



Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network

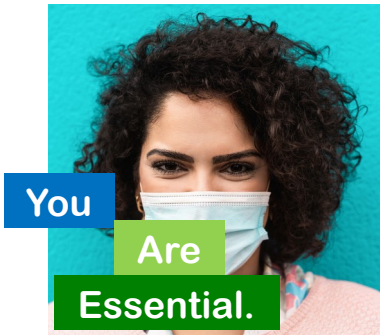
*Helping People with HIV to Live Well*

## NEWSLETTER

Tucson, Arizona

June 2021

Vol. 26, No. 2



As more of us are able to access vaccinations against COVID-19, some are feeling comfortable considering a return to in-person programs, operations, and fundraising events. This requires lots of volunteers joining us to help and make a difference. That means **YOU!**

Everyone who's helping in the TIHAN office has been able to be vaccinated, and the same is true for people helping with our Poz Cafe lunch program.

We're still masking, sanitizing, and taking precautions, but we're on our way to returning to some semblance of a

post-pandemic normalcy, where we can give of our time and talents to improve lives.

Volunteers have a real and caring impact on supporting people living with HIV in Tucson! Whether you are helping provide administrative support in the office, offering care and support directly helping people living with HIV, or assisting with fundraising events, it takes all of us to contribute as best we can. TIHAN has both remote volunteer opportunities, as well as limited (and safe) in-person options, too.

Each month, we have a Volunteer Orientation, in which you'll learn about HIV, hear from a few CarePartners living with HIV, and learn about TIHAN's volunteer needs and onboarding process. Currently these are conducted via Zoom, but soon we'll be able to hold in-person Volunteer Orientations.

Advance registration is required. Contact us at (520) 299-6647 or [VolunteerCoordinator@tihan.org](mailto:VolunteerCoordinator@tihan.org) to learn more and sign up to get involved, or visit TIHAN's website for more information: [www.tihan.org](http://www.tihan.org) then click on Volunteer and then Current Volunteer Opportunities.

**VOLUNTEER WITH TIHAN**  
Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network

**Together, our diversity of hearts and hands make a difference!**



### A Note from Executive Director Scott Blades

I believe in life-changing moments. People with HIV who we serve tell us that simple acts of care and compassion have transformed their lives, and our volunteers say the same.

I know that when I started volunteering many years ago, I wasn't sure what or how I could contribute. With time, I found that I have gifts to offer, and I learned new skills and confidence that I never knew were within me. I met an amazing array of people outside of my "usual" social circle who have enriched my life and taught me so much.

And volunteering has helped me feel that I am doing something to be of service, and that my time, energy, and resources do make a difference.

If you're not already active as a volunteer, is it time for you to get involved and make a difference? People are waiting for you to sign up to help us build the community effort that will transform our lives. It will help you, and it will help others, too, and make our community stronger and healthier.

**"Acknowledging the good that you already have in your life is the foundation for all abundance."**

**— Eckhart Tolle**

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## Announcing: Treasures for TIHAN Benefit 2021!

We're excited to announce that Treasures for TIHAN, our signature fundraising event, is scheduled for Saturday, August 7, 2021.

It will be a one-hour virtual celebration of impact, packed with entertainment, fun, and a live and silent auction—all under the theme “Rainbows in the Desert” during our monsoon season!

Look for more info coming soon.

Stay tuned as we release more exciting details!



We have event sponsorship opportunities (ranging from \$500 to \$15,000). Visit this site: <https://tihan.ejoinme.org/sponsor>

We are now accepting donations of auction items. This year, we are seeking donations of items for us to auction off including experiences, trips, tickets, hotel stays, gift certificates, sweets, baskets, services, ceramics, jewelry, collectibles, and antiques.

*If you'd like to sponsor our benefit and/or donate items for our auction, please contact Scott Blades at [scott@tihan.org](mailto:scott@tihan.org) or (520) 299-6647 ext 202.*

“We make a living by  
what we get.  
We make a life by  
what we give.”  
— *Winston Churchill*



As more of us at TIHAN are vaccinated, we're able to start exploring possibilities for phasing in some in-person events and programs.

