



WHITMAN-WALKER HEALTH
Community. Caring. Quality.

A NEW ERA *Begins*





LETTER FROM THE
*Executive
Director
&
Board
Chair*

Community. Caring. Quality.

It's safe to say that 2011 will be remembered as one of the most successful years in the history of Whitman-Walker.

Our conversion to a community health center continued to pay tremendous dividends, giving us a financial stability and freedom that we have not had in years.

Our patient base continued to grow, drawn by our reputation as a provider of high quality health care and our ability to help our patients get the coverage they need for their care.

And it was the year that we unveiled a new name, logo and website for this venerable institution, bringing new attention and new awareness of the range of our services.

It was also the year that we marked 30 years of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, remembering the pain and suffering of the early days of the epidemic, while looking forward to an increasingly hopeful future.

As with any year, there were moments of great joy and moments of great sadness. As the saying goes, "the only constant is change." And 2011 proved that for Whitman-Walker.

None of our success would have been possible without the hard work of our board of directors, employees, volunteers and supporters. The dedication and commitment of the entire Whitman-Walker family continues to raise our work to new heights.

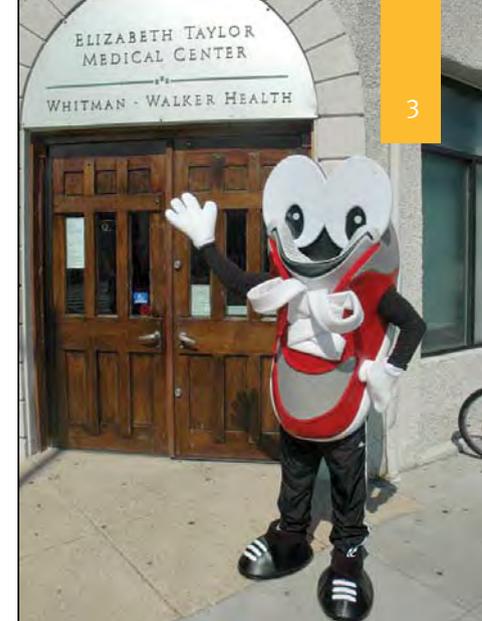
There is still a great deal of work to be done, as we confront new challenges brought on by our success. But we are confident that, with the backing of our community, we will use these challenges to make Whitman-Walker even better than it already is.

And we look forward to all of you being part of that success.

DAVID MESSING, *Board Chair*

DON BLANCHON, *Executive Director*

Photo by: Scott Henriksen



WHITMAN-WALKER HEALTH
Community. Caring. Quality.

A New Era Begins

On Wednesday, April 27, 2011, Whitman-Walker Clinic became Whitman-Walker Health.

The change, made after months of discussions and planning by the board of directors, reflects the new reality of Whitman-Walker as a community health center.

As Executive Director Don Blanchon said at the announcement of the change, "This name change best emphasizes who Whitman-Walker is now and what we aspire to be in the future: a full-service, best-in-class health center. We want to educate the metro DC community about the full range of health care services we offer. The word 'Health' best conveys our current and future role in the community as a health center and reflects our unwavering commitment to the highest quality of care for our patients."

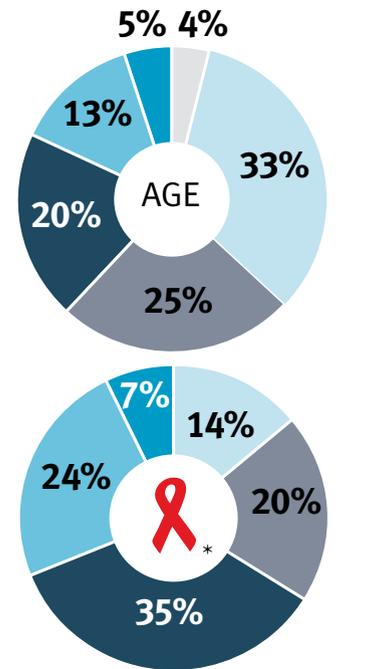
The name change was accompanied by the launch of a new, updated Whitman-Walker website www.whitman-walker.org and the start of an extensive advertising and media campaign to raise awareness of the new name and of Whitman-Walker Health as a full community health center.

The rebranding also gave Whitman-Walker a chance to fully articulate our mission and our purpose in just three simple words: *Community. Caring. Quality.*

RENOVATIONS

Renovations to the patient areas on the first floor of the Elizabeth Taylor Medical Center began in January and were completed in September. The renovations improved patient flow through the medical and dental areas, expanded the size of the pharmacy, and brought a welcoming new look to the lobby. The renovations were officially unveiled at an open house on Oct. 21. Similar renovations to Max Robinson Center's patient waiting area were completed in November.

