



CATAWBA CARE CONNECTION

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Spring 2007

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OUR MISSION

To promote optimal health for York, Chester and Lancaster County residents by providing medical care and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS and by educating the community to prevent the spread of HIV.

Executive Direction...

by Anita Case

In looking back at 2006, we have much to be proud of at Catawba Care Coalition.

Our Client Advisory Board, staff and Board of Directors finalized our first Strategic Plan. Because research shows that early access to treatment saves lives, one of our main goals for this plan is *Reaching the Underserved*. We are employing many new strategies to achieve this goal: an Outreach Program to engage HIV+ people who have fallen out of medical care or who have never been in care; an Hispanic Outreach

Program; a Peer Advocacy Program; and increased access to free, painless, confidential HIV testing around our three counties.

We have worked with HIV organizations throughout the South to advocate for reauthorization of the Ryan White Care Act so Southern states could gain equal access to federal funding for HIV/AIDS. We also continue to work with HIV organizations throughout our state to raise awareness of the increasing infection rates and lack of funding for HIV treatment in SC.

To continue this good work, we need YOUR support. We invite you to visit our clinic and see how we put your community dollars to work. We invite you to become a regular contributor and/or a volunteer. There are many ways to make a difference in the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS and in our community efforts to prevent HIV. We are excited about 2007—about opportunities for more community awareness and involvement and opportunities for our clients to learn more about how to LIVE with HIV/AIDS. Thank you for being a part of the CCC team!

Board Notes...

As we begin our new year, we would like to introduce to you our two newest directors. Julia Childress Khaled is an attorney who also holds master degrees in laws (taxation) and social work. Geri Rucker is a Regional Vice President with Founders Federal Credit Union. Welcome!

We are also pleased to announce the election

of our new executive committee. Thomas Rowe (pictured at right) is Chair; Deana Morrow is Chair Elect; Tammy Whisenant is Secretary; and Margaret Williamson is Treasurer.

And finally, we must offer our sincere thanks to those directors who rotated off the board as of December 31, 2006: Michael Laessle (our most recent Chair)

and Charles Cranford. They are both true friends to this organization and worked tirelessly to help us further our mission. Thank you for all you have done!



**FROM OUR CLIENTS:
WHAT HIV AND
ACCESS TO CARE
MEAN TO ME**

- I have been HIV+ for 15 years. Having access to healthcare has meant my mother did not have to bury me as she did my 3 brothers. I buried her last year.
- Access to healthcare has meant to me that I can look forward to my only daughter getting her driver's license, graduating from high school, and that I will be around to be her mother as she grows into a young adult and beyond.
- I am a 54 year old father of one, grandfather of four, and I have AIDS. I have lost over 237 friends, neighbors and loved ones from this horrific disease. I was diagnosed HIV+ in 1984.
- I have AIDS and was not diagnosed before becoming critically ill. The life saving medications that I am currently prescribed have a retail price of \$4,312.94 a month... Thankfully most HIV+ patients who are identified before they become sick with secondary infections are not dependent on so many medications and can get anti-retroviral medications for an average annual cost of \$10,050, approximately 75% less than the annual cost of my current regimen.
- I am only one voice. Sometimes one is enough, and I pray that in this case it is.

2006 Annual Report

We do not currently publish a full annual report; however, we are proud of the work we do and are grateful to those who help make it possible. We would like to take this opportunity to present a summary of last year's activities.

In 2006, CCC provided services to 381 people living with HIV/AIDS in our three-county service area. Of those served:

- 43 (11%) were new to CCC in 2006
- 343 (90%) received on-site medical care
- 373 (97%) received 13,000 case management contacts
- 129 (34%) are women
- 247 (65%) are African American and 9 (2%) are Latino
- 278 (73%) live at or below the Federal poverty line
- 155 (41%) have no payer source for their medical care

Through Prevention Services, we administered 196 OraSure oral HIV tests and provided HIV prevention education to an additional 167 people. The clinic also tested 27 people for HIV through the traditional blood-draw method.

CCC depends on grants and community contributions to provide quality care and services for our three counties. Thank you to our funders from 2006:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Advanced Pain Relief Center | • Piedmont Medical Center |
| • AIDS Benefit Foundation of South Carolina | • Regional HIV/AIDS Consortium |
| • Arts Council of Rock Hill and York County | • River Hills Community Church |
| • Boehringer Ingelheim | • St. John's United Methodist Church |
| • Bristol Myers Squibb | • J. Marion Sims Foundation |
| • Chester Area United Way | • Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina Foundation |
| • Comporium | • South Carolina Bank and Trust |
| • Gilead Sciences | • SC Department of Health & Environmental Control |
| • HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS) | • The Springs Close Foundation |
| • A. Watts Huckabee & Company | • Tenet Healthcare Foundation |
| • Susan G. Komen for the Cure - Charlotte Affiliate | • United Way of York County |
| • Lancaster County Partners for Youth | • US Department of Health & Human Services / Ryan White CARE Act |
| • MedExpress | • Many individuals from throughout our three counties! |
| • Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church | |
| • Oakland Baptist Church | |

CCC wants to thank the staff for their dedication and tireless efforts to make a difference in the lives of people living with HIV and in the fight to prevent the spread of HIV.