We're not ready yet, but we're getting closer. It is very helpful for us to know how many of our TIHAN volunteers, donors, and CarePartners have been vaccinated, are planning to get vaccinated, or are not planning to get vaccinated.

If you'd like to tell us about your vaccine status, please email [scott@tihan.org](mailto:scott@tihan.org)

### SHARE YOUR LOVE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

#### *Spread Your Gift into Monthly Contributions*

Many people find it easier to make smaller monthly contributions. \$10 a month translates into an annual gift of \$120. And \$50 a month adds up to \$600/year. To make it easy, you can set it up as an automatic charge to your credit card each month, so it's less work for you (and easier for us)!

Whatever amount you choose to contribute each month, it adds up to many blessings for people living with HIV, providing support services that make a difference all throughout the year!

\$10/month    \$25/month    \$100/month

Please visit [www.tihan.org](http://www.tihan.org) to sign up to contribute online. **Thank you!**



## wishlist

Here's one of the important items on TIHAN's wish list: **air purifiers!** If you can help, we'd appreciate it!

We need at least three (hopefully four), and two have been promised to us so far. Help us keep our office, staff, and volunteers safe!

Our **full Amazon wish list** is available by visiting [www.tihan.org](http://www.tihan.org), then clicking on Donate, then WishList, to see more suggestions for items you might want to contribute.



## Acknowledging Gifts Made to TIHAN in Honor of and in Memory of Loved Ones

(Gifts received January 1—May 15, 2021)

### Gifts Received in Honor Of

All who have HIV  
 Scott Blades & Jess Losoya \*  
 Scott Blades \*  
 Arlan Colton  
 Rod Cormier \*  
 Eric Decker \*  
 Linda Girard \*  
 Kyle Haney \*  
 Joe Heller \*  
 Ellie Johnson  
 Leslie Kahn and Susan Heinrich  
 Laura Kroger  
 Tina Krug \*  
 Jess Losoya \*  
 Michael Marano  
 Tom Muller  
 Ruben Parra  
 Troy Pelaar \*  
 Frank Ptak \*  
 Cecil Rinker \*  
 Jill Rich  
 Patricia Roberts  
 Robert & Juan  
 John Spalding  
 Ken Stratton  
 Iva Todd \*  
 Donna Van Nostrand \*  
 Deb Van Sant \*

### Gifts Received in Memory Of

Stephen Andre  
 Debbie Barnette \*  
 Jerome Beillard \*  
 Arthur Boehm  
 David Brady  
 Willy Cobb  
 Jim Crouch  
 Randy Decker  
 Mitch Dorson  
 TJ Duffy  
 Gwen & Mike Elbert \*  
 Derek Fowler \*  
 Jim Girard  
 Tommy Gin  
 Dianne Gundersen  
 Richard Haskell  
 Andy Hiatt  
 Philip R Kananen Jr  
 John P Klinger  
 Jim Leos \*  
 Liberace  
 Noel Matkin  
 Bill McManus \*  
 Richard McLean  
 Myron Morris \*  
 My parents and siblings  
 Tom Nelson  
 Butch O'Daniel  
 Dick Rehse  
 Joe Rogers  
 Ronald Schuyler  
 Jim Sincox and Noel Matkin  
 Souls lost to HIV/AIDS  
 Those that have left too early  
 Michael Todd  
 Larry Volstad \*  
 Rabbi Joe Weizenbaum

\* denotes those for whom multiple gifts have been received during this period of time



Volunteers Janice Molina and Jenny Hartung prepare to distribute CarePackages at TIHAN's drive-by/walk-up event for people living with HIV/AIDS.

