droughts, which, coupled with COVID-19, increased the need for an FFH program.

Lesotho now has a chicken farming project that provides 300 chickens, equipment, and training in a rural community where clients gather trays of eggs daily. Profits from the Lesotho FFH program are used to buy food and monthly essentials for AHF clients.

Uganda

Over 70 clients and staff in Uganda receive extensive education on permaculture, gardening methods, and proper nutrition at two large demonstration gardens that benefit people living with HIV.

After training, clients use their new vocational skills to start their own gardens at home for food and an income stream.



Ukraine

AHF's Ukraine team held training sessions for over 100 people—clients, their families, and Girls Act members—on vegetable and herb gardening on balconies. Participants learned tips for healthy eating and received materials to start their own small plots.

In addition, AHF Ukraine has distributed 1,800 food packages and 500 vouchers to help clients stay fed and on treatment over the last year.

Vietnam

Food for Health in Vietnam raises cows, chickens, pigs, and mushrooms for 60 people living with HIV. Clients not only learn agriculture for food and income generation, but they get increased access to HIV care.

Each household is provided with livestock or mushrooms and the required equipment needed to farm them.

South Africa

AHF South Africa clients manage gardens at many AHF locations. Each client receives training and tools for the community gardens as well as free equipment to start at-home gardens. The clients learn by doing, and once they are proficient, another cohort of clients get the opportunity to farm.

Laos

Seven treatment clinics in Laos distribute produce seeds and harvesting tools to people living with HIV who visit the clinics. Participants have successfully grown food and even shared some of their harvests with their peers and providers at the clinics.

“Thank you so much to AHF Laos for supporting the home garden. There is no longer a need to buy vegetables, and we can sell the extras and use the money for other needs,” said Ms. Phengsy Siilat, AHF Laos client and Food for Health participant.



Last year, the AIDS Walk Atlanta Music Festival & 5K Run recorded its most successful turnout since the HIV/AIDS benefit began 32 years ago.



After AIDS Walk Atlanta participants completed the 5K run, rappers Wale and Trina entertained crowds in celebration of everyone's joint efforts and monumental accomplishments.

In addition to a fun run and a free concert, everyone who attended AIDS Walk Atlanta enjoyed outdoor yoga, booth games, a scavenger hunt, and an open bar.



This year AIDS Walk Atlanta will feature performances from Grammy Award-winning R&B singer, Ashanti. Scan the QR code to register for AIDS Walk Atlanta and start a team to walk for HIV/AIDS care.

SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2023
AIDSWALKATLANTA.ORG



AIDS Walk Atlanta combines advocacy with community engagement. The walk is designed to bring people together and is just one of the ways AHF continues to fight HIV. It serves as an opportunity to bring awareness to the disease and destigmatize it. It also allows community members to access information on HIV prevention and treatment while having plenty of fun.



Did you know that you can help raise funds even if you're not in the greater Atlanta area? Scan the QR code and start your AIDS Walk Atlanta virtual walk team!

More than 2,500 runners helped raise over \$400,000 to ease the financial burden of specialty healthcare that the 40,000 people living with HIV in Atlanta endure.



Ready. Set. Engage.

AHF LAUNCHES NEW AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Employee Engagement Manager, Gabriela Cruz and Thomas Joseph, AHF's Engagement Outreach & Partnership Manager, have successfully launched AHF's brand new Ambassador Program.

If you haven't heard, the Ambassador Program is all about embodying the TeamAHF spirit, and Gabby and Tommy are looking for stellar employees who can rally volunteers for local AHF events.

