

# THE ALBANY DAMIEN CENTER 2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



## HISTORY

The Albany Damien Center opened in 1988 and was incorporated in 1990 as the first AIDS drop-in center in the United States. Named after Saint Damien of Molokai, who ministered to people with leprosy in the late 1800s, the Damien Center is not a faith-based organization, yet invites persons from all religious and spiritual paths to join in our efforts to participate in Damien Center services and activities.

## MISSION

To enhance the lives of people affected by HIV and AIDS in an affirming environment and to reduce new infections in the communities we serve.

## VISION

Our vision is a community where people with HIV and AIDS achieve their desired potential and are respected as coworkers, neighbors, and friends, while striving for an HIV-free generation.

## VALUES

### **Accountability**

We are each responsible for our words, actions, and results.

### **Integrity**

We are honest, ethical, and do the right thing.

### **Diversity**

We respect, support, and value our differences and each other.

### **Empowerment**

We strive to provide opportunities for positive change, development, and independence.

### **Respect**

We believe in the dignity and worth of every person.

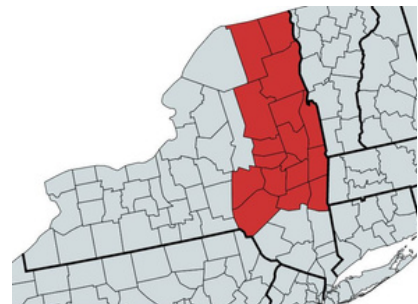
### **Trauma-Informed**

We provide a safe and trusting environment with choice, collaboration, and empowerment.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Almonte-Hallenbeck - President  
Stephanie Fisher - Vice President  
George Clifford - Treasurer  
Marz Albarran - Board Member  
Jonathan Wilkinson - Board Member  
Trevor Nelson - Board Member

## SERVING 17 COUNTIES





## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

In his book, “The Myth of Normal”, Gabor Mate aptly notes “Safety is not the absence of threat... it is the presence of connection”. That connection continues to be the glue that holds the Damien Center community together. That connection has long been integral in providing a safe haven for some of our communities most marginalized people. It has fostered a mission that from the beginning, endeavored to become a sanctuary for those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

This year we began a collaboration with the Fountain House in NYC, a pioneer in the clubhouse model for people living with major mental health challenges. We look forward to further exploring this model and replicating much of it here at the Damien Center.

Though we have seen many challenges, our staff remain true to our mission and continue to provide supportive and trauma informed care to members and tenants alike. I am always deeply moved by their warmth and caring nature which is so integral in fostering a sense of connection that so many of our members need to thrive. I am also incredibly grateful for my friend Perry’s forward-thinking leadership in concert with his leadership team of Omari and Chris and a deeply committed Board of Directors. We continue to be blessed with a loyal group of donors and volunteers whose financial and human support is integral to fostering connection and providing the array of services that we offer and hope to offer in the future.

- Jeff Almonte-Hallenbeck

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2022, the Albany Damien Center increased our efforts in assisting persons with mental health and substance abuse disorder needs due to the effects of Covid. While we always knew that loneliness and isolation were detrimental to a person’s physical, mental, and spiritual health, I quickly came to realize in 2022 just how much the Damien Center serves as a sanctuary space for so many people in our region.

Our drop-in Living Room continues to be that safe space where love, community, and relationships are fostered in a warm, trauma-informed environment. Our programs helped people throughout our region achieve better health outcomes and our advocacy on a state-wide level continues to serve as a voice for the people we serve.

I am so thankful to our staff, donors, board of directors, volunteers, and community partners who work so hard to make the magic of the Damien Center possible. Each of you has played an important part in our journey.

Thank you for your very generous love and support! - Perry James Junjulas

# WELCOME HOME



MIKE LOSINGER

27,230

MEALS SERVED

9,620

BREAKFAST, LUNCH,  
& DINNER MEALS

9,050

PANTRY BAG MEALS

8,560

FOOD VOUCHER MEALS

## HOUSING

The Albany Damien Center supports individuals experiencing homelessness to find permanent, stable housing. Once connected to housing, our residents are equipped with the resources and support that empower them to begin to meet their other needs.

In 2022, we provided permanent supportive housing for 46 individuals living with HIV/AIDS who were previously homeless or at risk of homelessness through our on-site apartments at Madison Avenue as well as scattered-site apartments operated by our partnering landlords. 100% of tenants remained permanently housed or transitioned to permanent housing upon exit from the program.

## LIVING ROOM

Our Living Room Program provides drop-in services including HIV+ peer-led access to care, supportive counseling, HIV prevention support groups, holistic therapies, HIV/AIDS information resources, computer access, consumer advocacy, and opportunities for social and recreational activities.