Thank you!

Our hard-working staff enjoyed a few minutes of break time to take their annual holiday picture.



Volunteer Program Updates

- We rely on the generosity of community volunteers to help us better serve our clients. Volunteers provide transportation for clients to HIV-related care appointments, assist in planning and hosting special events and monthly client socials, cook and bake for socials and special events, serve as support buddies, and help staff with office work.
- Our volunteer program is not new, but we are pleased to introduce our new Volunteer Coordinator, Sherry Hutchison. Sherry assumed the role in January and has already been making great strides to develop this program.

Sherry wants everyone to know that she is pleased to be a part of the CCC team! And she is especially looking for volunteers willing to provide client transportation. Call Sherry at 803-909-6363 x238 if you'd like to learn more!

- CCC has recently implemented a food pantry to help clients with emergency food needs. We like to stock our pantry with healthy food choices. We can accept slightly dented items, but not out of date items. We are in need of the following:

CANNED GOODS	WHOLE GRAINS	Spaghetti Sauce	CONDIMENTS
Green Beans	Dry Cereals	Spaghetti O's	Salt & Pepper
Lima Beans	Pasta		Herbs
Black Beans	Brown Rice	SOUPS	Mrs. Dash
Navy Beans	Crackers	Split Pea	Salt Substitutes
Refried Beans		Ramen Noodles	Texas Pete
Corn	MISCELLANEOUS	Bouillon Cubes	Mayonnaise
Tomatoes	Dried Beans	Healthy Choice &	Mustard
Chicken	Instant Potatoes	Progresso soups	Salad Dressings
Salmon & Tuna			

New Outreach for the Hispanic Community

One of our current goals in HIV prevention is to reduce the cultural and linguistic barriers to HIV education and treatment facing Hispanic communities in our service area. Towards this goal, we are pleased to announce a new addition to our Prevention

Services team. Gerson Monge Menezel is our new Prevention Outreach Specialist. Gerson will focus his efforts on the Hispanic communities of York, Chester and Lancaster Counties. He is already providing extensive community outreach and

has conducted more HIV tests in two months for this population than we were able to do all of last year!

If you are fluent in Spanish and English, call Gerson at x244 to see how you may become a part of this great new program.

Changes to Charitable Donation Regulations

President Bush signed the Pension Protection Act of 2006 into law on August 17, 2006. This new law includes a variety of charitable reforms, including changes that affect IRA charitable

rollovers and donor advised funds. Reforms to charitable giving will also change the requirements for claiming tax deductions for donations like cash, clothing and household goods. The Council on

Foundations (www.cof.org) provides a useful summary to the changes that result from this act. Your tax advisor should also be able to help you navigate through the changes that may affect you.

YOU CAN HELP US WIN UP TO \$10,000!

You could help CCC win a matching grant from Kevin Bacon's new Charity Badge program at www.sixdegrees.org.

Just use our Charity Badge to make a contribution to CCC between now and March 31st. If we are one of the six charities with the most number of contributions, we'll be awarded a matching grant of up to \$10,000!

Visit our Charity Badge at <http://www.networkforgood.org/pca/PersonalCharityBadge.aspx?pcaid=102958>.

Thank you for helping us to support our mission!

THANK YOU FROM CCC

Our last newsletter (our first!) was a great success. We want to thank you for the many kind words and generous donations that we received as a result of that newsletter.

Remember...

- Volunteer!
- Make a Contribution!
- Spread the Word!

With your help, we will make a difference.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ruth Webb

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TWO GREAT EVENTS...ONE GREAT CAUSE!

AIDS BENEFIT WALK , EDUCATION FAIR & OUR 1ST HUMAN AIDS RIBBON *Saturday, March 10th / Winthrop Coliseum*

Join us as the Rock Hill Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. observes the $\Delta\Sigma\Theta$ International Day of Service to raise HIV awareness. \$5 for individuals / \$25 minimum for groups of five or more / children may walk at no cost. Registration begins at 9:00 am and the walk begins at 10:00 am. We'll also stage York County's first human AIDS ribbon, so please wear RED! Call x221 for more information.

4TH ANNUAL DAZZLE 'N' DENIM

Friday, April 27th / Springs Dairy Barn, Fort Mill

Honorary Chairs: Bob & Cherry Doster and Terry & Caroline Roueche

You've heard about this fun-filled evening, so make sure you don't miss it this year! Heavy hors d'oeuvres, open bar, music, dancing and of course, the fabulous silent and live auctions.

All this for only \$40 per person (\$50 at the door)!

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Call x243 for more information.

HELP US SAVE A TREE!

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter electronically, please send an e-mail to Sally Baker at:
sbaker@catawbacare.org.



- Chester County Chamber of Commerce
- Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce