



**We can end the HIV Epidemic.
Together.**



IMPACT
REPORT
2022

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As of Dec. 31, 2022.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I start this letter with a feeling of both accomplishment and fortitude as I reflect on the work of AIDS United in 2022.

The past year saw so many milestones and achievements, as well as obstacles resulting from unprecedented challenges.

As we were still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, our communities were faced with a mpox outbreak and tremendous devastation caused by disastrous hurricanes, tornadoes and other tropical storms in parts of Puerto Rico, the South and other parts of the United States.

These challenges threatened the health and well-being of our communities, and each day, our dedicated team worked tirelessly to advance our goals and make a lasting impact on the lives of millions of us who are living with and vulnerable to HIV.

I'm personally proud of the work that we accomplished in 2022. We expanded our strategic grantmaking portfolio, created new grant programs, and distributed more than \$5.5 million in crucial funding to community-based organizations across the country. These grants empowered local communities to develop innovative solutions, enhance access to care and promote comprehensive prevention efforts.

AIDS United is one of the top HIV Funders in the United States.

This year alone, we successfully launched the Harm Reduction Futures Fund, awarded grants to organizations to accelerate technology to end HIV in the South through the Southern HIV Impact Fund. We provided on-the-ground relief to those living with HIV in Puerto Rico that Hurricane Fiona deeply impacted.





In addition to our grantmaking, we continued to advocate for policies that supported our communities. We joined efforts to ensure more federal funding, addressed the mpox outbreak and allied with those battling the implications of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade.

Though AIDSWatch 2022 was again virtual this year, it did not impede us from engaging with federal lawmakers about the importance of equitable health care, the immediate need to accelerate the appropriation of federal dollars to support critical programs and address the ongoing unfair and discriminatory practices that perpetuate structural and institutional racism and other inequities. Furthermore, AIDS United played an active role in providing technical assistance, leadership development and training to health departments, community-based organizations, and activists addressing the HIV epidemic.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the support of our communities, advocates, donors, funders and friends, who have been instrumental in fueling our mission of ending the HIV epidemic.

As we look ahead to 2023, we look forward to strengthening our communities through our strategic grantmaking, capacity building and policy work — and working with you to make it all possible.

With gratitude and optimism,

Jesse Milan Jr., J.D.
President and CEO
AIDS United

AIDS United is on a singular mission to end the HIV epidemic in the United States.

Achieving this mission should be simple. We already know all the medical interventions needed to end the HIV epidemic: testing, prevention and treatment.

First, everyone needs to know their HIV status. Testing is the ultimate gateway to HIV prevention and treatment.

Those of us who don't have HIV need to have access to the many prevention tools that already exist, like condoms and preexposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, a medication that stops HIV transmission.

And those of us who are living with HIV need to have the medical care necessary to reach an undetectable viral load, the point at which the amount of the virus is so low in our bodies that it doesn't show up in blood tests.

Getting to undetectable is one of the best things we can do to stay healthy. HIV attacks our immune systems, and reducing the amount of the virus in our bodies reduces its power to damage our immune systems.

Getting to undetectable also means we cannot pass the virus along to anyone else; undetectable equals untransmittable, or U=U.

When paired together, testing, prevention and treatment work.

It sounds simple, yet even after decades of work, we have a long way to go in all three of these areas. By the end of 2021, only 87% of people living with HIV knew their status. And of those, 75% received some care, and only two-thirds had reached an undetectable viral load.





The biggest obstacle to ending the HIV epidemic is a lack of health equity.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Health equity is achieved when every person has the opportunity to ‘attain his or her full health potential’ and no one is ‘disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances.’”

The lack of equity is a direct result of a deadly mix of racism, classism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, whorephobia, stigmas around sex and drug use, and more. These systems of oppression erect significant barriers to HIV testing, prevention and treatment.

And so AIDS United is working every single day to increase both health equity and access to testing, prevention and treatment.

That’s the only way we can achieve our mission of ending the HIV epidemic in the United States.

We are doing this work in three ways:

- We are strengthening organizations working in the HIV sector by providing capacity building training and technical assistance.
- Advocating for the laws, policies and government programs that address health equity and increase HIV testing, prevention and treatment.
- Strategically providing grants to the organizations best situated to end the HIV epidemic in their communities.