To hear one of our members describe it, *"The Living Room is the spiritual heart of my recovery from the effects of HIV stigma. It is where I go to seek shelter from the darkness."*

The Mike Losinger Memorial Living Room was dedicated in memory of Mike Losinger. Mike was one of the original founders of the Damien Center. Mike played an integral role in establishing the Center as an organization serving members searching for ways to live full lives with HIV/AIDS while making a difference in their community.

## SMART MEALS

**Smart Meals** provides three homemade meals every day: breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Members who come in to enjoy a meal are empowered to connect with their friends while meeting their nutritional needs for the day.

Members are also able to participate in weekly pantry bag pickups and the food voucher program. Key nutritional habits are reinforced by nutrition education and counseling from our Community Nutrition Educator.



*"Smart Meals program is more than just nutrition and food. I found support among staff and other members when going through difficult times"*



311

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES PROVIDED

"The Employment Pathways Program helps support our members in achieving their goals and desired potential by challenging members to push outside of their comfort zone"

- Employment Case Manager, Akeem



"Gender Affirming Care Is Literally Life Saving."

- Ryan  
MPower! LGBT Health Navigator

# EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS

The Employment Pathways program pursues systemic change in hiring and workplace practices while ensuring that members seeking employment identify opportunities and become employed in positions that support their independence.

Our members aspire to work as patient and client care staff in hospitals and nursing homes, as recovery specialists, counselors, in food service, and maintenance workers in our local businesses and schools.

For our members, a job is a big step towards financial independence, but also towards fulfillment. Our members want to love coming to a job where they are affecting real change in the communities they live in and are a part of.

## CENTER OF EXCELLENCE TRAINING CENTER FOR EXPANDING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV



The Albany Damien Center and the National Working Positive Coalition have joined their expertise to provide training and technical assistance to service providers throughout New York State to strengthen responses to needs for employment-related information, services, and resources of people living with HIV.

In 2022, we developed a cycle of six 90-minute webinar curricula and resource materials, providing 15 webinars attended by 751 participants. Training Center development activities included planning and outreach for the 2023 launch of agency-level technical assistance and in-person training.

## MPower!

The MPower program provides services to our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Gender Non-Binary communities and advocates on their behalf to decrease the disparities they face in healthcare, housing, employment, and other LGBT-TGNB-affirming health & human services.

Over 320 **health and human services** were provided in 2022, including advocacy, job readiness, benefits assistance, supportive counseling, name changes, and linkage to affirming medical and community based providers, regardless of HIV status.

# BEHAVIOR HEALTH AND SUPPORT

At the heart of the Damien Center, is the notion that the psych/social needs of people with HIV revolve around building support networks that are free of HIV-stigma.

When members choose to connect with our Substance Use Support Group, the Life Skills Group, or even our casual events like BINGO night and Mindfulness Crafting (led by our wonderful interns!) they are making a choice to be seen.

With the Damien Center as an anchor of hope, love, and connection we work hard to ensure that our members are aware of and feel comfortable approaching one of our many referral partners for additional support, if needed.

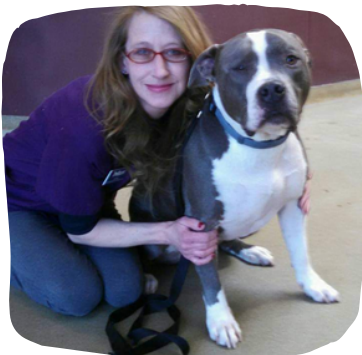


## PAWS

### PETS ARE WONDERFUL SUPPORT

PAWS is the only program assisting persons with HIV/AIDS and their pets in our region. PAWS strives to ensure each person has the opportunity to experience the health and psychological benefits of pet ownership while each pet receives the veterinary care, food, and love they deserve.

In 2022, Jeanie and the PAWS volunteers made hundreds of home deliveries of essential pet supplies and food to ensure members stayed connected.



**OVER 6.765 POUNDS OF FOOD AND SUPPLIES PROVIDED**



**280 PEOPLE  
HELPED**

**OVER 75 PEOPLE  
& 90 PETS  
SERVED**



*"PAWS has been wonderful - because of them I can take her to the vet when needed and feed her when money is running low. I can't say enough loving things about the program, the staff and their volunteers."*

*- Ms. Laurie, Member*

# HIV CARE CONTINUUM

## The Scientific Facts:

National and international HIV experts affirm the conclusive scientific evidence that people with HIV who are on antiretroviral treatment (ART) that suppresses the virus to an “undetectable” level not only successfully protect their own health, but cannot transmit HIV to others. In short, undetectable equals untransmittable.