What is the **AGE** range of our patients?



■ under 21 ■ 21-30 years ■ 31-40 years ■ 41-50 years ■ 51-60 years ■ 61 & older
 *No HIV patients under 21

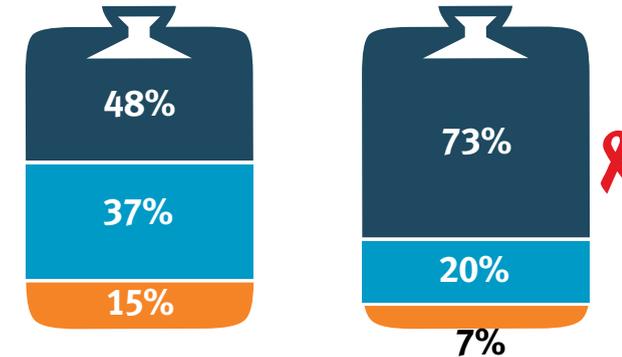
Community

In 2011, Whitman-Walker Health saw a significant growth in our patient base.

- Whitman-Walker cared for **15,515 individuals**, a **20 percent increase over 2010**. The patient base has nearly doubled since Whitman-Walker began the process to become a community health center in 2006.
- Our patients seek care at our health centers from all across DC and the metropolitan area.
- 69 percent of our patients are DC residents, 16 percent come from Maryland, 11 percent come from Virginia, and four percent come from other states.
- Most of our patients have some form of public or private insurance coverage. The fact that individuals living in suburban Maryland and northern Virginia travel to DC is evidence of the high quality of care and the high level of culturally competent care we provide.
- All eight DC wards are represented in our patient base. While a plurality of our patients resides in Ward One, we care for patients from all across the city. Our commitment to those living east of the Anacostia River is illustrated by the fact that **one in seven of our patients in 2011 lived in Wards Seven and Eight—a 68 percent increase over 2010**.

The diversity of our patients reflects a tremendous diversity across the entire metro DC community:

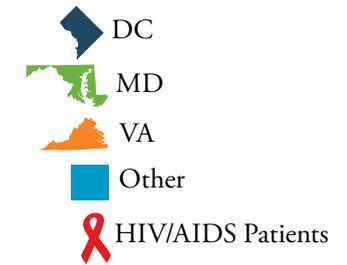
What **RACE/ETHNICITY** are our patients?



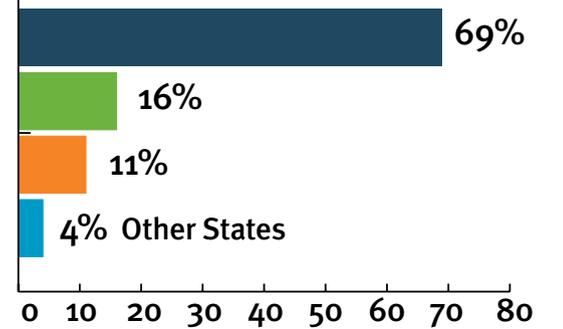
In addition **14%** of patients identified their ethnicity as Hispanic

In addition **7%** of patients identified their ethnicity as Hispanic

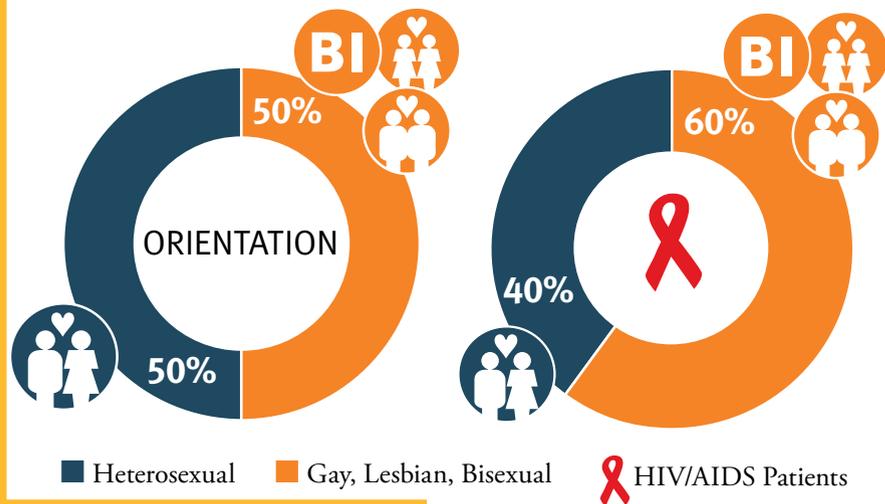
■ Black ■ White ■ HIV/AIDS Patients
 ■ Other