**"I'll lift you and you'll lift me  
 and we'll both ascend together."  
 — John Greenleaf Whittier**

## Remembering Supporters We've Lost

Michael Lopez



Bobbie VandeGriff



Willy Cobb



Michael Todd



James Leos



Scott Conway



**May their memories be blessings.**

**"Enjoy the little things, for  
 one day you may look back and  
 realize they were the big things."  
 — Robert Brault**

## \$25 Gets You A Chance to Win Three Great Prizes

Every ticket we sell helps fund our programs!



**2021 Ford Bronco Sport  
 Badlands Edition**

**First Class Airline  
 Tickets to Anywhere**



**\$5,000  
 Cash!**

### Jim Click Millions for Charity Raffle

Buy your tickets online at  
[www.tihan.ejoinme.org/win](http://www.tihan.ejoinme.org/win)  
 or call us at 520-299-6647



**100% of proceeds from our ticket sales benefit TIHAN's programs  
 and services for people living with HIV**

Purchase your tickets and we will fill out your ticket entry and then mail the ticket stub(s) to you.

Tickets are available through December 10, 2021 and the drawing will be held on December 17, 2021. You must be 21 years of age to purchase.  
 You do NOT have to be present to win.





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2660 North 1st Avenue  
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[www.tihan.org](http://www.tihan.org)

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## Inside This Issue:

**You Are Essential!**

*Treasures for TIHAN 2021: Rainbows in the Desert*

**Win a New Car—2021 Ford Bronco**

*Celebrating Impact and Community*

**Amazing people, fun events, life-affirming programs!**

Featuring a special insert:  
**Our 2020 GRATITUDE REPORT**  
Sharing how your support  
makes an impact!

## Your Gifts Make a Difference Right Now to Someone Living with HIV

During COVID-19, our supporters have been amazing with helping to keep our CarePartners stocked with essential hygiene and household cleaning items, even with the tremendous increase in the number of CarePackages that we distribute each month.

With record demand, we really need your help right now to be able to continue to provide these essential items in our CarePackages. Whatever you are able to donate—whether it is a few items or ordering items in bulk, your donations are greatly appreciated!

Dropping off your donation is contact-free—please bring donated items to the TIHAN office. Our office is staffed from Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm.

Thank you for your support!



## Items Needed for CarePackages

- Soap / body wash
- Shampoo
- Shaving cream
- Razors
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Dental floss
- Toilet tissue
- Paper towels
- Household cleaning supplies / bleach
- Facial tissue
- Disinfecting wipes
- Liquid hand soap
- Dish detergent
- Laundry detergent
- Hand sanitizer

Items that are well stocked for now and not needed at this time: feminine hygiene items, adult diapers/briefs.

# GRATITUDE REPORT 2020

# More Essential than Ever

In 2020, as our community faced a crisis like no other, TIHAN's response of care and compassion took on added importance. With your generous love and support, we worked hard to keep our CarePartners safe, resilient, and supported as COVID-19 transformed our lives.

In response to the pandemic, we quickly focused on addressing the most critical needs of people living with HIV. We modified our procedures and rapidly created new forms of service delivery. We were determined to continue to serve, even in these difficult circumstances.

Your backing ensured that we were able to provide support—which was more essential than ever—serving more people living with HIV than ever in our 26-year history.

For more than two decades, our volunteers, donors, and staff have stepped up to respond to reduce fear and isolation, and to ensure that no one has to be alone in facing HIV. 2020 reinforced that commitment, as the already-isolating HIV was now compounded by a requirement to enact distancing and create safe and remote services. Because of you, people with HIV were able to receive an array of support—even while staying safe at home.

Our CarePartners living with HIV were faced with great challenges in 2020, especially having high-risk conditions. In addition to being immune-compromised, most of our CarePartners are over the age of 50, are people of color, and have additional underlying health issues that put them at greater risk of severe complications if infected with the COVID-19 virus. Our CarePartners too face the emotional, social, and financial impacts of HIV, COVID, and the isolation necessitated by the pandemic. Your support of our CarePartners living with HIV has been invaluable.

