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
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
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.

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.

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.”
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.

"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

**Over 6.765 Pounds of Food and Supplies Provided**
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>215 Members</th>
<th>143 Members</th>
<th>137 Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open cases of Members living with HIV and actively served by the Center</td>
<td>66% of members served had at least one VL or CD4 lab test during the calendar year</td>
<td>96% of all members served who had at least one VL or CD4 lab test during the calendar year were virally suppressed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets &amp; Liabilities (as of 12/31)</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>4,739,984</td>
<td>4,003,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets</td>
<td>3,971,933</td>
<td>4,165,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,711,917</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,169,857</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities (current)</td>
<td>319,212</td>
<td>285,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>5,616,833</td>
<td>6,023,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Designated Reserves-Building</td>
<td>1,174,888</td>
<td>837,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Designated Reserves-Operating</td>
<td>1,601,004</td>
<td>1,023,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,392,705</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,884,325</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,711,917</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,169,857</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revenue & Income

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

Expenses
- 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 Hint
Stephen Jankowski & Steven Derouville
Alan Kempf
Wendy Levey
Alice & Robert Mazur
Thomas McComb
Mike & Kathy Morrissette
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
Tameaht 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 Derosis
Mary & Victor DeSantis
Allegra Edelman
Priscilla Fairbank
Owen Goldfarb
Victoria J. Gold
Claire Gonyo
Christina Graham
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 Quesada
Ryan Ramdass
Margie Scully
Maureen Seidel
Bob Schaffer
Katherine & Robert Sheehan
Jay & Sarah Shufelt
Barbara Siegel
Holly Accardi Theohary
Leity Umid
Maryellen Casey Usis
John Wheeler
Stacey Agnello
Deborah Armstrong
Gary Armstrong
Carolyne 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-Kolehyski
Mary & Patricia Hayes
Margaret Hewitt
Edward Kacerguis
Elena Kessler
Jacquelyn Kilmer
Eleanor Laviolette
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-Beeza Smith
Arleen Stein
Cassie Stricos
Carlynn Van Cotten
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
Waltena 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-$249
Burnt Hills Veterinary Hospital
Church of the Covenant United Methodist
Copps, DiPaola, Silverman, PLLC.
Dwight Plumbing and Heating
Harris A Sanders Architects
Healthy Alliance
Journey United Church of Christ
PNJ Technology Partners
Martin, Harding, and Mazotti, 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)

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 Vanderminden

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 & Victoria Leigh
Bishop Tony Green
Pat & Ken Miner

John Hayes
Mary Hayes

Michael Henry
Mary Jo Henry

Phillip Holland
Peg Harbour-Holland

Mike Losingher
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 Bendict
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

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

Donate Goods, Services, or Time
We value every donation we receive

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

www.albanydamiencenter.org