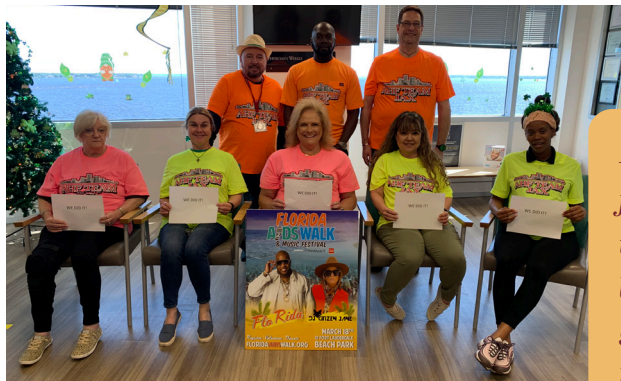
To be an AHF Ambassador you must:

- 👉 Make sure that staff at events are accounted for to ensure they receive their Above & Beyond points.
- 👉 Remind your team about participating in Employee Engagement Programs.
- 👉 Assist the Events team by helping with event check-in.
- 👉 Boost local events by adding them to AHF's master calendar.

Even though being an Ambassador is rewarding work, it does require a time commitment in addition to your AHF job. That's why Ambassadors get rewards in return.

- 👉 Payment for each event worked.
- 👉 Exclusive AHF Merch.
- 👉 Lots of A&B point opportunities!

If you're interested in being an AHF Ambassador, scan the QR code to sign up!




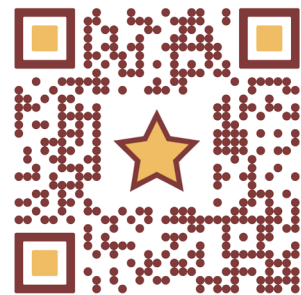
Due to weather issues, Team Jax from AHF in Jacksonville was unable to make it to the FAW, but that didn't stop them from surpassing their fundraising goal by raising over \$1,000!

With great power comes great responsibility

AHF Ambassadors are some of the most engaged members of the AHF network, but there are still high expectations that come with the role. It's critical to the success of every AHF event that Ambassadors communicate clearly. They'll need to share key event information such as parking, attire, time, and location with all event volunteers. A good way to do this is to host a Zoom meeting or a team lunch to share important event details with volunteers and give them the chance to ask questions.

And last but not least, AHF Ambassadors are responsible for submitting event recaps to our Employee Engagement Manager to let us know how everything went.

While being an AHF Ambassador means taking on more, the rewards are worth it. Not only do you get paid on top of Above & Beyond points, but you get to connect with your colleagues in new ways and see how AHF's services benefit local communities on a much larger scale. Our mission is what makes being TeamAHF something to be proud of, and Ambassadors are AHF's team leaders. 



Lakeview staff (OTC, PHD & HCC) have started doing 'Wellness Tuesdays' and spend an hour after work jogging by the lake.

“I talk and I push”

MEET AHF'S BATON ROUGE ADVOCACY CONSULTANT, SASHIKA BAUNCHAND

Sashika Baunchand is a lifelong advocate and AHF mobilizer who has been fighting for what's right for over twenty years. She is described by her colleagues as being “the ultimate mobilizer”. Sashika has strong ties with her community in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and she has developed good relationships with her local officials that help move the needle on important issues. In this spotlight interview, Inside Scoop gets up close and personal with one of AHF's biggest cheerleaders.

Inside Scoop (IS): Tell me a little about Sashika. What gets you going?

Sashika: I have a background in radio broadcasting. I worked for our local radio station here in Baton Rouge. I did the morning and midday show, and I won award for the midday personality. I've been in broadcasting for over two decades. Anytime local companies need some type of ad, I'm the person that they reach out to.

IS: That's really amazing. How did you end up working for AHF?

Sashika: I guess I could say AHF found me. I have a nonprofit for young girls called O.M.G., which stands for Outstanding Mature Girls Organization—it's for girls ages 10 to 19 years old. We were having a conference at Southern University here in Baton Rouge, so I was calling around looking for some sponsorships. Someone suggested that I try this organization called AIDS Healthcare Foundation.

