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SUMMER 2017



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## LGBTQ Initiatives at SAAF Going Strong

By Adam Ragan, Associate Director of LGBTQ Initiatives

Our LGBTQ community is the strongest when we come out. From the everyday bustle of shopping and accessing resources to those special moments when we gather, the LGBTQ community in southern Arizona is a diverse and big family. SAAF has been working on two initiatives to continue bringing the LGBTQ community together as we come out.

**The first of these initiatives is the much-anticipated community resource center OutInAZ.org.** Made possible by generous funding from our friends at the LGBT & S Alliance Fund, a fund of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, OutInAZ will launch in April 2017. The driving force for this project has been a desire to bring the everyday resources we all use into one home. OutInAZ will be the most comprehensive and up-to-date LGBTQ resource guide in southern Arizona.

It even identifies LGBTQ-owner/operated establishments. Listing your business, group, or resource on the site is a streamlined process. Users can rest assured the listings are current because SAAF has automated the renewal and review process, making sure only valid listings stay on the site. The easy-to-use search feature will allow users to directly contact listings and even leave reviews. The map feature makes getting from place to place easy. OutInAZ was designed with the user in mind.

The site, which is fully accessible from mobile devices, unites users with LGBTQ-serving businesses, groups, and services.



# Come Out to Brunch...

Join us as we honor the 2017  
Godat, Steve Hall, and Dr. Jean Baker  
Community Ally awards recipients.

## June 10, 2017

Tucson University Park Hotel | 880 E. 2nd Street



**The second initiative that SAAF has undertaken to bring the LGBTQ community together is the much anticipated Out Brunch.** SAAF listened to community feedback and learned two important things: we want to honor those in our community and we want an event that reflects the diversity of the rainbow that is our community. The answer was clear: the Out Brunch, to be held during national Pride Month on Saturday June 10 at the Tucson University Park Hotel located at 880 E. 2nd Street. Registration begins at 10:00am, doors open at 10:30am, and the program starts at 11:00am. Exciting details will be announced on SAAF's Facebook page and website so be sure to follow us.

The aim of the Out Brunch is really two-fold: to bring the LGBTQ community together for a friendly, fun event and to honor those heroes and leaders who work tirelessly to advance the mission of

equality. For many years, the LGBTQ community bestowed three awards and SAAF knew the Out Brunch was the right place to continue that tradition. The Steve Hall award recognizes the exemplary volunteer contributions to the LGBTQ community and the Godat award honors the long-term dedication to our community of one of our own. Recognizing that we wouldn't be where we are today without the allies who fight alongside us, the Dr. Jean Baker Community Ally award celebrates the contributions of an ally in the fight for LGBTQ equality. Nominations are open through April 15, 2017 and can be accessed at [OutBrunchAZ.org](http://OutBrunchAZ.org). Send in your choices today.

SAAF is honored to help bring the LGBTQ community together, whether online at [OutinAZ.org](http://OutinAZ.org), or in person at the Out Brunch. We hope to see you out!



Hosted by  
Tempest Dujour





CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once as part of routine health care.



## HIV TESTING LOCATIONS

The following locations will be providing rapid HIV testing on June 27, 2017:

### **SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION**

375 S. Euclid Avenue  
(520) 547-6128  
8:30 am – 7:00 pm

### **CODAC LIVING OUT LOUD CLINIC**

3130 E. Broadway Blvd  
(520) 202-1832  
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

### **COPE COMMUNITY SERVICES**

5401 E. 5th Street  
(520) 798-1772  
9:00 am – 4:30 pm

### **PCHD – THERESA LEE CLINIC**

1493 W. Commerce Ct.  
(520) 724-7900  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

### **PCHD – NORTH CLINIC**

3550 N. 1st Ave  
(520) 724-2880  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

### **WALGREENS (GRANT/SWAN)**

4685 E Grant Rd  
3:00 pm – 7:00 pm

## National HIV Testing Day is June 27

By Luis Ortega, Director of Programs

HIV testing is the only way to know for sure if someone has HIV.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in eight people in the United States are infected with HIV and don't know it. That means they aren't getting the medical care they need. We encourage HIV testing on National HIV Testing Day as well as every day to ensure people get tested for HIV, know their status, and get linked to care and treatment services.

June 27 is designated National HIV Testing Day to encourage people to learn their HIV status. CDC recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once as part of routine health care. People with certain risk factors should get tested more often.