Like our CarePartners, TIHAN as an organization was faced with critical challenges in 2020. Fewer volunteers, safety protocols, remote work, cancelled fundraising events, and decreased donations accompanied the fear, grief, and loss we were all experiencing – while facing record numbers of people with HIV coming to us for support.

Thanks to donors like you, we had resources to provide help and hope. Our staff and volunteers rose to the challenge, adapting the most essential programs to ensure safety, and assessing needs and then creating new support services to meet unmet needs.

People living with HIV (and TIHAN too!) have long histories of rebounding and innovating during adversity, finding strength and support both internally and externally.

Your generous contributions helped provide 409 people with essential support services throughout 2020, the most challenging year in our history.

We are grateful that so many of you opened your hearts generously in 2020. 880 of you made cash gifts (ranging from \$5 to \$30,000), and 240 of you made non-cash gifts in-kind. We are so grateful to you!



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*Helping People with HIV to Live Well*



With all this generosity, we were still a bit in the red. But our friend Paul DeLair, who sadly passed away in 2019, left us a bequest in the amount of \$50,000, helping us end the year in the black, a miracle in a pandemic year.

Even with the record support services that you made possible in 2020 under difficult circumstances, we know that nothing replaces the power of the in-person love and support that happens when we gather as community.

We're hoping for a better 2021, and know that—with your support—we'll be able to continue serving the needs of our community with unparalleled love and support.

**Our Mission:** TIHAN provides community resources and caring support so that people with HIV can live well. Through education, we work to encourage everyone to get tested, get involved, and reduce the stigma of HIV.

**Our Vision:** Creating a community where everyone knows their HIV status, and where every person – regardless of status – is supported and affirmed to live as well as possible and stay healthy and engaged in the community.

#### Board of Directors

Dan Uroff **President**  
Jill Rich **Vice President**  
Carol Schneiderman, PharmD **Secretary**  
Arlan Colton, FAICP **Treasurer**

Rev. Peter Helman, SCP  
Leslie Kahn, PhD  
Denise Nagy, MS  
Bobbie Parrish, JD  
George Vissichelli  
Kelly Vollmer, MD, MPH

#### TIHAN's Staff Team

Scott Blades **Executive Director**  
Deirdre Demers **Program Manager**  
Rachel Briggs **Program Coordinator**  
Maggie McCann **Operations Manager**

(as of December 2020)



**Serving 409  
people living  
with HIV in 2020**

### **Who We Serve**

38% White/Caucasian	62% Income below 100% of federal poverty level (FPL) *
27% Latina/o	15% Income between 100% and 149% of FPL
18% Black/African American	10% Income between 150% and 199% of FPL
7% Multi-racial/mixed	4% Income 200% of FPL and above
3% Native American	8% Did not report
1% Other	
6% Did not report	
74% Male	46% Gay
24% Female	31% Heterosexual
0% Trans/Non-binary	7% Bisexual
1% Did not report	7% Prefer to not answer
37% Under age 50	9% Did not report
62% 50 years of age and above	
1% Did not report	

\* Federal poverty level is \$12,760/year

### **Linking People to Resources and Care**

TIHAN's Link Specialist volunteers and staff connected a record 357 CarePartners with a variety of support services including home weekly check-in phone calls, emotional support, and a host of information, referral, and advocacy support.

This support helps keep our CarePartners sustained and engaged in medical care, increasing the likelihood that they will stay adherent to life-saving anti-retroviral medications that can reduce their viral load and minimize the possibility of HIV transmission. This support also helped address the impact of the isolation required during this time of COVID-19.



### **CarePackages**

We distributed 2,341 CarePackages to 339 people living with HIV. Our CarePackages (grocery bags of toiletries, hygiene, and cleaning products which cannot be purchased with an EBT card) supplemented the budgets of people we serve, the vast majority of whom live below the poverty level. CarePackages were distributed monthly at the TIHAN office, at Poz Café, and via home delivery to people in need.

We provided 44% more CarePackages than any year before, and added additional items due to COVID-19—including hand sanitizer, liquid hand soap, disinfecting wipes, and masks, when available.

