# NEWS

FOR OUR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

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#### Piedmont Care, Inc.

101 North Pine Street, Suite 200 Spartanburg, SC 29302

**TF** 1.866.454.7773 **P** 864.582.7773 **Web** www.piedmontcare.org **F** 864.582.8637



### THE GIVING SEASON

by Meredith Hardwicke Jensen

Each year, we ask you to consider giving to Piedmont Care to help support our HIV prevention efforts. This year, the impacts of COVID have been swift and far-reaching and our organization was not spared. Now more than ever, Piedmont Care requires critical funds to provide life-saving medical and prevention services to our neighbors in need.

It's 2021 and we are still the only organization in Spartanburg that is 100% dedicated to helping people living with HIV/AIDS. For more than 25 years, we have served over 1,700 people living with HIV/AIDS in our community. Piedmont Care continues to help hundreds of people with critical services like medical care, medication assistance, case management, mental health care, and oral care – just to name a few. To meet the growing needs of our community,

we continue our focused prevention efforts across Spartanburg, Cherokee, and Union counties through testing and education.

In these pages, you'll see the many reasons why making a financial donation to Piedmont Care helps create a healthier and more educated community. If you have not made your contribution to Piedmont Care this year, please consider a gift.

Giving to Piedmont Care is easy! Find us on CashApp (\$PiedmontCare) or scan the QR code for our PayPal. Feeling more traditional? We also accept cash and checks as well as credit card donations by phone. We can win the fight against HIV/AIDS – but only with your support.





Scan. Pay. Go.



Piedmont Care is a recipient of the GuideStar Silver Seal of Transparency, which allows potential funders and donors to make educated decisions.

# New Services Piedmont Care Medical Practice

Our medical practice opened in April 2021 and currently serves approximately 55 people living with HIV, with this number growing every week.

Onsite medical care helps newly diagnosed clients and high-risk clients identified through our outreach efforts. Our medical practice is designed to support our Ryan White clients but will eventually provide much-needed PrEP, STD, and other community-based services.

SO FAR, THE MEDICAL PRACTICE HAS ALLOWED US TO PROVIDE:

- COVID-19 vaccines for our clients and their families and caregivers
- Flexibility for clients needing after-hours appointments and community-based visits

According to Practice Administrator, Dawn Querin,

"The addition of these services now means that we can not only provide treatment of HIV but also the routine medical needs of our clients, all in-house. Our model has provided the ease and convenience necessary for clients to receive case management, mental health, medical care, and many other services all under one roof. We are so excited to witness this project come to fruition! The many years of envisioning and planning, even during the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is finally a reality!"

Additional funding support for our medical practice comes from the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) initiative. According to the CDC, the EHE initiative has identified four science-based strategies that can end the HIV epidemic:

- DIAGNOSE
- TREAT
- PREVENT
- RESPOND



The Piedmont Care medical practice is a result of client needs assessments, community landscape maps, and partner assessments.

**Hours of Operation:** 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. • Monday, Wednesday – Friday | 10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. • Tuesday **Phone:** (864) 699-9581 **Location:** 101 North Pine Street, Second Floor • Spartanburg, SC 29302

# **Our COVID Response**

Throughout this challenging time, Piedmont Care has evolved the way we work and the way we serve our clients. As a Ryan White provider, Piedmont Care is considered essential by DHEC. Our team has worked diligently to adapt to the developing health crisis while remaining open and available for our clients and the communities we serve.

During the worst of COVID, we got creative, implementing a carefully scheduled work-from-home plan to keep the office staffed while staying safe. We expanded our HIV testing opportunities, whether in the office or with a self-administered home test option. We found creative ways to address medication and paperwork by providing home delivery, and we used more technology to communicate with our clients via phone and video. Because of COVID, we received far more requests for housing, food, and household item assistance, and we found ways to get our clients what they needed to survive these difficult times.

We are proud of the way our organization has handled the impact of COVID on our work and the lives of the many people we serve. The key to our rapid response is the strength of our case management services. We are here to coordinate the needs of our clients with the services available, advocate on their behalf, connect them to direct service providers, and ensure the continuum of care – no matter what.



# **Prevention**



What HIV prevention services does Piedmont Care offer?

Free and confidential HIV testing, condom distribution, and HIV prevention education are the core components of our prevention program. So, a donation towards HIV prevention is an investment in one's own community?