On this day, we unite with partners, such as CODAC, COPE Community Services Inc., Pima County Health Department, and Walgreens to raise awareness about the importance of HIV testing and early diagnosis of HIV.

# Foundations for SAAF's Mission

By Tony Bruno, SAAF Grants Coordinator

Private foundations are a cornerstone of support for SAAF's care services and prevention programs. We'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to:

## **Broadway Cares/Equity Fighting AIDS (BC/EFA)**

The BC/EFA National Grants Committee awarded a total of \$1,913,000 to 117 food pantries, providing congregate meal and meal delivery programs in 37 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico. SAAF was one of the recipients of these funds.

These food service grants from BC/EFA will reach the men, women, and children facing serious challenges living with HIV/AIDS while struggling with diminishing community resources, personal crisis, and economic uncertainty.

Effective HIV medication is an important component of prevention and spread of the virus. However, a decent meal can be the first line of defense, the road back to health and recovery. Without proper nutrition, medication for HIV and illness is less effective.

SAAF appreciates the commitment of Broadway Cares in supporting agencies like SAAF that work with clients living with HIV/AIDS.

## **Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation in Partnership with Macy's**

Elizabeth Taylor established The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation (ETAF) in 1991 to support organizations delivering direct care and services to people living with HIV and AIDS, often to the most marginalized populations. Today, ETAF also provides funding for HIV prevention education and advocacy programs throughout the world, including existing organizations creating new and innovative techniques that help spread awareness of HIV prevention and treatment to targeted communities.

To date, ETAF has provided grants to more than 675 organizations in 44 countries and 42 states in the U.S.

SAAF is proud to again receive funding from Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation in Partnership with Macy's to support our HYPE youth prevention program.



## VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

### Get involved with SAAF!

Join us for an upcoming volunteer orientation, the first step for anyone wanting to volunteer at SAAF.\* Orientations take place at the SAAF office building located at 375 South Euclid Avenue, unless otherwise noted.

Here is a listing of upcoming orientations.

**Saturday April 15, 2017**  
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

**Tuesday May 16, 2017**  
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

**Tuesday June 20, 2017**  
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

(\*No orientation is necessary for those volunteering for fundraising events and Walk-in Wednesdays.)

To sign up for Volunteer Orientation, visit [www.saaf.org](http://www.saaf.org) or contact Sallie Muse, SAAF's Volunteer Resources Coordinator, at (520) 547-6174 or [smuse@saaf.org](mailto:smuse@saaf.org).





Among the 3.3 million HIV testing events reported to the CDC in 2013 the highest percentages of newly identified HIV positive persons were among transgender individuals.



Photography by Scott Griessel, Creatista

## HIV TESTING & WORKSHOP

Free HIV testing\*  
locations on  
April 18, 2017:

### **SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION**

375 S. Euclid Avenue  
(520) 547-6128  
8:30 am – 7:00 pm

### **LIVING OUT LOUD CENTER**

3130 E. Broadway Blvd  
(520) 202-1832  
8:00 am – 5:00 pm

*\*HIV testing is available for anyone  
ages 13 and over.*

## PrEP workshop April 18, 2017:

A PrEP workshop will also be sponsored by SAAF on April 18. For more information on the time and location of the workshop please contact Michael Lopez, STEPP/MSHAPE Program Coordinator, at (520) 547-6109 or mlopez@saaf.org.

# SAAF

Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation

## National Transgender HIV Testing Day

By Jai Smith, Youth Life Project Program Manager

April 18, 2017 marks the second annual National Transgender HIV Testing Day held by the Center for Excellence in Transgender Health and the Centers for Disease Control. This year, SAAF will partner with a number of agencies to increase HIV testing opportunities for transgender and gender non-conforming individuals in the Tucson community, as well as providing information on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and navigation to access PrEP for those who are interested.

The transgender community makes up less than 1% of the overall population of the United States, but is heavily impacted by HIV. In the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey, the rate of transgender individuals living with HIV was nearly five times the rate in the general U.S. population. The rate among Black transgender respondents was much higher, and nearly 1 in 5 Black transgender women reported living with HIV. Although HIV prevalence rates were lower for transgender men, heightened risk for acquisition of HIV is present for transgender men who have sex with men.