I ended up finding one of my now colleagues, John Reed. I called him, and I said, “Are you the [AHF] person here for Louisiana?” He said, “Well, yeah, Texas and Louisiana.” And I told him about my event to educate young girls about HIV and AIDS. He then asked me if he could talk to me face to face. I'm like, “I just want your money.” But we ended up meeting (at Applebee's) where he offered me a position. He was like, “You're doing the work we do here already.”

IS: What work did you do initially?

Sashika: People were like okay, “So you did radio and now you're about to go talk about HIV and AIDS?” They started stigmatizing me because of that, but I love attention. I was like, “Y'all can say what y'all want to say, but let me tell you about getting tested.” I would go on air with and pump up AHF's testing services.


IS: So, what's your official role at AHF?

Sashika: I'm advocacy consultant on the legislative team. Whatever policies need to be pushed, I make calls, send emails; I talk, and I push. I also go out and see what the community needs are, then bring it back to Tracy, Tonya, and Rebecca. Then we plan events to address those needs.

IS: What do you think a mobilizer's role is in creating change in the world?

Sashika: I feel that an advocate's role is to speak on behalf of. Whenever we bring people together, we have to make them understand that we're not just doing this for AHF. What we're doing impacts everyone's life. I try to let people know, we're not just fighting for for us; this is for you. Change is for everyone.

IS: What mark do you personally want to leave on the world?

Sashika: I want my children to know that mommy was a fighter, she stood up for what she believed in, and she included us in it. I want them to know that mommy is community. 



Just a scan away
HIVcare.org

Routine care is critical for people living with HIV. Just a scan away is a friendly reminder for our clients and prospective clients, that accessing care at AHF has never been easier.



DRUG-RESISTANT
**GONORRHEA
ALERT!**



Did you know there's a new strain of gonorrhea in the U.S. that's more resistant to antibiotics? This is the first time a gonorrhea strain has appeared resistant to five classes of antibiotics in the U.S. AHF's Drug-Resistant Gonorrhea Alert ad reminds people that frequent testing and condom use is more important than ever to their sexual health.

free**STD**check.org

AHF

Pride 2023

CELEBRATING IN A CITY NEAR YOU



ALL AROUND THE WORLD..

ATLANTA - ATHENS
AUSTIN - ADDIS ABABA
BALTIMORE - BEIJING
BATON ROUGE - BEIJING

BROOKLYN - BANGKOK
CAPE CORAL - COPENHAGEN
CHICAGO - CAPE TOWN
COLUMBUS - COPENHAGEN
DALLAS - DELHI
DC - DELHI
FT LAUDERDALE - FREETOWN
HOLLYWOOD - HOUSTON
JACKSONVILLE - JAHARTA
LAS VEGAS - LUSAHA
LONG BEACH - LIMA

LOS ANGELES - LAOS
MIAMI - MANILA
NEW JERSEY - NEW YORK
OAKLAND - ORLANDO - ODESSA
PENSACOLA - PANAMA CITY
PHILADELPHIA - PHNOM PENH
RICHMOND - RIO DE JANEIRO
SAN DIEGO - SAO PAULO
SAN JUAN - SHANGHAI
SEATTLE - SAO PAULO
ST PETE - SHANGHAI
WILTON MANORS - WEST HOLLYWOOD



SCAN TO SIGN UP

..AHF IS THERE



1.7 MILLION LIVES STRONG

Disney vs. DeSantis

HOW THE HAPPIEST PLACE ON EARTH KEEPS OPPOSING “DON’T SAY GAY”

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Disney executives are in a back-and-forth culture war after the global entertainment company publicly opposed DeSantis’ “Don’t Say Gay” law, which prevents teachers from talking about LGBTQ+ issues or people. The bill, which passed the Florida House in February 2022, imposes several vague restrictions on classroom instruction.

The most notable part of the bill says that, “classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or gender identity may not occur in kindergarten through grade 3 or in a manner that is not age appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.”