In our region, as of December 2021, of the estimated 3,310 persons living with HIV, 23% (or 761 people) were not HIV virally suppressed. Barriers to viral suppression include poverty, HIV stigma, systemic racism, trauma, substance use disorder, and mental health issues. The Damien Center works with each individual to overcome these barriers so that they can become undetectable.

**215 MEMBERS** —————> **143 MEMBERS** —————> **137 MEMBERS**

OPEN CASES OF MEMBERS  
LIVING WITH HIV AND  
ACTIVELY SERVED BY THE  
CENTER

66% OF MEMBERS SERVED  
HAD AT LEAST ONE VL OR  
CD4 LAB TEST DURING THE  
CALENDAR YEAR

96% OF ALL MEMBERS  
SERVED WHO HAD AT LEAST  
ONE VL OR CD4 LAB TEST  
DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR  
WERE VIRALLY SUPPRESSED



**Town Total Health Pharmacy** works together with the Albany Damien Center to help people with HIV and AIDS get access to medications and the support they need.

**Town Total Health** is located in the Albany Damien Center  
728 Madison Ave, B-Level, Albany, NY 12208  
**518-257-7294**



# FUN- RAISERS!!

## BOWLING FOR PAWS



In addition to being a fun-filled community event, Bowling for PAWS is a key way for our supporters to give to the Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) program.

The PAWS program ensures that pet owners living with HIV/AIDS are never separated from their beloved pets, often when they need each other the most.

Over the past eleven years, we have raised over \$146,000. In 2022 alone, we raised a record-setting high of over \$28,000. Thank you!

## HERO AWARDS

Each year, the Albany Damien Center Hero Awards is an opportunity to recognize an individual or organization who has done extraordinary things to improve the lives of persons with HIV & AIDS in our local community and promote HIV awareness to stop the spread of HIV.

In 2022, we were thrilled to honor Benita Zahn, Ph.D. who through her continued focus on HIV/AIDS-related issues has been integral to keeping this public health pandemic at the forefront.

In 2022, we raised (in our best fundraising year ever) over \$39,000. Thank you!



## SANTA SPEEDO SPRINT



The Santa Speedo is the brain-child of the Albany Society for the Advancement of Philanthropy (ASAP). Each year, a crowd from throughout Albany gathers to sprint down Lark Street in speedos. (Yes, speedos!)

Proceeds go to supporting those living with HIV/AIDS across the Capital Region.



# 2022 FINANCIALS

## ASSETS & LIABILITIES

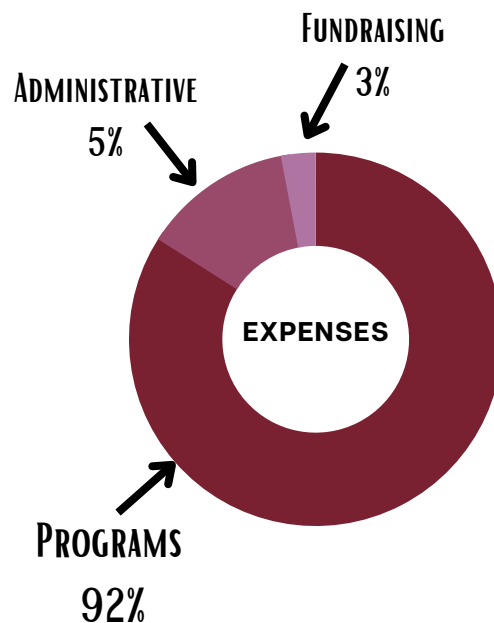
<b>Assets &amp; Liabilities (as of 12/31)</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets	4,739,984	4,003,930
Fixed Assets	3,971,933	4,165,928
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>8,711,917</b>	<b>8,169,857</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>		
Liabilities (current)	319,212	285,532
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted Net Assets	5,616,833	6,023,350
Board Designated Reserves-Building	1,174,868	837,315
Board Designated Reserves-Operating	1,601,004	1,023,660
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>8,392,705</b>	<b>7,884,325</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$8,711,917</b>	<b>\$8,169,857</b>

## REVENUE & INCOME

<b>Revenue</b>	
Grants & Programs	5,598,336
Donors, Events, Foundations	269,744
Rental Income	61,723
In-Kind Contributions	26,412

## EXPENSE

<b>Expenses</b>	
Programs	4,825,440
Administrative	237,498
Fundraising	172,718



Note:

Financial Information is from internal fiscal statements.

Our audited financial statements are available upon request.

# THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 DONORS

## INDIVIDUALS \$1000 +

Barbara Adams & Gail Dieter  
Richard Conti & Steve Snow  
Perry James Junjulas &  
Bishop Anthony Green  
Brock & Maryann Osborn  
Allison Ross  
Earl & Rosetta Screven  
Aaron Styles  
Gaylene Whitaker

## INDIVIDUALS \$500-\$999

Paul Bono  
Kim Brown  
Kirkham Cornwell  
Peter Durfee & Peter Manson  
Robert Englert  
Stephanie Fisher  
Matthew Kishpaugh  
Jane Koretz  
Jeffrey McCain & Jeffrey Nichols  
Cynthia Miller  
Brock & Maryann Osborn  
Frank & Christina Passarella  
Libby Post &  
Lynn Dunning-Vaughn  
Paul Nance & Glenna Spitze  
Peg Stucky

## INDIVIDUALS \$250-\$499

Sean Ball  
Brian & Mickie Baldwin  
Neil Breslin  
Claire Brockley  
Mark & Marjie Burgasser  
Rae Clark  
Donald & Joan Csaposs  
John & Nicolette Daniels  
Sharon Couch DeBonis  
Judy Disco & Barbara Goldstein  
Omari Edwards  
Brian & Georgeanna Frasier  
Liz Hitt  
Stephen Jankowski  
& Steven Derouville  
Alan Kempf  
Wendy Levey  
Alice & Robert Mazur  
Thomas McComb  
Mike & Kathy Morrisette  
Neiman Ortiz  
Bobbi Palma  
Lisa Porter  
Ivelisse Rivera  
Dr. Stephen Sipperly  
Dominic Carrota  
Stephanie Temshiv  
Frank & Elizabeth Therrien  
Daniel Tietz  
Paul Tonko  
Anne M. Wark  
Carrie & Marc Weiss  
Barbara Zaron

## INDIVIDUALS \$500-\$999

Brian & Mickie Baldwin  
Tametha Brown  
Kevin Burns  
George Clifford &  
Bernard Tansey  
Laura DiBetta  
Dominick Donato  
Bonnie Leflore  
Heather Evans  
Jonathan Masters  
Chad Morrison  
Lillian Moy  
John Provost  
Duncan Savage & Stefan Swicker

## INDIVIDUALS \$100-\$249

Marz Albarran  
Melissa Bailey  
Stephanie Anderson  
Greg Armstrong  
Thomas Baker  
Penny Smith-Bogert  
Delia Bowstead  
Barry Brown & Douglas Cohn  
Declan Carman  
Mary & Peter Caracappa  
Chester Caster & Douglas Fish  
Thomas Clark  
Stephanie Richardson  
Kierian Cochran  
Janet & Scott Derosia  
Mary & Victor DeSantis  
Allegra Edelman  
Priscilla Fairbank  
Owen Goldfarb  
Victoria J. Gold  
Claire Gonyo  
Christina Grahon  
Daquetta Jones  
Joseph Kerwin  
Ross Krawczyk  
Shawn Logston  
Bill Maresca  
Michael J. Meade  
Maria Moy-Santos  
MaryKate Owens  
Meyers Household  
Denise Passarella  
Arthur & Leslie Phelan  
Mary F. Pilauskas  
Damian Privitera  
John Prokop  
Ysrael Quezada  
Ryan Ramdass  
Margie Scully  
Maureen Seidel  
Bob Schaffer  
Katherine & Robert Sheehan  
Jay & Sarah Shufelt  
Barbara Siegel

Holly Accardi Theohary  
Letty Umidi  
Maryellen Casey Usis  
John Wheeler  
Stacey Agnello  
Deborah Armstrong  
Gary Armstrong  
Carolynn Barry  
Brian Berkery  
Preyer Blakney  
William Bonsal &  
Robert O'Bara  
Lori Bosworth  
Margaret Buckley  
Mike Cahill  
Sarah Childs  
Mary Anne Chiariello  
William Cleveland  
Larry Coppard  
Davis Household  
Deanna DiCarlo  
Johanna Dooley  
Donald Frament  
James Fitzpatrick  
James F Forster  
Rick Galande  
Claire Geller-Kolchetski  
Mary & Patricia Hayes  
Margaret Hewitt  
Edward Kacerguis  
Elena Kessler  
Jacquelyn Kilmer  
Eleanor Lavolette  
Andrea Linton  
Carri Lucas  
Linda & Martin Lyden  
Veronica Lyons  
Cheryl Malanoski  
Greg Maloney  
Peter DeWitt &  
Doug Manion  
Bob & Cindy Miller  
Robert Nottke  
Nancy Peter  
James & Jenny Quirk  
Elizabeth Robertson  
Thomas A Roell  
David Ryder  
Lucy Siegel  
Tom Scott  
Sara-Becca Smith  
Arleen Stein  
Cassie Stricos  
Carolyn Vanderminden  
Brandon & Lisa Walker  
Jonathan Wilkinson  
Leo & Mary Wong