Exactly. The disproportionate impact of HIV on our state is preventable. Increasing access to prevention tools advances health equity, meaning everyone has an equal opportunity for health. Financial donations allow us to create a healthier community, which helps us all.

Why is HIV prevention important in our community?

South Carolina is one of seven states
prioritized by the national Ending the
HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America (EHE)
campaign. This is due to the consistent and
disproportionate impact of HIV on our state.
Preventing HIV not only saves lives but also
saves money for our community by preventing
future costs associated with the treatment of
HIV. HIV prevention also contributes
to a healthier community.

How does each part of Piedmont Care's HIV prevention program help advance health equity?

The availability of free HIV testing, either in the office or with a self-administered home test, eliminates barriers such as cost and lack of transportation that may prevent people from seeking testing. Our condom distribution partners help extend our reach and increase access to free safer sex tools for our community. Education increases awareness of our services and reduces the stigma surrounding HIV and safer sex.













### **World AIDS Day**

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

**Get tested and wear a red ribbon** to show your support for efforts to fight HIV and AIDS and in recognition of those lost to the disease.

### **Extended HIV Testing Hours**

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Piedmont Care, 101 N. Pine Street Suite 200, Spartanburg *Free and confidential*. By Appointment Only.



Monday, February 7, 2022

### **Extended HIV Testing Hours**

Monday, February 7, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Piedmont Care, 101 N. Pine St. Suite 200, Spartanburg Free and confidential. By Appointment Only.



### **9th Annual Twisted Trivia**

The premier adult trivia event in town!

Friday, March 25, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

1881 Event Center

Tickets: \$40 at www.eventbrite.com



### **National HIV Testing Day**

Monday, June 27, 2022

### **Extended HIV Testing Hours**

Monday, June 27, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Piedmont Care, 101 N. Pine St. Suite 200, Spartanburg Free and confidential. By Appointment Only.





### **Twisted Trivia 2022**

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

The Upstate's premier ADULT TRIVIA

is back for its 9th year!

Get your crazy costume - and your twisted mind - ready for:

TWISTED TRIVIA 2022 Friday, March 25, 2022 1881 Event Center | 7:00 p.m.



#### **2022 SPONSORS**

### **Premier Sponsor**



JOAN & TOM BARNET



SUSAN LEA THERAPY RODNEY BOGAN

ALAN DECREDICO & SUSAN GRISWOLD

**MLC Findings Jewelry** 

TRACY & TONY
REGAN





SUSU & GEORGE DEAN JOHNSON, JR.





GAIL & CHRIS EBERT



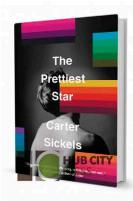




# **World AIDS Day**

World AIDS Day (December 1) is a day of worldwide solidarity to unite in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Each year, Piedmont Care encourages people to wear a red ribbon on World AIDS Day to show support for efforts to end the AIDS pandemic.

# Virtual Book Event



As part of World AIDS Day 2020, Piedmont Care partnered with Hub City Press for a virtual book event with The Prettiest Star author, Carter Sickels. Set in 1986, a year after Rock Hudson's death brought the news of AIDS into homes across America, The Prettiest Star is a stunning novel that shines light on an overlooked part of the epidemic – those men who returned to the rural communities and families who rejected them.

#### EXTENDED HIV TESTING

Piedmont Care continued our annual tradition of offering extended HIV testing hours. This year, we will offer extended HIV testing hours on Wednesday, December 1. As always, HIV testing is free and confidential. Appointments are required.

# **Get the Facts**

14% OF PEOPLE IN THE
U.S. LIVING WITH HIV/
AIDS DON'T KNOW
THEY'RE INFECTED WITH
THE VIRUS (KFF)

1 1 TH IN THE NATION FOR AIDS CASE RATES (SC DHEC)

(51%)

THERE ARE MORE THAN
35,000 NEW HIV INFECTIONS
IN THE U.S. EACH YEAR (KFF)

#### **ROUTINE HIV TESTING**

IS RECOMMENDED FOR EVERYONE IN THE U.S.

AGES 13-64, REGARDLESS
OF PERCEIVED RISK. (CDC)

THE SOUTH ACCOUNTED FOR HALF OF ALL NEW AIDS DIAGNOSES IN 2018 (CDC)

# **Staff News**

Piedmont Care recently added new staff members to better serve our clients and community.