Limitations in data collection and research on HIV rates and the impact of HIV on transgender men, also make prevalence rates of HIV difficult to track. Among the 3.3 million HIV testing events reported to the CDC in 2013 the highest percentages of newly-identified HIV-positive persons were among transgender individuals. Because of this disproportionate impact of HIV on the transgender community, it is important that focus be given to the health and wellness of transgender individuals who are living with HIV and those who are at greatest risk of acquiring HIV.

# Why Give? How to Give More?

By Tom Buchanan, SAAF supporter

My husband Robert Bell and I feel great about giving to SAAF - we only wish we could do more. I've got some thoughts on that, but first - why is giving to SAAF so important?

I'm 65 years old, and been HIV+ more than half my life. I assumed I only had a few years to live. However, after my 40th birthday I realized I might be around for a while and I'd better get serious about saving for retirement. One constant through this entire saga has been SAAF and organizations like it, helping to fight stigma and increase the health and happiness of all of us, especially LGBT people and people at risk of HIV infection. In organizations like SAAF I've found home: I've been a client, I've worked, I've volunteered, and I've given. Though I'm enjoying wonderful health, I know that if it were not for organizations like SAAF I might not be here today. I know with certainty that the quality of my life would have suffered greatly without the support I've received. SAAF gives me a sense of joy, a sense of hope, and a sense of community.

For over 9 years Robert has volunteered at the Eon youth program and still comes home every Tuesday night on fire. He loves working with young people, helping them stay safe, take care of themselves, and visualize their own best future. So while we give to other organizations, SAAF is one on which we both wholeheartedly agree and love to support.



Your reasons for giving to SAAF are unique to you. But whatever your reasons, my guess is that you, too, wish you could do more. Here are a few simple ways that may help you do just that.

## Gifts of Appreciated Securities

A gift of stocks that have increased in value may provide you with an opportunity to give more than you thought possible and at the same time provide a significant tax advantage. When you transfer ownership of long-term (held in excess of one year) holdings to SAAF, you may receive a charitable deduction for the shares' full market value. You may also incur no capital gains tax (subject to applicable IRS rules and regulations). That said, you should always consult with your own financial advisor before initiating a charitable gift arrangement.

Please be sure to let SAAF know in advance of the name of the stock and the number of shares you plan to give. According to IRS regulations, the date of your gift corresponds to the date it arrives in SAAF's possession (for transfers from brokerage account to brokerage account).

The following is the information necessary to transfer stock to SAAF's account:

- Account name: Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation
- DTC number: 0443
- Account number: 4LD031613
- Tax ID Number: 86-0864100
- Broker Contact: Anthony J. Serino  
Registered Principal - Lincoln Investments  
520-904-5858 - cell  
520-514-5143 x. 111 - office

I recently realized that some shares I'd bought just over a year ago had increased in value over 40%. Instead of selling the shares and paying capital gains tax, I was able to transfer the shares directly to SAAF. I avoided paying tax on the sale and was able to give a gift worth 40% more than the shares originally cost me.

*In the summer 2017 SAAF Connection, I'll talk more about bequests and beneficiary designations.*

## Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP): The Other Blue Pill

By Michael Lopez, STEPP/MSHAPE Program Coordinator

SAAF is proud to announce our new PrEP Navigation Program. Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis, or PrEP, is a once-daily pill used to reduce your risk of acquiring HIV.



When taken daily, PrEP has shown to reduce the risk of HIV infection by more than 90%. What is required to be on PrEP? In order to get on PrEP an individual must:

- Be HIV negative (Don't know your status? SAAF offers free, confidential, and rapid HIV testing)
- Be at risk for acquiring HIV
- See a healthcare provider
- Receive follow-up and testing every three months
- Adhere to daily medication.

SAAF provides patient navigation support for anyone interested in starting PrEP or simply learning more about PrEP. Our PrEP Navigators will meet with you to assess if PrEP is right for you, provide benefit evaluation for the cost of PrEP, and link you

to a provider who is prescribing PrEP. In addition, our PrEP Navigation Program offers resources for interested providers who want to prescribe PrEP and work with community partners like UA's Petersen Clinic, the Pima County Health Department, and Arizona AIDS Education Training Center (AETC) to provide training and community information sessions.

Interested in learning more about PrEP?  
Contact Michael Lopez at (520) 547-6109  
or [mlopez@saaf.org](mailto:mlopez@saaf.org).