Our strategic grantmaking impact in 2022



AIDS United awarded more than \$5.5 million in grants in 2022.

AIDS United’s grantmaking portfolio dates back to our founding as the National AIDS Fund in 1987. For more than three decades, we have supported community-driven responses to the HIV epidemic throughout the country that reach the nation’s most disproportionately affected populations, including gay and bisexual men, people of color, women, people living in the South, transgender people, and more.

Harm Reduction Futures Fund

In April 2022, AIDS United launched the Harm Reduction Futures Fund, a refresh of its nearly two decades of harm reduction grantmaking. Building upon the Syringe Access Fund’s support for harm reduction programs across the United States, the Harm Reduction Futures Fund invests in evidence-based and community-driven approaches to prevent the transmission of both HIV and viral hepatitis, reduce injection-related injuries, increase overdose prevention and reversal efforts, and connect people who use drugs to comprehensive prevention, treatment and support services.

Relief, Recovery and Resilience Fund

As the United States faced multiple epidemics, including HIV, viral hepatitis, overdose, and COVID-19, many areas throughout the country were impacted by several tropical storms and natural disasters that left people without the basic needs to survive. When these crises hit, the organizations serving people living with and affected by HIV must begin the arduous process of assessing the impact of these crises and meeting their client's most pressing needs.

The Relief, Recovery, and Resilience Fund meet the immediate and urgent needs of people living with and vulnerable to HIV in regions affected by acute crises like earthquakes, hurricanes, and global pandemics. It was established in 2017 to respond to the triple hurricane disasters of Erma, Harvey and Maria.

“These Relief, Recovery and Resilience funds assisted us in being able to respond quickly to individuals living with HIV and not have them wait for so long for aid.”

— Waves Ahead Corp, 2022 Relief, Recovery and Resilience Fund grantee

In 2022, AIDS United provided \$420,000 in grants to help organizations address community needs related to hurricanes Fiona and Ian with support from Gilead Sciences. AIDS United also provided technical assistance, capacity building and sector transformation, and policy and advocacy support to Puerto Rico.

The Relief, Recovery and Resilience Fund also gave \$15,000 in emergency funding to the HIV community in Mississippi as they dealt with a monthslong water crisis.

Southern HIV Impact Fund

The Southern HIV Impact Fund is a collaborative project advocating for a coordinated response to HIV in partnership with community-based groups in the South. Managed by AIDS United, the fund is a collaboration between Gilead Sciences, Johnson & Johnson, the Levi Strauss Foundation, ViiV Healthcare and a generous anonymous donor.

iFORWARD is a special project of the Southern HIV Impact Fund. It is designed to address barriers southern organizations face in accessing appropriate technology to carry out their services and achieve their mission. The initiative made cash grants of up to \$10,000 to seven Southern organizations in 2022.

Our impact building the HIV community in 2022



Black Women First Initiative

AIDS United is part of the evaluation and technical assistance provider for the Black Women First Initiative, in partnership with The University of Massachusetts at Lowell, Boston University Center for Innovation in Social Work & Health, and Impact Marketing + Communications. The initiative supports the design, implementation and evaluation of bundled evidence-informed interventions for Black women living with HIV.

Conexiones Positivas/Positive Action for Latinx Men: An Initiative for Gay, Bisexual and Trans Men

Conexiones Positivas/Positive Connections supports community-designed and led approaches to leadership development of gay and bisexual men, other men who have sex with men and transgender Hispanic/Latinx men who are living with HIV.

Hispanic/Latinx People Organizing Positively

The Hispanic/Latinx People Organizing Positively program provides grants to community-based organizations to help end HIV stigma and discrimination while building leadership among Hispanic/Latinx people living with HIV.

Midwest Capacity Building Assistance Program

In partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, AIDS United provides technical expertise to health departments and community organizations in the 12 Midwest states. AIDS United helps these organizations to optimally plan, integrate, implement and sustain comprehensive HIV prevention programs and services.

People Organizing Positively

People Organizing Positively amplifies grassroots organizing by bolstering meaningful, community-led leadership development of people living with HIV to reduce HIV-related stigma, raise education and awareness among policymakers, and thus indirectly improve outcomes along the continuum of care.

Transgender Leadership Initiative

The Transgender Leadership Initiative is a leadership development program supporting transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming leaders of color who are emerging leaders in their communities. TLI aims to facilitate and improve the professional development and community services/programs of trans leaders.