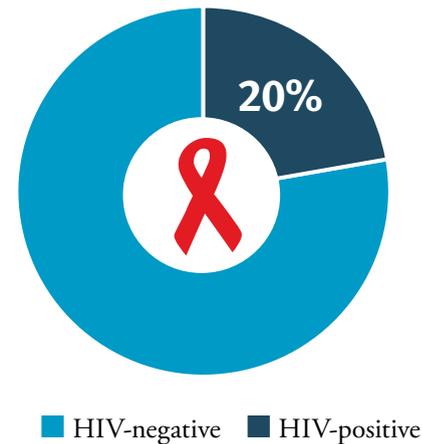
Where do our patients **LIVE**?



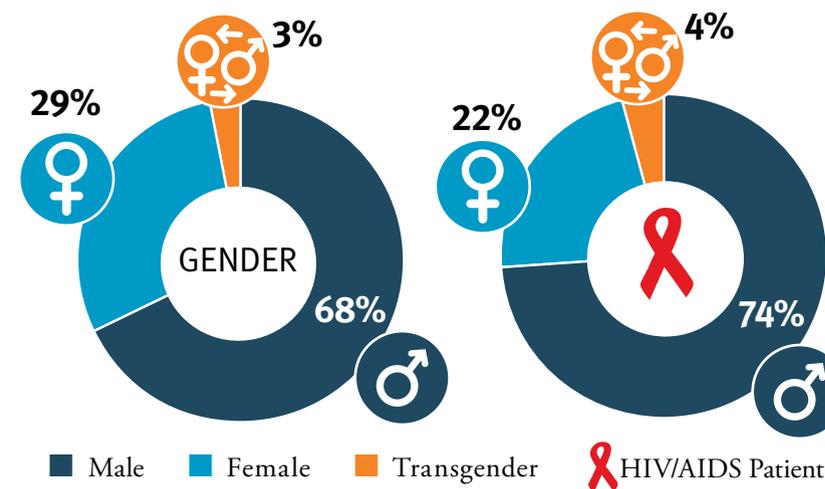
What is the **SEXUAL ORIENTATION** of our patients?



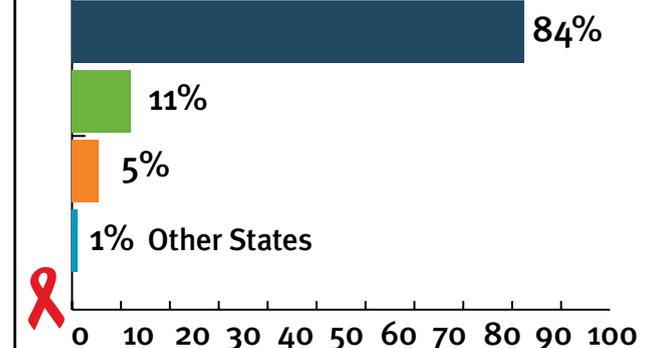
What percentage of our patients is **HIV-POSITIVE**?



What is the **GENDER** of our patients?



Where do our HIV patients **LIVE**?





DONOR PROFILE

Reggie Van Lee

“Whitman Walker Health sets a standard for community health centers that is unparalleled across the country.”

Reggie Van Lee

For Booz Allen Hamilton Executive Vice President Reggie Van Lee, supporting Whitman-Walker Health was in concert with Mr. Van Lee’s own core values and beliefs. As a long standing supporter and an inducted member of the Hall of Hope and Remembrance Award for the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS and a member and Treasurer of the MAC AIDS Fund Board, Mr. Van Lee’s involvement as a benefactor to Whitman-Walker Health is in line with his commitment to global health and not-for-profit organizations. For over two decades, Mr. Van Lee has been a major donor, fundraiser, and active volunteer in this area. He recently agreed to serve as Co-Chair of the 2013 Be the Care event.

“Whitman-Walker Health sets a standard for community health centers that is unparalleled across the country,” said Van Lee. “The center’s culturally-competent and comprehensive approach to healthcare has established Whitman-Walker Health as a harbinger of care for urban communities. Whitman-Walker’s favorable outcomes in high quality care indicators - often exceeding national standards - demonstrates the commitment, professionalism and effectiveness of the organization.”

“Booz Allen Hamilton’s corporate partnership with Whitman-Walker Health has helped us continue to improve workplace acceptance of LGBT employees while fostering opportunities for diversity education and professional development.”

