

2009

# Annual Report



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# Philadelphia FIGHT 2009 Review



Change defined 2009. With the crash of the economy, a new president, and a new worldview, the changes kept flooding in. But FIGHT's goals have not changed, and we have continued an unwavering dedication to our mission, *ending the AIDS epidemic within the lifetime of those currently living with HIV.*

Thanks to a tireless staff and countless volunteers, we have had many successes throughout 2009. A five-year research grant was awarded to FIGHT's new TEACH In/TEACH Out Program (a partner with the University of Pennsylvania) from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. A new Y-HEP Program Director, Katie Dunphy, joined our team as we reorganized the youth program under the education department. 2009 saw the start of our Institute for Community Justice, aiming to reduce the number of people in prison living with HIV and the lasting effects of mass imprisonment on communities most affected. Our Suboxone Program, the only integrated program of its kind offering opioid dependence reduction in an HIV clinic, has continued to grow. In June, AIDS Education Month enabled us to connect with thousands of youth and adults through a range of programs and exciting new classes.



Beyond the additions to our education department, we also expanded our research efforts, working steadily towards improved HIV/AIDS treatments. And, despite the lackluster economy, FIGHT held its footing on solid financial ground thanks to the confidence our funders and donors have in us.

Looking back on the trials and achievements of 2009, we look forward to a new decade of challenges and successes that bring us ever closer to our goal. I encourage you to read more about where we have been, where we are, and where we are going in this Annual Report.

With thanks,

**Jane Shull**  
Executive Director

## Our Mission

Philadelphia FIGHT is a comprehensive AIDS service organization that offers HIV education, advocacy, social, mental health, and substance abuse services, youth prevention and leadership programs, outreach to people living with HIV and those at high risk, and access to the most advanced clinical research and state of the art, culturally competent HIV primary care. Our goal is to end the AIDS epidemic in the lifetime of those living with HIV.

## Our Model

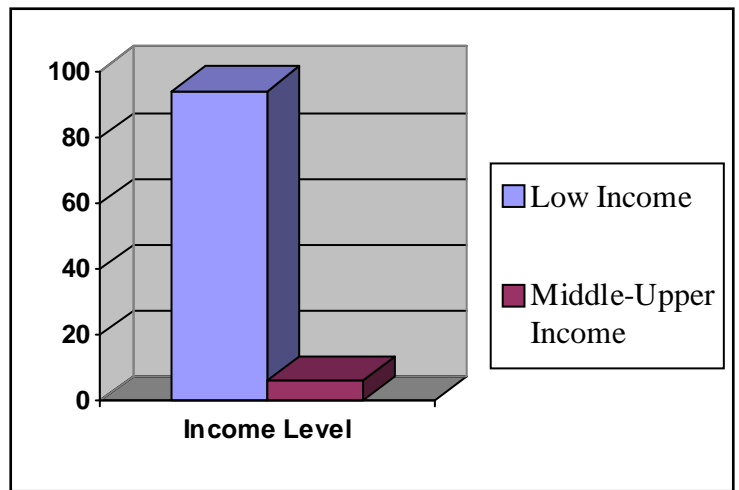
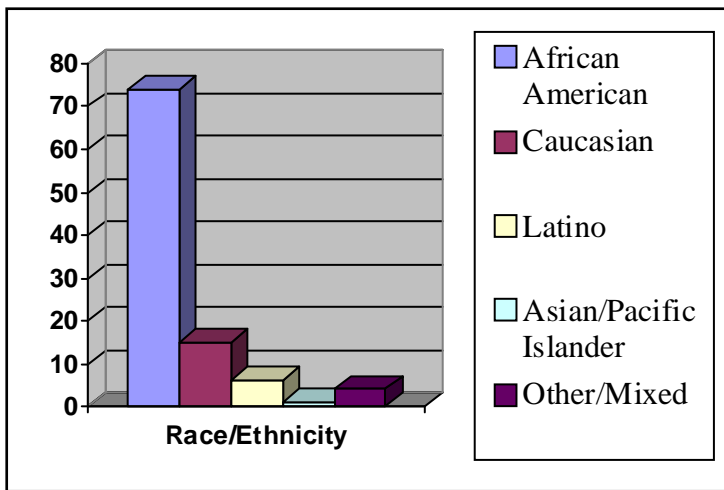
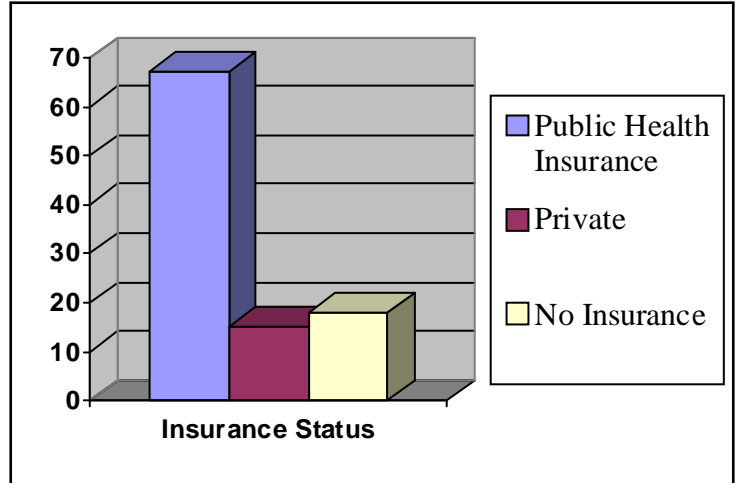
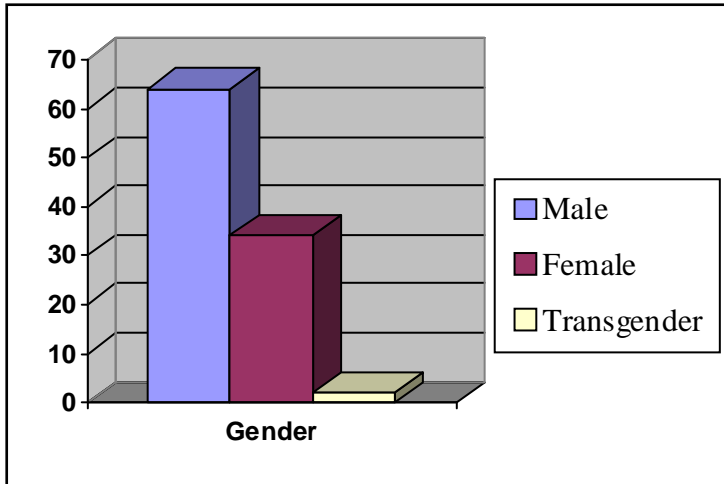
One-Stop Service. It can be very difficult to access and navigate the health care system. We offer comprehensive care in one location to reduce health care barriers. Clients can work with FIGHT from start to finish, from testing to care, case management, mental health therapy, drug recovery, and education. Our varied education programs—Project TEACH, the AIDS Library, Prison Services, and more—make it possible for anyone to obtain the information they need.