In response to Disney’s public opposition to “Don’t Say Gay”—in which then-CEO Bob Chapek issued a statement calling out Florida Governor Ron DeSantis directly and expressed “disappointment and concern that if the legislation becomes law, it could be used to unfairly target gay, lesbian, non-binary, and transgender kids and families”—DeSantis signed a bill giving Florida control of Walt Disney World’s self-governed district.

The bill was an attempted takeover of the Reedy Creek Improvement District (the governing body first created in 1967 that allows Walt Disney World Resort to carry out



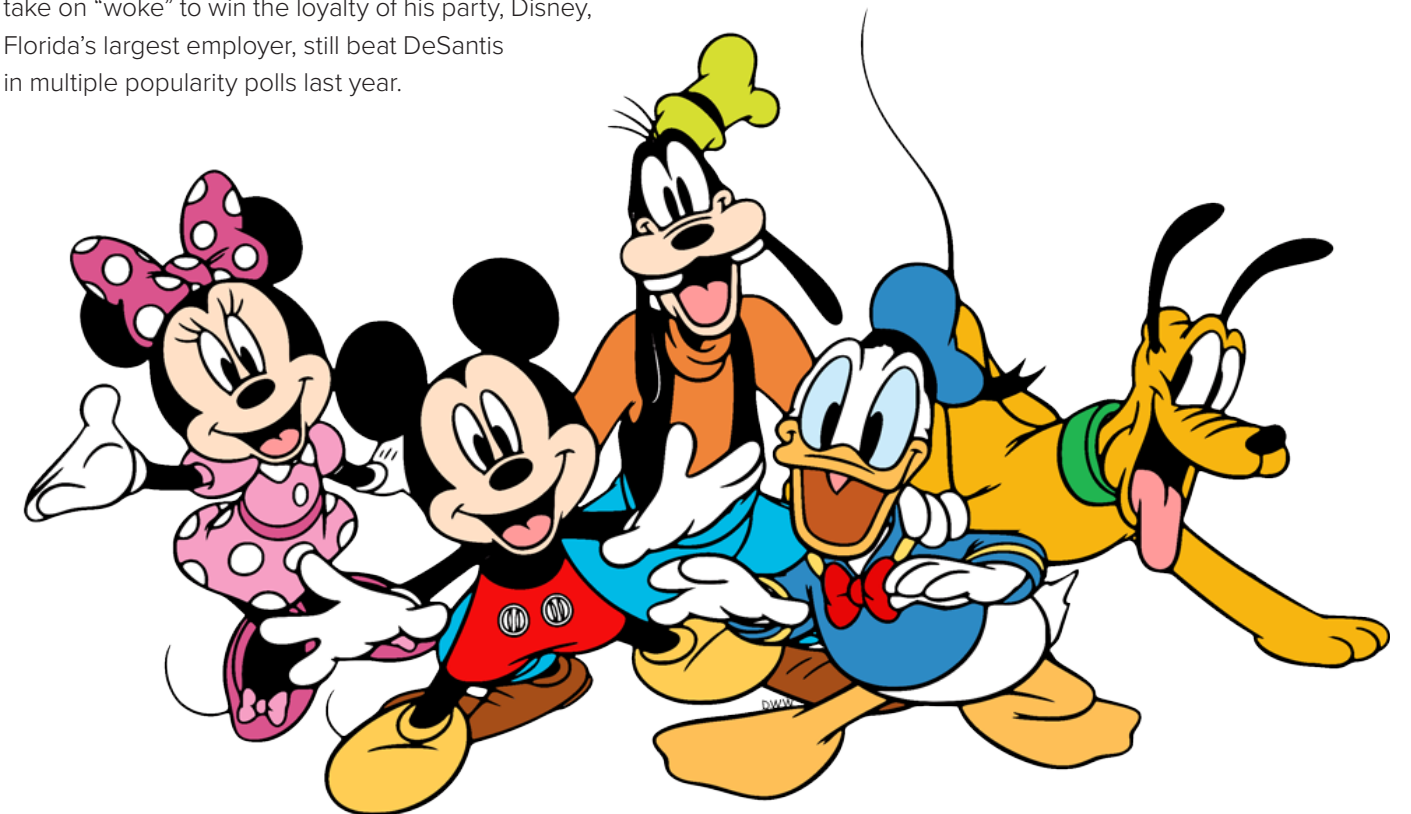
its own municipal functions), which gave DeSantis the power to replace Disney’s existing governing board with five new members.