**Kim Brown**, RN, joined Piedmont Care, Inc. in October 2021. She is a graduate of Hollins University (B.A.), Queens University (B.S.N.) and University of Phoenix (M.H.A.). She comes to Piedmont Care with 25 years of nursing experience in a variety of health care settings. Welcome, Kim!

Allison Caulk, Medical Case Manager, joined Piedmont Care, Inc. in February 2021. Allison has a Bachelor's Degree in psychology from USC Upstate and a Master's in Teaching from Converse College. Before joining Piedmont Care, she worked for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Upstate. Welcome, Allison!

**Pauline Crosby,** Patient Access Representative, joined Piedmont Care in October 2021. Pauline is a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration. She comes to Piedmont Care with 10 years of experience in health care. Welcome, Pauline!

**Linnea Garvin,** Medical Case Manager, joined Piedmont Care, Inc. in April 2021. Linnea holds a B.A. in psychology and education from Worcester State University in Massachusetts. She has experience serving the community and providing resources through early intervention and education. Welcome, Linnea!

**Kyle Keefer,** Director of Finance, joined Piedmont Care, Inc. in June 2021. He holds a B.A. from Baylor University and a M.Acc. from UNC-Chapel Hill. Earlier in his career, Kyle was a college professor at Eckerd College and Converse College, having earned his M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary and his Ph.D. from Emory University. Welcome, Kyle!

**Glenda Sims**, PhD, RN, joined Piedmont Care, Inc. in March 2021. Dr. Sims is a graduate of Winston-State University (B.S.N.), Medical College of Georgia (M.S.N.), and Georgia State University where she earned a Ph.D. in nursing education. With expertise in adult health nursing, she has extensive experience in clinical teaching and clinical practice in acute care and community healthcare settings. Welcome, Glenda!

**Yvonne Styles,** FNP, joined Piedmont Care in July 2021 as the Primary Medical Care Provider. She earned her Associate's degree in nursing from USC-Upstate and her Bachelor of Science in nursing and Master of Science in nursing from Chamberlain University. She is certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Her previous experience includes: traveling nurse, dialysis staff nurse and facility manager, as well as a practicing FNP. Welcome, Yvonne!

**Megan Williams,** Driver, joined Piedmont Care, Inc. in October 2021. Megan transports clients to needed medical, mental health, dental, and support group appointments. We love being able to give clients the option. Welcome, Megan!

**Dr. Steve Garman**, joined Piedmont Care, Inc. in 2020 as the Medical Director. He provides medical staff supervision and assists with planning and quality assurance. He earned his medical degree from St. George's University in Grenada, West Indies. He earned a Master's degree in religion at Evangelical School of Theology in Myerstown, PA, and a Bachelor's degree in medicine at the University of Nebraska. Dr. Garman completed surgery and psychiatry training in London and Dudley, England and pediatric and internal medicine sub-internships at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Patterson, NJ. He served his residency in internal medicine at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, PA. Dr. Garman is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Welcome, Dr. G!

# **Thank You!!**

1881 Event Hall

Access Health Spartanburg

**A2 Holdings** 

Adrienne Ables

**Action Printing** 

American Exchange

Patty and C. Mack Amick

**Alan Christopher Antiques** 

**Arnie Applebaum** 

**Arkwright Foundation** 

Art Lounge

John Ashley and Justin Hyder

**Atheist Alliance of Spartanburg** 

**Jay Ault** 

**Avita Pharmacy** 

**Awakening Energies** 

**Paula and Stan Baker** 

Joan and Tom Barnet

**Charlie Bass** 

Jim and Terry Batchler-Smith

**BB&B Barbershop** 

**Bedtyme Stories Blacksburg** 

**Sharon Belton** 

**BHG Recovery Center** 

**Linda and Vic Bilanchone** 

**BirthMatters** 

Diane and Russ Blackburn

Bloom Upstate Rodney Bogan

**Sims Bouwmeester** 

**Ann Bowles** 

**Lorraine Boyd** 

**Judy Brewington** 

**Russell Briggs** 

Suzanne and Reed Brown

Robert Brozina

**Judy and Brant Bynum** 

**Alyson Campbell and Andrew Taber** 

Mireya Campuzano

Carolina Barber Institute

**Carolinas Telco Federal Credit Union** 

Mary Jo Cartledgehayes

**Beth Cecil** 

**Center for Family Medicine** 

Challenges, Inc.