## Our Clients

In 2009 we served over 1,300 clients and reached approximately 10,000 people through community outreach. We serve some of the city's most marginalized and disenfranchised individuals. 55% have a history of incarceration, 65% have a history of substance abuse and/or dependence, 55% were men who had sex with men, and 56% present with mental health challenges including depression. See the included graphs for our client population by gender, race/ethnicity, insurance status, and income level.

# The Clients We Served in 2009

(By Percentage)



*"I don't know if I would say that you saved my life. But you did save my future."*  
**-TEACH Outside Graduate**

*"When you're caught in the system, you end up going right back into it. And that's what I'm trying to help prevent. I know it's a hard task, but by participating in TEACH Outside and the Philadelphia County Coalition for Prison Health Care, at least I know I'm trying."*  
**-TEACH Outside Graduate**

## Meet Our Program Directors



I joined Philadelphia FIGHT as the Medical Director in 2000. It is a pleasure to work in a place where the clinic providers and all FIGHT staff are invested in enhancing each patient's well-being and quality of life. I am honored to oversee the healthcare delivery at the Jonathan Lax Center and the research studies at FIGHT.

**Karam Mounzer, MD**, Medical Director



My role is to ensure that FIGHT is a hub for learning, growth, and change for all people in Philadelphia and the AIDS community at-large. Through the AIDS Library, the Critical Path Project, Safety Counts, Counseling and Testing, AIDS Education Month, and Project TEACH, my goal is to enable our community to access the life-saving information they need, empowering individuals to teach others about what they have learned.

**Juliet Fink, MEd**, Director of Education



I have two primary roles at FIGHT. As Administrative Director of the Lax Center, I work to facilitate a positive environment for staff and patients. As Director of the Diana Baldwin Clinic, I work with psychotherapy clients and supervise therapists. In each of my roles, I aspire to carry messages of hope and personal responsibility for all FIGHT clients.

**Kevin Moore, PsyD**, Administrative Director of the Lax Center, & Director of the Diana Baldwin Clinic



I am responsible for ensuring that we fulfill our mission of empowering all youth (ages 13-24) to make healthy decisions as they transition into adulthood. Using a harm reduction model, we accomplish this mission through a variety of programs including our drop-in center, youth development programs, family planning clinic, and therapy, outreach and prevention services.