Using Innovative Interventions Strategies to Improve Health Outcomes Among People With HIV

Using Innovative Interventions Strategies to Improve Health Outcomes Among People With HIV, often shortened to 2iS, is a collaboration between The Fenway Institute and AIDS United. The project is funded by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program at the Health Resources and Services Administration. The initiative's goal is to improve the HIV care continuum outcomes of linkage-to-care, reengagement, retention in care, and viral suppression among people living with HIV. 2iS funds up to 20 Ryan White programs and other HIV service organizations nationally. These intervention strategies seek to improve HIV health outcomes for:

- People with substance use disorder.
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer youth (13-24 years old).
- People who are or have been justice involved.
- People who use telehealth services.

Our policy and advocacy impact in 2022



AIDS United’s policy and advocacy portfolio dates to the founding of AIDS Action in 1984. For nearly 40 years, AIDS United has arduously labored to support and uplift people living with and vulnerable to HIV. In doing so, we amplify the voices of those most impacted by HIV so that the HIV community informs and shapes local, regional and federal policy. This includes working with legislators at all levels to advance policies like harm reduction and to secure resources for federal programs like the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS.

Our policy efforts include:

- Educating Congress about HIV.
- Budget and appropriations advocacy.
- Integrating HIV prevention, care and treatment into health care.
- Investment in evidence-based prevention strategies.
- Addressing structural racism.
- Pushing the president’s administration to prioritize HIV.
- Secure housing for everyone living with and vulnerable to HIV.
- Adopting a harm reduction approach.
- Ensuring the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV at all levels.
- Advocating for policy tactics to address the social determinants of health.

In 2022, we rose to the enormous challenges set forth by economic and political turbulence, the aftereffects of COVID-19, a burgeoning mpox outbreak, as well as the effects of climate change, to help champion for more federal funding for those living with and vulnerable to HIV.

Public Policy Council

AIDS United's Public Policy Council brings together the nation's leading organizations from across the country to advocate for those of us living with and vulnerable to HIV. There were 56 member organizations on the council in 2022, and they are responsible for setting the policy agenda for the organization.



The Public Policy Council had an incredibly eventful year in 2022 as we returned to in-person convenings.

The council held its first in-person meeting since February 2020 in Washington, D.C. Attendees held conversations with key administration officials, including Drs. Demetre Daskalakis and Alexa Oster from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, pictured above.

AIDS United staff also coordinated meetings between Public Policy Council members and their representatives in Congress.

These meetings were successful and allowed for members of the Public Policy Council to ensure the voices of people living with and vulnerable to HIV were heard as we entered another critical midterm election season.

AIDSWatch 2022

AIDSWatch began 31 years ago with a small group of dedicated HIV advocates and has become the nation's largest constituent-based HIV advocacy event on the federal level. Those of us living with HIV and our allies gather to tell our stories in the halls of power in Washington, D.C. We advocate for the policies, programs and funding we need to end the HIV epidemic.

AIDSWatch 2022 took place virtually March 27-29 and included three days of virtual plenaries, workshops and meetings with congressional offices. Usually held in-person, AIDSWatch convenes hundreds of allies, supporters, and advocates to meet with members of Congress and their staff and is the largest national, constituent-led HIV advocacy event in the country.

Assistant Health Secretary Rachel Levine, the first and highest-ranking out transgender person confirmed by Congress, delivered the keynote address, providing an update to the National HIV/AIDS Strategy released by President Biden.



Advocates from 34 states held virtual meetings with more than 135 offices on Capitol Hill.

The advocates pushed for policies in three areas:

- Supporting the health of people living with and vulnerable to HIV.
- Addressing structural and institutional racism and other inequities.
- Increasing funding for programs that address the HIV, STD and overdose epidemics.

These policies help shape and steer AIDS United's continued advocacy work.

Mpox

AIDS United was personally contacted by CDC and White House officials to spearhead several projects related to outreach to the HIV community regarding the mpox outbreak, the first of which was a webinar where the HIV community was able to hear directly from the White House about the mpox response.

Additionally, rapid partnerships grew with organizations on a federal level that began work with local communities to uplift their needs and demands that were shared through an action alert that was emailed to members of Congress demanding a collective federal response to their funding and equitable health needs.

