

Friends,

With your generous love and support, we worked hard in 2021 to keep our CarePartners safe, resilient, and supported as the Covid pandemic continued to bear down on our lives.

After making major modifications to our programs and services in 2020 when the Covid virus began taking its toll, we were hopeful that 2021 would bring an end to the devastation. But it became clear that new variants would require a prolonged transformation of our revised programs. With the continued generosity of donations, volunteers, and partnerships, we were able to provide sustained support as the pandemic stretched into another year. In 2021, we served 429 people living with HIV, more people than ever before in our 27-year history.

For over two and a half decades, our volunteers, donors, and staff have stepped up to reduce fear and isolation, and to ensure that no one has to face HIV alone. Our task in 2021 was not only to address the stigma and isolation caused by HIV and stigma, but also the isolation brought on by the evolving Covid virus. The protocols changed multiple times over the course of 2021 as we adjusted to new realities and built upon our array of support services to keep people both safe and supported.

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 virus. Our CarePartners have endured the emotional, social, and financial impacts of HIV, Covid, and the isolation necessitated by the pandemic. Your support of our CarePartners living with HIV in 2021 was invaluable, and we are grateful.



TIHAN as an organization was similarly faced with critical challenges in 2021, including operating with fewer volunteers, carrying out safety protocols, honoring the need for distanced support, and canceling or modifying fundraising events. These realities were accompanied by the fear, grief, and loss we were all experiencing—all while facing record numbers of people with HIV coming to us for support.

Thanks to donors like you, we had the resources to provide help and hope. Our staff and volunteers rose to the challenge, adapting the most essential programs to ensure safety, creating and modifying support services to meet changing 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 us provide a record number of people with essential support services throughout this second year of the pandemic. We are grateful that so many of you opened your hearts generously in 2021. 940 of you made cash gifts (ranging from \$5 to \$75,000), and 330 of you made non-cash gifts in-kind. Our friend Lloyd Engle, who sadly passed away in 2018, left us funds received in 2021 to help make sure that his favorite TIHAN program, Poz Café, could keep going strong.

Even with the record support services that you made possible in 2021 under difficult circumstances, we know that nothing replaces the power of the in-person love and support that happens when we gather as community. So we hope for a better year ahead, and know that—with your support—we'll be able to continue serving the needs of our community with the unparalleled love and support for which we are known.

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

—a TIHAN CarePartner living with HIV

## GRATITUDE REPORT 2021

### Connected in Service



**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

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#### TIHAN's Staff Team

Scott Blades **Executive Director**  
Deirdre Demers **Program Manager**  
Ramses Gaona Jacobo **Program Coordinator**

(as of December 2021)



**Serving 429  
people living  
with HIV in 2021**

### **Who We Serve**

42% White/Caucasian	69% Income at or below 100% of federal poverty level (FPL) *
26% Latina/o	17% Income between 101% and 150% of FPL
19% Black/African American	9% Income between 151% and 200% of FPL
10% Multi-racial	4% Income 201% of FPL and above
3% Native American	
74% Male	48% Gay
24% Female	31% Heterosexual
1% Trans/Non-binary	11% Prefer to not answer
31% Under age 50	7% Bisexual
69% 50 years of age and above	2% Other/Unsure

\* Federal poverty level in 2021 was \$12,880/year

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

TIHAN's Link Specialist volunteers and staff connected a record 381 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.



### **CarePackages**

We distributed 2,292 CarePackages to 322 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, and our drive-by grab-and-go distribution at Poz Café.

Our pandemic-era CarePackages contained additional items necessitated by Covid—including hand sanitizer, liquid hand soap, disinfecting wipes, and masks, when available.

### **Additional Support Provided in 2021**

9 CarePartners received emergency financial assistance provided through Interfaith Community Services and Temple Emanu-El Mitzvah Corp.

36 CarePartners received Starting Over Supply (SOS) Kits from Assistance League of Tucson and/or furniture vouchers from Goodwill.

211 CarePartners received holiday gifts and gift cards.





## Addressing Food Insecurity During the Covid Pandemic

Continuing the emergency support we initiated in the second half of 2020, we provided 2,267 grocery store gift cards for food to 318 people living with HIV, allowing them to purchase food in accordance with their dietary requirements.

*"Small acts of kindness really do make a difference. Things like the shoes and crockpot and clothes, the CarePackages, the \$25 for food each month, it really does help. I'm getting back on my feet again, and support like TIHAN is providing makes me feel like a person again. Because I had lost everything and had no money, I was feeling like a failure. But now, I am feeling like me again, and I'm positive about the future."* —a TIHAN CarePartner living with HIV



Red Concert Outdoors at Monterey Court, in conjunction with the Center for Health and Hope

Even with all of the changing restrictions in place throughout 2021, we were able to still gather (sometimes in person outdoors and sometimes virtually) to share some fellowship, raise some funds, and celebrate life and love.

Treasures for TIHAN benefit auction went virtual in 2021, with donors creating rainbows of support for people living with HIV in our community!



In December, we held an outdoor holiday social and gift giving event at Reid Park for CarePartners, to help brighten their spirits after another challenging year.