### **Additional Support Provided in 2020**

20 people received new phones or additional minutes to stay connected  
CareTeams served four people  
Living Well with HIV classes: 34 people attended six classes  
Starting Over Supply (SOS) Kits: 22 people received  
197 CarePartners received holiday gifts and gift cards





## New programs in 2020 addressing food insecurity

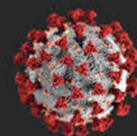
Emergency food support during COVID

### Phase I

We provided 1,998 meals from locally-owned restaurants to 219 people living with HIV to address immediate food needs while supporting local restaurants hurt by the pandemic.

### Phase II

We distributed 1,279 grocery store gift cards (\$40 and \$50 cards) to 309 people living with HIV between July and December, allowing them to purchase food in accordance with their dietary requirements.



## COVID-19 RESPONSE

- Keeping people safe
- Implementing protocols
- Assessing the needs
- Adapting and serving



## More 2020 Milestones

30,000th

meal served



20,000th

CarePackage provided

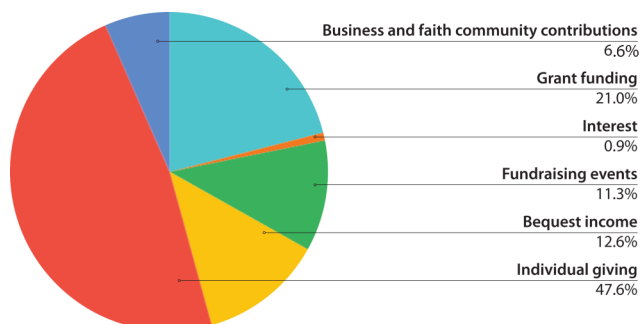


In March 2020, our monthly lunch program had to be transformed into a touch-free drop-off distribution of to-go meals. Still, we served a record 1,663 meals to 273 people living with HIV.

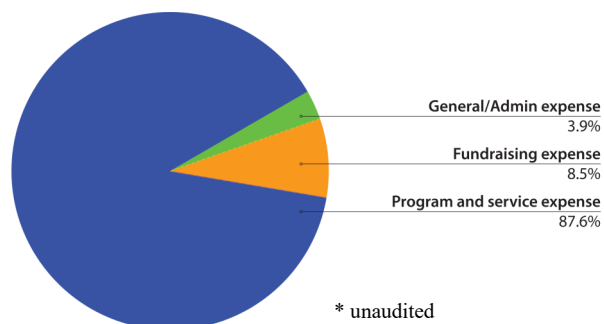
We are grateful for our program partners, including St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church, Cornerstone Fellowship, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, Amity Foundation, Aunt Rita's Foundation, The Stonewall Foundation, St. Pius X Catholic Church, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Arizona Complete Health, and community groups and faith communities.



2020 Income by Source \*



2020 Expense by Area \*



\* unaudited



## Volunteer Impact

As our area's largest volunteer-based organization providing support services to help people with HIV live well, TIHAN has a long history of engaging volunteers to be part of the solution. But 2020's COVID pandemic severely limited our ability to utilize volunteers.

In 2019, 547 volunteers had helped with AIDS education efforts, direct support services, administration support, and fundraising events. In 2020, the number of volunteers over the course of the year was fewer than 200, and the number of volunteer hours decreased by thousands.

Despite the limitations of volunteer engagement in 2020, volunteer impact was essential in supporting TIHAN's four staff members to serve more people with HIV than ever. Your support is amazing!

"I started receiving services with TIHAN about 3 months [ago], and it has been a great support. Seeing others caring about us is everything, especially during this hardship time."

