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.
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,

“\textit{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

Ending the HIV Epidemic

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.

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
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

AVITA PHARMACY

TRACY & TONY REGAN

A2 HOLDINGS

Joan & Tom Barnett

Rodney Bogan

GOTCHA COVERED MARINE

Alan Decredico & Susan Griswold

Susu & George Dean Johnson, Jr.

Gail & Chris Ebert

Susan Lea Therapy

MLC Findings Jewelry

Upstate ITS

Lindsay LavineWebster
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)

South Carolina ranks 11th in the nation for AIDS case rates (SC DHEC)

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
Bedtime 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
Carolinus Telco Federal Credit Union
Mary Jo Cartledgehayes
Beth Cecil
Center for Family Medicine
Challenges, Inc.
Barbara Colvin
Converse University
Celia Cooksey
Jim Cox
Jordan Crosby
Elaine and Andy Crosland
MelissaAnne Cunningham-Sereque
and David Sereque
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 Retinas
Amy Richards and Evan Krauter
Sara Robinson
S.T.A.R., Central United Methodist Church
Mike Sanders
June and Peter Sereque
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 Wiider
Wilkinson Place Apartments
Wildyne-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...

“I LOVE
coming here. They make me feel comfortable and they don’t judge you.”

“I FEEL VERY SAFE
doing testing at home until it is safe to go take it in-person at the office.”

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

“THIS IS MY HIGHEST CD4
since my 2018 diagnosis!”

“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.”

“I thank Piedmont Care for CARING AND TESTING.”

“I AM SO GLAD
I don’t have to go elsewhere. I am so glad you all are doing this.”

“I APPRECIATE
everything y’all do for me there.”

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  Fax: (864) 582-8637  Web site: www.piedmontcare.org
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

Your support makes a difference!