## ORGANIZATIONS OVER \$1,000 +

Albany Society For The Advancement Of Philanthropy  
Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS  
Capital District Physician's Health Plan, Inc.  
Christ Community Reformed Church In America  
Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region  
EYP, Inc.  
Gilead Sciences, Inc.  
HousingWorks  
MAC AIDS Fund  
National Grid  
Ralph G. & Wilma J. Maibaum Foundation  
Review Foundation  
Schwab Charitable  
Seymour Fox Family Foundation  
Stewart's Shops  
United Way Of The Greater Capital Region  
Van Benthuyzen Trust  
Walenta And Co Agency, Inc.

## ORGANIZATIONS OVER \$500-\$999

Albany Bombers  
Capital Wine and Spirits  
Fenimore Asset Management  
Mathewson Foundation  
McGeary's Pub

## ORGANIZATIONS OVER \$100-\$499

Burnt Hills Veterinary Hospital  
Church of the Covenant United Methodist  
Coppes, DiPaola, Silverman, PLLC.  
Dwight Plumbing and Heating  
Harris A Sanders Architects  
Healthy Alliance  
Journey United Church of Christ  
PNJ Technology Partners  
Martin, Harding, and Mazzotti, LLP.  
MVP Healthcare  
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

## GOVERNMENT FUNDING PARTNERS

NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSEC)  
NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA)  
Health Research Inc. (HRI)  
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)  
US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

You are very important to us!  
If we have listed you incorrectly  
please let us know!



# THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 DONORS

## GIFTS IN MEMORY

### Bob Acker

The Estate of Bob Acker

### Raymond Austin

John & Diane Santa Croce

### Barbara Griffin

Preston & Mary Jenkins  
Carolyn Vanderminde

### Thomas D. Banbury

Jean F. Banbury

### Sophie Berman

Dale Getto  
Denis O'Connor Whalen

### Mary Cavanaugh

Stephanie Anderson

### Kenneth Ciregna

Connie & Peter Ciregna

### Cramer Family Dog, AJ

Thomas & Kathleen Duff

### Jodi Decker

Kathleen Bartley

### William Faragon

Mary Connair  
Tim McMullen

### Bob Galbraith

Elida Dillon  
Garry & Marcia Doyle  
Bonnie LeFlore  
Jane & John Luskin  
Donna Morrison  
Sallyann Rospo  
Mark & Terri Sullivan  
Robert & Shirley Templeton

### Jane Junjulas

Janet & Scott Derosia  
Perry James Junjulas &  
Bishop Tony Green  
Victoria Leigh  
Pat & Ken Miner

### John Hayes

Mary Hayes

### Michael Henry

Mary Jo Henry

### Phillip Holland

Peg Harbour-Holland

### Mike Losinger

Barbara Adams  
Gail Dieter  
Robert Englert

### Maya the English Sheepdog

Barbara Adams  
Gail Dieter

### Joseph Mazur

Janet Mazur

### Frederick Meservey

Penny Smith-Bogert

### Joseph Swotkiewicz

Nancy Kelly

### Joseph Swotkiewicz

Nancy Kelly

### Robert Van Court

Thomas Baker  
Brian & Kimberly Berger  
Raymond & Elizabeth Bieg  
Kenneth & Margaret Hewitt  
Bonnie LeFlore

## GIFTS IN HONOR

### George Clifford's Birthday

Ronald Benedict  
Sandra Eichelberg

### Ken Screven

Earl Screven

### Sally Tillman's 90th Birthday

Lucy Siegel

### Lyndsi Wickert's Birthday

Elizabeth Goodman



We are honored to be part of remembering and celebrating special family, friends, and occasions. The love and spirit in which these gifts are given is reflected in our work every day.

## THE ALBANY DAMIEN CENTER, INC.

728 MADISON AVE, STE 100

ALBANY, NY 12208

518-449-7119

# *Albany Damien Center*

## **DONATE GOODS, SERVICES, OR TIME**

We value every donation we receive

## **HAVE A FUNraiser**

Organize an event - a great project for school, church or employers!

## **SPREAD THE WORD**

Tell someone about the services that we provide for those struggling with HIV/AIDS

[WWW.ALBANYDAMIENCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.ALBANYDAMIENCENTER.ORG)