**Katie Dunphy**, Director of Youth Health Empowerment Project

## Staff Snapshots



# Our Programs and Services

The **Jonathan Lax Center** offers access to HIV primary care, on-site laboratory services, and on-site medication assistance and adherence programs without regard for ability to pay or insurance status. Our services are provided by HIV specialists in a treatment-team environment that respects the dignity and worth of each individual we see.

We conduct advanced **clinical research** of new drugs and treatment options. We offer all expanded access protocols to assure that people in Philadelphia get early access to medications.

The **Diana Baldwin Clinic** offers mental health services such as individual psychotherapy, partner and family counseling, crisis sessions, and a women's support group. FIGHT also sponsors several peer-run support groups, including a Long-Term Survivors Support Group.

**Client Services** staff work with individuals to meet such needs as housing, public entitlements, and health insurance. Our case managers work with Lax Center providers to ensure that each individual's needs are fully addressed. Our care outreach workers focus on building client relationships, establishing a strong foundation for successful care.

The **HIV Counseling and Testing Team** wants you to get tested. If you want to know your status, we offer confidential, rapid testing on-site and outreach testing throughout Philadelphia.

**Y-HEP** (The Youth Health Empowerment Project) offers a safe space for youth 13-24 to talk about sexuality, gender, and HIV/STIs. YHEP offers a variety of clinical and outreach programs, including the Peer Education Academy, which trains youth to be leaders on social and sexual health issues, and the Drop In Center, a safe space for youth to come in off the streets and have a meal, a shower, get clothes, or simply relax with staff and friends.

The **AIDS Library** is the only lending AIDS Library of its kind in the United States and offers a friendly environment with a wealth of resources and media to access HIV information. We have a computer classroom on site to build computer and Internet skills.

**Project TEACH** (Treatment Education Advocates Combating HIV) is an HIV education program that focuses on medical information as well as topics that address individuals' psychosocial, social, and economic needs. TEACH welcomes all individuals with varying levels of HIV knowledge. We also offer TEACH Outside for individuals who are HIV-positive and formerly incarcerated and Frontline TEACH for allies who want to gain more information.

The **Prison Services Department** works with the Philadelphia Prison System to establish care connections with individuals while incarcerated. Our Care Outreach team is on site daily at the jails to visit inmates who are HIV-positive. We partner with families, providers, and other support networks in the transition home. We offer services tailored to the ex-inmate community such as TEACH Outside, and a support group for the previously incarcerated.

The **Critical Path AIDS Project** was founded by people living with HIV/AIDS to offer a range of up-to-date, online HIV prevention and treatment information and research. This website aims to dismantle information barriers by ensuring that all individuals have access to lifesaving information.

The **Institute for Community Justice** was founded in 2009 as part of FIGHT's commitment to locally-rooted, national work to reduce not only the number of people in prison living with HIV, but also the lasting effects of mass imprisonment on communities most affected.

**TEACH Recovery** is a group for people living with HIV, mental health, and substance abuse issues. It meets twice a week for 2.5 hours plus a full therapy hour for each client. The groups combines recovery support for both mental illness and substance abuse with the educational components of Project TEACH classes.

## 2009's Noteworthy Accomplishments & New Initiatives

**AIDS Education Month** The 15th Annual AIDS Education Month was our most successful to date with over 200 attendees at the Youth Summit, over 550 attendees at the Prison Health Care and Reentry Summit, and nearly 800 attendees at the Prevention and Outreach Summit. Jeffrey Crowley, President Obama's Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, was the lunchtime speaker at the Prevention Summit and this year's Kiyoshi Kuromiya honorees included Cynthia (Sky) Vasquez, Greg Thompson and Lin Crowe from the Kingdom Care Reentry Network, and Adriane Medford and Scott Booker from The Philadelphia Freedom From AIDS Campaign Ministry. In addition, AIDS Education month reached over 2500 people providing them with HIV 101 educational presentations.

**We Remember Gala** The annual Lax Center Gala held on December 2 at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts honored John S. James for his commitment and significant contributions to ending the AIDS epidemic in the lifetime of those currently living with HIV. The event raised nearly \$50,000 to directly benefit the Lax Center's lifesaving work.

**Y-HEP's Family Planning Clinic** now has a full time Family Planning Counselor, Elise Miller, which has dramatically increased the number of clients seen on a weekly basis. Our family planning clinic continues to grow in overall numbers including teens and males, all of which are target areas for growth within the Family Planning Network as numbers have taken a downturn for many agencies in the past 1-2 years.