**Barbara Colvin** 

**Converse University** 

**Celia Cooksey** 

Jimm Cox

**Jordan Crosby** 

**Elaine and Andy Crosland** 

MelissaAnne Cunningham-Sereque

and David Seregue

Dr. Diane Daane

**Bob Day** 

**Gail and Chris Ebert** 

**Tracy Eggleton** 

**Elliott & Painter, LLP** 

Epsilon Nu of Omega Psi Phi

**Eubanks Center-Peer Living Room** 

**Fatherhood Coalition** 

Mayor Mary Ferguson-Glenn

**Fernwood Baptist Church** 

**Andrew Fischer** 

Susan Floyd

Ford & Harrison LLP

Deb and Al Foreman

Free Clinic of Gaffney

Free Mom Hugs-Upstate Chapter

Dr. Mel Fritsche

Janice Gelband

**Gender Benders** 

**Gotcha Covered Boat and Marine** 

**Greenville Church without Walls** 

Greenville Drive

Susan Griswold

**Derrick Gunter** 

Meredith Hardwicke Jensen and Doug Jensen

**Steve Harvey** 

**Headquarters Barbershop** 

Heirloom- A Milltown Eatery

**Erin Hiremath** 

Tammy Hollifield

**Anne Homer** 

**Hope Center for Children** 

**Hope for Families Recovery Center** 

Jessica Hoshall

Ingles #045

Ink Kingz

**Cassandra and Michael Jackson** 

Charlotte Jackson

Heather and Linda Jackson

Isaac Jackson

The Johnson Group

Susu and George Dean Johnson, Jr.

Jeanette Keepers

**Bonnie Landers** 

Susan and Patrick Lea

Scott LeBlanc

Legacy of Sisters

Dr. Arden Levy and Mark Lurey

**LGBT Fund** 

**Limestone University** 

Sonya Lindsay

**Brandy Lindsey** 

**Jody Luedeman** 

Suzan and Ed Mabry

**Zachary Manganello** 

# **Thank You!!**

#### continued...

Rosemary McLeod

**Allyson McPhaul** 

Mel-Med

Dr. Stan Miller

Weston F. Milliken

**MLC Findings Jewelry** 

Mark Monaghan

Marsha and Tom Moore

Sally Moore

**Thom Moore** 

NARFE- Chapter 560

Markeisha Nesbitt

**New Day Clubhouse** 

**Newport Apartments** 

**Margaret and George Nixon** 

**Nurse Family Partnership** 

Lisa Oliphant

Jane Ovenden

Rebecca and Remsen Parrish

Dwight Patterson, Jr.