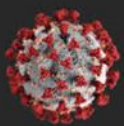


In 2020, our monthly lunch program had to be transformed into a touch-free drop-off distribution of

to-go meals. In 2021, we served a record 1,757 meals to 262 people living with HIV and their guests.



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, The Stonewall Fund, St. Pius X Catholic Church, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Arizona Complete Health, and community groups and faith communities.

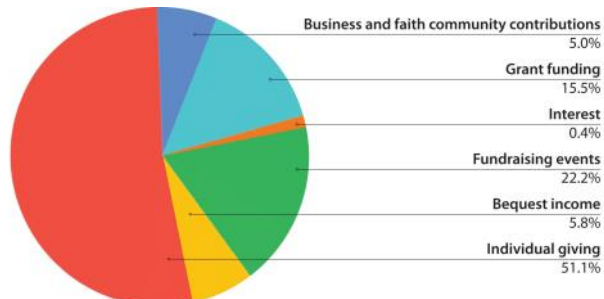


**COVID-19  
RESPONSE**

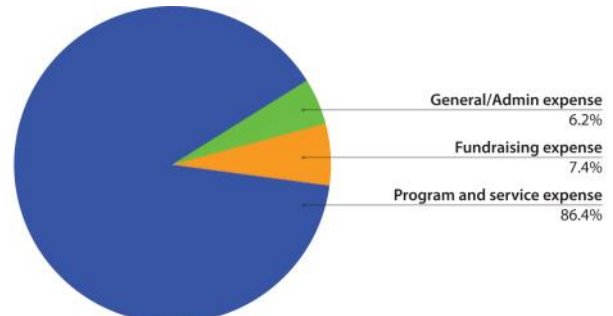
- Keeping people safe
- Implementing protocols
- Assessing the needs
- Adapting and serving

*"Together, we can get through it. We have to stay positive, reach out for support, and keep going as best we can. Your folks have reached out to me personally during these past months. Everyone has been so kind. TIHAN's group of volunteers – these people you have are just amazing. They come to help, truly wanting to be of service. That is just amazing how much they care about the programs you provide and all of us you help."* —a TIHAN CarePartner

**2021 Income by Source**



**2021 Expense by Area**





## 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 the Covid pandemic has severely limited our ability to utilize volunteers.

Pre-pandemic, in 2019, 547 volunteers had helped with AIDS education efforts, direct support services, administration support, and fundraising events. In 2021, the number of volunteers over the course of the year was 151, and the number of volunteer hours has decreased by thousands.

Despite the limitations of volunteer engagement in 2021, volunteer impact was essential in supporting TIHAN's staff members to serve more people with HIV than ever. Your support is amazing!



We are proud to have an incredible community of people and groups making a difference, including these who we honored in 2021:

*Empowerment Award:* **Curt Beall**

*"Excellence in Caring" Award:* **Beth Daum**

*Spirit of Philanthropy Award:* **Jim and Jill Rich**

*Leadership Award:* **Jim Yancey and Jack Durham**

## 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 2021, more than 940 of you made a cash gift, ranging from \$5 to \$75,000, and over 330 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 2021:*

616 GC LLC  
 Ted Adams  
 Barbara Adler and John Nemerovski  
 AIDS Healthcare Foundation  
 The Alfred and Harriett Feinman Foundation  
 David Scott Allen and Mark Sammons  
 Anonymous  
 Naya Arbiter and Rod Mullen  
 Arizona Complete Health  
 Chris Arnot and Randy Branca  
 Mark Bahti  
 Banner - University Health Plans  
 Colette Barajas and Kristen Birner  
 Dr Kay Bauman  
 Joseph Benanti and Randolph Weese  
 Scott Blades and Jess Losoya  
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 Connie and Rodney Boorse  
 Broadway Cares / Equity Fights AIDS  
 The Cat Hospital / Dr Minta Keyes  
 Center for Health and Hope  
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 Community Foundation for Southern Arizona  
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 El Rio Health  
 Barry Ellis  
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 Estate of Paul A DeLair  
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 Roger Funk and Doug Noffsinger  
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 Charles Gonzales  
 Edna Gray and Dave Johnson  
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 Kristine and Richard Marsh  
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 Morris A Hazan Family Foundation  
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 Dr Tom and Cheryl Muller  
 Denise and Tibor Nagy  
 Kathleen Norton  
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 Lindi Laws Petroni and Frank Petroni  
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 Sarah Showard  
 SiCharro Restaurants/El Charro/CharroVida  
 Southwest Airlines  
 Southwest Gas Corp  
 Speedway Veterinary Hospital / Dr Kayla  
   Boyer  
 St Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
 St Francis in the Foothills United Methodist  
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 St Mark's United Methodist Church  
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 Alan Storm and Bill Jones  
 Claudia Svarstad and Beckie Harkey  
 Chin Keong Tan and William Bradford  
 Ralph and Sally Stevens Taylor  
 Temple Emanu-El  
 Gene and Marilyn Tobey  
 Trinity Presbyterian Church  
 Bobbie\* and Don VandeGriff  
 Dr Kelly Vollmer  
 Jim Yancey and Jack Durham  
 The Zarling Family

\* of blessed memory



## 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.



Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network  
*Helping People with HIV to Live Well*

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