**Suboxone Program** Launched in 2008 to implement a new treatment in reducing opioid dependence, the Suboxone Program has continued to grow. It remains the only integrated program of its kind in an HIV clinic.

**A Special Program of National Significance (SPNS) Grant** was awarded to FIGHT from the US Department of Health & Human Services in the amount of \$1.6 million for "Enhancing Linkages to HIV Primary Care in Jail Settings."

## Snapshots

Jane Shull with Mayor Nutter and fellow Red Ribbon Award Recipients



Jeffrey Crowley, White House Director of National AIDS Policy Addresses the Prevention Summit During AIDS Education Month



Waheedah Shabazz-El, AIDS Activist, speaks to KYW



A five year research grant was awarded to FIGHT's new **TEACH In/TEACH Out Program** from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. TEACH In/TEACH Out is an empowerment and mutual support intervention designed not only to reduce individuals' risk of contracting HIV, but also to transform the structures that increase community-level HIV vulnerability. Jeffrey Draine and Philippe Bourgois of the University of Pennsylvania will be working in collaboration with FIGHT's Institute for Community Justice to carry out the research.

**Pap-a-thons** Lax Center Physician Assistants Sarah Smith and Angela Kapalko conducted three day-long programs to encourage women to get Pap Tests and promote women's health, in general. The "Pap-a-thons" resulted in over 60 women taking better control of their health.

**The FIGHT Pharmacy (340b Program)** ensured that more Lax Center clients have easy and convenient access to their prescription medications, thanks to an ongoing partnership with BioScrip Pharmacy.

**Research and Clinical Trials** FIGHT participated in two particularly exciting clinical trials of new medications. The first is a Phase IIb trial of a drug in a new class of HIV meds. The other is the trial of a medication in the final stages before FDA approval. FIGHT's participation in research and clinical trials was the original mission of the organization founded over 20 years ago, and continues to be an important part of our work.

**Comprehensive Risk Counseling and Services** is intensive, individualized client-centered counseling for adopting and maintaining HIV risk-reduction behaviors. CRCS is designed for HIV-positive and HIV-negative individuals who are at high risk for acquiring or transmitting HIV and STDs and struggle with issues such as substance use and abuse, physical and mental health, and social and cultural factors that affect HIV risk.

**Y-HEP** came under the Education Department and a new Y-HEP Program Director, Katie Dunphy was brought on board. Just some of the expanded programs in 2009 at Y-HEP include the Peer Education Academy, a 6 week leadership program for young people ages 15-23 years old; Yo! (Youth Optimism), a hip-hop dance group for youth to express themselves through dance; the Mural Arts Program, begun in collaboration with the City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, to unite young artists; and VOICES, an HIV/STD prevention program designed to encourage condom use and improve condom negotiation.

**Prayer Breakfast** The first annual World AIDS Day Prayer Breakfast was held on December 1. Over 50 of the city's most prominent religious leaders attended the breakfast, which aimed at encouraging congregations to get tested for HIV and practice prevention efforts in transmitting the virus.

**Safety Counts**, a harm reduction intervention program that works with those in active addiction to help reduce their risk of transmitting HIV and Hepatitis C, had 133 participants in 2009.

**Project TEACH**, TEACH Outside, Frontline TEACH, and Latino TEACH all held classes in 2009. In all, 10 TEACH classes were conducted and we graduated a total of 190 individuals from the four separate class types.

**The National Library of Medicine Grant**, awarded to the AIDS Library in 2008, had a successful year in 2009, delivering 30 computers to shelters around the city, developing a strong Peer Educator program to deliver HIV presentations to these shelters, and providing Frontline TEACH classes to shelter staff to provide them with information about how to work with HIV+ residents.

**The AIDS Library Computer Classes** were started in earnest in January of 2009. This four week class is held once a month and graduated 31 students in 2009.

**The AIDS Librarian blog**, <http://aidslibrarian.wordpress.com/> provided FIGHT staff and the community with up-to-date answers to frequently asked reference questions on topics such as free tax assistance, HIV/AIDS and the law, job hunting, and relationships and HIV/AIDS, to name a few.

**TEACH Outside** had, for the first time, students that were court stipulated to be in the TEACH Outside program. This required a different level of involvement and advocacy within the criminal justice system – we were able to develop effective working relationships with students' Probation Officers. Our class assistant accompanied students to their weekly probation visits, worked as an advocate with the officers and as a role model with the students.