**Pat Patterson** 

**Mark Persaud** 

Phase I Barbershop

Phase II Barbershop

**Nancy and Steve Pope** 

**Kelly Proffitt** 

**Q** Cuts

Queen Esther Chapter #158

Order of the Eastern Stars

**Steven Querin** 

**Rainbow Support Group** 

**Judith Raines** 

**Nancy Raley** 

**Tony and Tracy Regan** 

**ReGenesis Health Care** 

Reggie's Unique Cuts

Dianne Rencsok

**Gregory Retsinas** 

**Amy Richards and Evan Krauter** 

Sara Robinson

S.T.A.R, Central United Methodist Church

Mike Sanders

**June and Peter Seregue** 

**Betsy and Jason Sikma** 

Rowan Sikma

Wren Sikma

**Margot Simpson** 

**Dr. Glenda Sims** 

**Shelly Sinclair** 

**Polly Smith** 

Lee Snell

**Southside Barber Shop** 

Spartanburg Area Mental Health

**Spartanburg Community College** 

**Spartanburg County Health Department** 

**Spartanburg Methodist College** 

Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System

**Spartanburg Water** 

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

**Tammy and David Stokes** 

Dr. Phillip Stone

**Stylistics Hair Salon** 

Susan Lea Therapy

**SWITCH** 

Kristin Taylor

**Town of Carlisle** 

**Transitions Therapy** 

**Gina Turcotte** 

Steve Turner

**U.S. National Whitewater Center** 

**Union County Commission on** 

**Alcohol and Drug Abuse** 

**Union County Housing Authority** 

**Unitarian Universalist Church** 

**Unity Presbyterian Church** 

**Uplift Outreach Center** 

**Upstate Food Not Bombs** 

Upstate ITS, LLC

**USC-Union** 

**USC- Upstate Health Services** 

VCOM

**Angela Viney** 

Dr. Melissa Walker and Chuck Reback

Jonathan Walker

Kristi Ward and Brandi Dice

Susan Ward

Travis Watson

**Lindsay Webster** 

Maryann Webster

**Dr. Brad Whitney** 

**Ned Wilder** 

**Wilkinson Place Apartments** 

Willdyne-Chord LLC

**Jacinta Williams** 

**Janet Wilson** 

Marsha Wingo-Brown

**Heather Witt** 

Wofford College-Health Services

**Wofford College-Student Life** 

Diana and Randy Wright

Elsie Wright

**YouthBuild** 

### A few words from our clients...

66 I LOVE

coming here. They make me feel comfortable and they don't judge you. 66

#### I FEEL VERY SAFE

doing testing at home until it is safe to go take it in-person at the office.

77

**66** THANK YOU

for staying on my case and pushing me because I just received a call that my viral load is undetectable!

5-6-

This is my
HIGHEST CD4

since my 2018 diagnosis!

7.7

66

I AM SO GLAD

I don't have to go elsewhere. I am so glad you all are doing this.

,

**I APPRECIATE** 

all my case
manager has done
for me over the
years and how I am
able to share things
with her without
judgment.

66

I thank Piedmont Care for

CARING AND TESTING.

**I APPRECIATE** 

everything y'all do for me there.

7.7-

# Impact by the Numbers

670 PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV SERVED LAST YEAR

182 CLIENTS RECEIVED 2100 MONTHS OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

MORE THAN 1600 PEOPLE SERVED THROUGH HIV TESTING AND COUNSELING

97% OF HIV TESTING AND COUNSELING CLIENTS REPORT POSITIVE BEHAVIOR CHANGE AS A RESULT OF THE INTERVENTION

Toll free: 1-866-454-7773

773 **Fax:** (864) 582-8637

Web site: www.piedmontcare.org

**f** 

facebook.com/piedmontcare



twitter/piedmontcare



instagram.com/piedmontcareinc

Hours of Operation: 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. • Monday - Friday

Phone: (864) 582-7773 Location: 101 North Pine Street, Suite 200 • Spartanburg, SC 29302



# **Our Mission**

The mission of Piedmont Care, Inc., an educational and advocacy organization, is to coordinate and provide medical, social, and psychological services for individuals and families affected by or at risk for HIV.

# **Care Services**

HIV knows no boundaries. HIV can infect men, women, and children of any age, race, or ethnicity. With the development of treatments and increased knowledge, more people living with HIV/AIDS will live longer and fuller lives. Piedmont Care is best known for providing essential, life-saving services to people living with HIV/AIDS in our community. Since

1994, we have served more than 1700 people living with HIV/AIDS and their families in Spartanburg, Cherokee, and Union counties.

If you or someone you know is living with HIV/AIDS and needs help or more information, please call us. All information is strictly confidential.

- Case Management
- Dental Care
- Food & Personal Care Pantry
- Health Education & Risk Reduction
- Health Insurance Premiums & Copays
- Language Services
- Medication Assistance
- Mental Health Counseling
- Outpatient Medical Care
- Support Group
- Transportation

Funding for our care programs is mostly through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program.

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program provides a comprehensive system of care that includes primary medical care and essential support services for people living with HIV who are uninsured or underinsured. The Program works with cities, states, and local community-based organizations to provide HIV care and treatment services to more than half a million people each year.

- Health Resources and Services Administration

# **More Than a Donation**

Fighting HIV and AIDS takes the help of generous supporters like you. So, what exactly does your tax-deductible donation do? Here are a few examples:

- \$4,600 Provides HIV Test Kits For 1 Year
- \$3,000 Provides HIV Medication For 1 Client For 1 Month
- \$1,000 Provides Client Transportation For 1 Month
- \$750 Provides 5 Community Education Sessions
- \$125 Provides 1 HIV Testing Session
- \$30 Provides 1 HIV Test Kit