— A CarePartner living with HIV

We are proud to have an incredible community of people and groups making a difference, including these who we honored in 2020:

Empowerment Award: **Darrin Woodring**

Myron Morris "Excellence in Caring" Award: **David Cormier**

Spirit of Philanthropy Awards: **The Stonewall Foundation and SiCharro!/The Flores Family**

Leadership Award: **Claudia Svarstad and Beckie Harkey**



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Helping People with HIV to Live Well

2660 North 1st Avenue Phone: 520.299.6647  
Tucson, Arizona 85719 [www.tihan.org](http://www.tihan.org)

"I am so appreciative of TIHAN and its supporters who are keeping me supported and safe right now." — *CarePartner living with HIV*

## Special Recognition

As an organization that receives no government grants, TIHAN greatly appreciates your love and support, regardless of the amount of your gift. In 2020, more than 880 of you made a cash gift, ranging from \$5 to \$50,000, and over 240 of you donated gifts in-kind (non-cash). Thank you! Heartfelt thanks to the following individuals, organizations, foundations and businesses who made major contributions to TIHAN in 2020:

Ted Adams	Shirley and Phil Kananen
Barbie Adler and John Nemo	Long Realty Cares Foundation
AIDS Healthcare Foundation	Jess Losoya and Scott Blades
Alfred and Harriet Feinman Foundation	Lutheran Church of the Foothills
American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation	Tina MacBeth
Amity Foundation	Max McCauslin
Anonymous	Stuart Meinke
Naya Arbiter and Rod Mullen	David Messick
Arizona Gay Rodeo Association	Yvette Miller
Chris Arnot and Randy Branca	Morris A. Hazan Family Foundation
Aunt Rita's Foundation	Phil Moul and Robert Stolarski
Colette Barajas and Kristen Birner / Coreal	Cheryl and Tom Muller
Kay Bauman	Myron Morris Endowment Fund
Joseph Benanti and Randolph Weese	Denise and Tibor Nagy
Kayla and Mary Boyer / Speedway Veterinary Hospital	Kathleen Norton
Broadway Cares / Equity Fights AIDS	Operation PPE—Tucson
Tom Burke and Robert Scacco	Dan and Danielle Orozco
Melissa Burns	Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Cat Hospital of Tucson	Lindi Laws and Frank Petroni
Center for Health and Hope	Shelley Phipps
Ruth Cherrick	Jim and Sarah Pratt
Citi Business Services	Ralph L Smith Foundation
Bill Clyatt and Jorge Sanchez	The Raymond Chavez and Rupert Keesler Jr Fund
Coffee Times Drive-Thru	Jill and Jim Rich
Arlan Colton	Rincon Congregational Church
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona	Mark Rosenbaum and Bruce Cameron
John Consedine	Carol Schneiderman and Rod Frable
Martha Kai Conway	Jan Schoemaker
Cornerstone Fellowship	Jeff Schuchart and Robert Plymyer
Melinda Diebolt, Long Realty Mortgage	Patricia Small
Dr. Seth Dubry and Todd Colwell	Karen and Ray Sparks
Elias for Supervisor	St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Barry Ellis	St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church
Estate of Norm Weber	St. Mark's United Methodist Church
Estate of Paul A. DeLair	The Stonewall Foundation
Deborah and Peter Francis	The Sundt Foundation
Roger Funk and Doug Noffsinger	Claudia Svarstad and Beckie Harkey
Katherine George and John Duclos	Chin Tan
Linda Girard	Temple Emanu-El
Charles Gonzales	Timothy Olcott, P.C.
Edna Gray and Dave Johnson	George Timson
Donita Gross	Tucson Realtors Charitable Foundation
Jenny and Michael Hartung	Bobbie and Don VandeGriff
Cathy Hatfield	Kelly Vollmer
Susan Heinrich and Leslie Kahn	We Are One / Somos Uno Fund
Joe Heller and Frank Ptak	Patrick Welchert
Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona	Rebecca and Gordon Wicker
Barbara Kaller-Cohen and Kenny Cohen	Diane and John Wilson



## Leaving a Legacy through a Bequest

We are forever grateful to our friends who have included TIHAN in their estate plans. Tremendous supporters during their lifetimes, they made arrangements to leave their legacy through ensuring TIHAN's programs and services would continue to help people well into the future.