Following this bill, Walt Disney World Resort President Jeff Vahle released a statement saying the company wouldn’t fight the takeover. “We are focused on the future and are ready to work within this new framework and we will continue to innovate, inspire and bring joy to the millions of guests who come to Florida to visit Walt Disney World each year.”

The year-long fight between DeSantis and Disney reached a head when it came to light that Disney had managed to quietly disenfranchise its new governing board without DeSantis noticing. Before the new law took effect, Disney negotiated a deal with the old board during the winter that transferred control to the company. DeSantis and his board of appointees questioned the legality of this deal, but Disney has maintained that it operated legally and that its moves were approved in a public meeting.

DeSantis has been trying to redeem himself in a public relations battle ever since, so he announced new legislation that requires additional inspections at Disney theme park rides and its monorail connecting its hotels and theme parks. The bemoaned Governor also suggested the new state board could convert land in and around the Orlando theme parks into a state park, a competing amusement park, or a state prison.

DeSantis’ efforts to strike back are attempts to rally his Republican base, who are in their own culture wars against “woke corporations” with progressive-leaning racial and social justice policies. But despite DeSantis’ self-appointed charge to take on “woke” to win the loyalty of his party, Disney, Florida’s largest employer, still beat DeSantis in multiple popularity polls last year.



AHF NUDGES DISNEY TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF HISTORY

Before Disney was willing to stand up against Governor Ron DeSantis, AHF put pressure on the entertainment giant by swiftly responding to the “Don’t Say Gay” bill. On March 3rd, 2022, at 10:00 am, AHF hosted two rallies outside of Disney HQ in Orlando and in Burbank. The simultaneous rallies put pressure on Disney to speak out publicly against the divisive bill.

As part of the campaign, AHF rolled out a TV ad in the greater Orlando area imploring the Walt Disney Company to loudly oppose the hateful “Don’t Say Gay” bill, concluding “the happiest place in the world must have a place for every child.”

Thanks to pressure from the 300-plus AHF staff and fellow advocates who rallied outside of Disney in Orlando, FL, and Burbank, CA, then-CEO Bob Chapek finally made a statement denouncing “Don’t Say Gay.”

Disney is further responding to DeSantis and his ongoing war against “woke radicalism” by hosting its first-ever Pride Night.

The Pride Month will be held at Disney’s California theme park, complete with themed entertainment and specialty menu items. Tickets are on sale now for the June 13 and 15 celebrations.



People from the Walt Disney Company participate in the annual LA Pride Parade in West Hollywood, California, on June 9, 2019. David McNew/AFP via Getty Images



Disneyland After Dark: Pride Nite, is a first-ever, after-hours event celebrating Pride during an unforgettable evening.

2023 Q2 Word Search Puzzle

FIND THE ANSWERS INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

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- Adolescents
- Ambassador
- Ashanti
- Cambodia
- Career
- Coalition
- Cognitive
- Columbus
- DeSantis
- Development

- Disney
- Entertainment
- Facilitator
- Florida
- Fort Lauderdale
- Freedom
- July
- Lesotho
- Pharmacy
- Picnic

- Prescription
- Pride
- Reedy Creek
- Resort
- Sleep
- Syphilis
- Vietnam
- Virtual
- We The People
- Zimbabwe