# Statement of Activities

For the year ending June 30, 2009

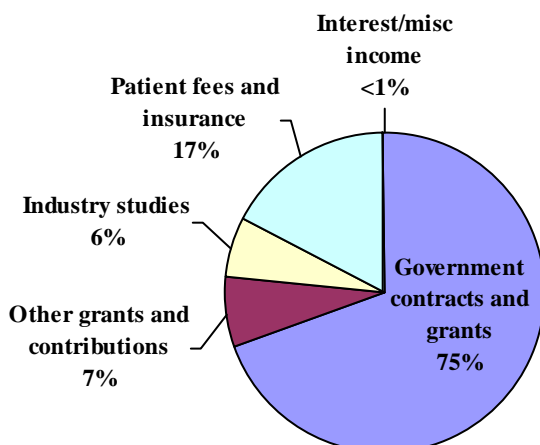
## Revenue

Government contracts and grants	\$3,933,996
Other grants and contributions	\$420,438
Industry studies	\$345,590
Patient fees and insurance	\$990,197
Interest/miscellaneous income	\$3,148
	\$5,696,369

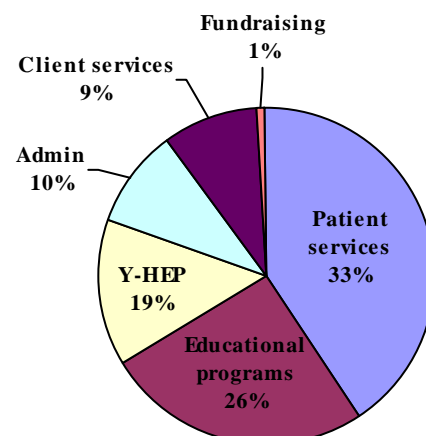
## Expenses

Educational programs	\$1,376,472
Y-HEP	\$761,765
Client services	\$481,879
Patient services	\$2,193,110
	\$4,813,226
Administrative expenses	\$527,112
Fundraising expenses	\$51,103
	\$5,391,441
<b>Changes in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$304,928</b>

## Revenue



## Expenses





# 2009 Sources of Revenue

## Public Funders

### City of Philadelphia

AIDS Activities Coordinating Office  
Coordinating Office for Drug and Alcohol Abuse Programs  
Department of Public Health  
Department of Human Services  
Family Planning Council  
Health Federation of Philadelphia

### Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Department of Health

### United States Government

340B Drug Pricing Program  
Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health  
National Library of Medicine

## Industry Studies

Abbott Laboratories  
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company  
Gilead Sciences  
GlaxoSmithKline  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Merck and Company, Inc.  
OraSure Technologies, Inc.  
Pfizer Inc.  
Roche Pharmaceuticals  
Schering Plough  
Tibotec Therapeutics  
The Wistar Institute

# 2009 Sources of Revenue (continued)

## CORPORATION & FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS

A & O Transport/Recovery  
Abbott Laboratories  
ActionAIDS  
AIDS Collaborative for  
Excellence in Philadelphia  
AIDS Fund  
AIDS Law Project of PA  
APM, Inc.  
Attic Youth Center  
Atwater Kent Foundation  
BioScrip Pharmacy  
Boehringer Ingelheim  
Bread and Roses  
Community Fund  
Bristol-Myers Squibb  
Company  
Brown Insurance Agency  
Canon Business Solutions  
Congreso  
Convent of the  
Sisters of St. Joseph  
Creative Characters  
CVS CareMark CarePlus  
Delaware Valley  
Legacy Fund  
Down Town Club/  
Union Gourmet

EMD Serono  
Five Star Cleaning  
Gilead Sciences  
Glaxo SmithKline  
Greater Philadelphia  
Chamber of Commerce  
Group Health Center for  
Health Studies  
Hospice of Pennsylvania  
Johnson and Johnson  
Family of Companies  
Jones Apparel Group  
Kievit Agency Inc  
Kosansky Family Fund  
Leprechaun, LLC  
Masco Communications  
Mazzoni Center  
Merck and Company  
Mindshare  
New Hope  
Chamber of Commerce  
Northeast Treatment  
Centers, Inc.  
Ortho Biotech  
Pew Charitable Trust  
Pfizer, Inc.

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Foundation  
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Presbyterian Hospital  
Public Health Management  
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Quest Diagnostics  
Reading Connection  
Roche  
Schultz Technology  
Solutions  
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*FIGHT recognizes those who believe in our mission: ending the AIDS epidemic during the lifetime of those currently living with HIV. These individuals make it possible for us to continue and expand the lifesaving work of Philadelphia FIGHT and we offer them our humble thanks...*

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