340B Work Group



The 340B Work Group is a coalition convened by AIDS United to maintain the 340B Discount Drug Program. It is comprised of 13 community-based HIV service organizations that are also safety-net health care providers. These organizations get HIV services to people in communities harmed by systemic barriers to health care. Collectively, the members of the work group provide care and service to more than 100,000 people in 11 states and Washington, D.C.

The 340B program is an essential part of HIV health care, as it gives provides resources to these community-based organizations. These resources are in turn used to provide HIV testing, prevention and treatment services.

Financial overview

Income

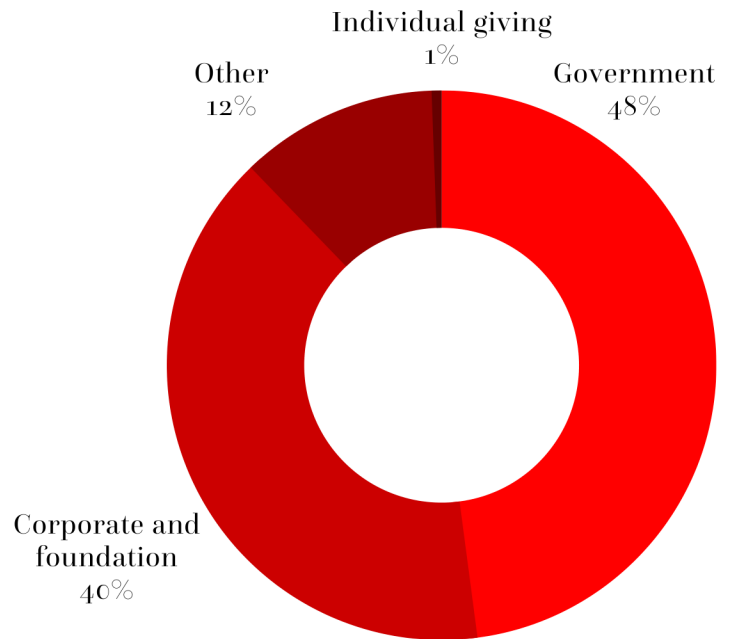
AIDS United's 2022 income was \$16.3 million.

Government contracts and grants accounted for nearly half of that, at \$7.7 million.

Contributions from foundations and corporations totaled \$6.7 million, or 40% of the total income.

Individuals donated \$93,000.

The remaining 12% was spread across several categories, including fee for service, sponsorships, membership dues, interest and rental income.



Expenses

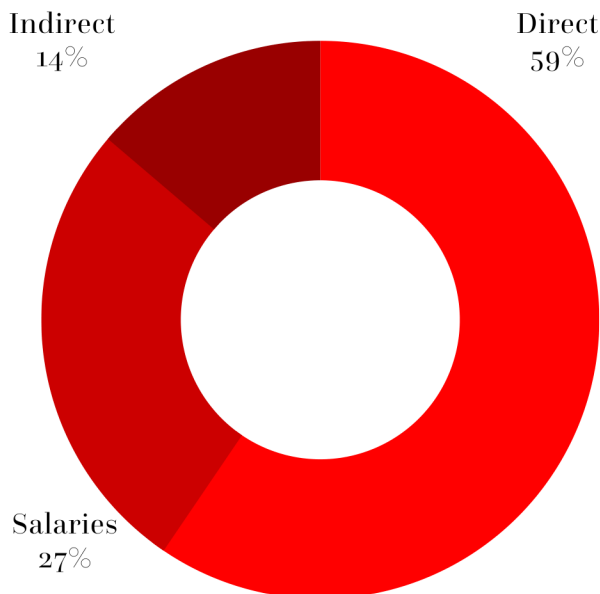
Expenses in 2022 totaled \$14.1 million.

Direct expenses, which includes both the grants AIDS United provided and the organization's programmatic work, totaled \$8.4 million, or 59% of total expenses.

Salaries and fringe came to \$3.8 million, or 27% of expenses.

And indirect expenses were \$1.9 million, or 14% of expenses.

The remaining \$2.2 million difference between income and expenses is money that was received in 2022 but is for projects and programs in future years.



Please note: Both total dollar amounts and percentages are rounded. Dollar amounts above \$1 million have been rounded to the nearest \$100,000, while dollar amounts under \$1 million are rounded to the nearest \$10,000. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

With gratitude

AIDS United would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the following funders who supported our work in 2022.



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