Caring

Whitman-Walker Health continues to partner with other community agencies to bring services to more of those in need, including:

- National Institutes of Health/DC Dept. of Health—DC Partnership for AIDS Progress (three specific initiatives)
■ Clinical Research—MACS with Johns Hopkins University and Phase II/III medication trials for HIV and Hepatitis
■ Medical Education—George Washington University, Georgetown University, and Walter Reed Army Institute of Research to train medical students about LGBT and HIV/AIDS care.
■ DC Primary Care Association—Multiple initiatives including RHIO, a program to confidentially exchange patient information between a hospital and health center in a timely manner to better coordinate patient care.

HIV/AIDS CARE

As the world marked the 30th anniversary of the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, Whitman-Walker continued its historic role on the front lines of the fight.

In 2011, Whitman-Walker cared for more than 2,900 patients living with HIV.

In addition, WWH administered more than 10,600 HIV tests in 2011, with almost two percent of all recipients testing positive.

In March, Executive Director Don Blanchon was appointed by DC Mayor Vincent Gray to the Mayor’s Commission on HIV and AIDS in DC. The commission has three goals: develop evidence-based HIV/AIDS policy recommendations for the District to reduce infection rates, increase testing and improve access to care and support; develop recommendations to coordinate District-wide HIV/AIDS policy, including public/private partnerships and collaboration across jurisdiction and international boundaries; and develop recommendations to control HIV/AIDS, while creating training and employment opportunities in the District.

In the same month, the DC Department of Health HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, and Tuberculosis Administration’s (HAHSTA) released its Annual Report 2010, which included the city’s latest data on HIV/AIDS.

The report confirmed that progress was being made. More people are being tested for HIV earlier in their disease, as average CD4 counts at diagnosis once again increased, and the number of new AIDS cases has declined for the second year in a row. Also, newly-diagnosed HIV-positive individuals are being linked into care soon after their diagnosis (within three months). However the overall prevalence of HIV remained at 3.2 percent, three times the level of an epidemic as defined by the World Health Organization.





Victoria McNamee

My name is Victoria McNamee and I am a long-time volunteer in Whitman-Walker Health's Legal Services Program. I began volunteering in Legal Services' Social Security Disability Clinic in 2005 as a way to give back to the community and to help me further explore my interest in a legal career. From the get-go, I was so impressed by the client service and the compassionate nature of the Whitman-Walker staff. Thanks in no small part to the mentorship provided by the Legal Services staff and to the inspirational experiences I had with WWH clients, I made the decision to go to law school in 2007.

I am now an attorney and I will always be proud to say that my first job as a lawyer was at WWH's Legal Services Program, where I spent a year as a Hogan Lovells' Deferred Associate and volunteer staff attorney. I spent the majority of my year at WWH developing the transgender legal practice, which involved working with the transgender population on a variety of legal needs on a daily basis, including name and gender changes. I also managed to work with hundreds of Whitman-Walker clients on Medicare related issues. I won my very first legal victory at WWH when my client, a transgender woman from Honduras, was granted legal status in this country as an asylee based on her transgender status. She no longer has to fear persecution in Honduras and can live safely as a transgender woman in the United States.

I can't say enough wonderful things about Whitman-Walker Health. I have seen first-hand the good that it has done for countless members of our community. I am particularly inspired by the way in which Whitman-Walker cares for the transgender community in such a compassionate and holistic way. In one building, my transgender clients can get specialized medical care, mental health care, prescriptions, and legal assistance with name and gender changes. Possibly of equal importance is the way in which they are treated at WWH – with dignity and respect, kindness and love. They can get a warm hug or a smile just as easily as a doctor's appointment or prescription. I think that's special and it's something I want to continue to be a part of via volunteer opportunities at WWH.

Photo by: Scott Henriksen

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Victoria McNamee

"I am a long-time WWH Legal Services volunteer and a new primary care patient. I can't say enough good things about Whitman-Walker Health."

As the world enters the fourth decade of living with HIV/AIDS, Whitman-Walker Health remains committed to being a leader in the fight.

LGBT HEALTH CARE

Nearly 40 years after the opening of the Gay Men's VD Clinic and 33 years after our founding as a gay and lesbian health center, Whitman-Walker continues to be a proud provider of high quality and affirming care to the LGBT community.

The LGBT-identified patient base continues to grow. From 2006 to 2011, **the number of patients who identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual increased by 77 percent.** At the same time, **the transgender patient base increased by 185 percent.**

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation named Whitman-Walker as a "Leader in Healthcare Equality" in June. Whitman-Walker's efforts in ensuring health care equality for LGBT patients and WWH employees earned it the distinction of being one of 27 health centers in the nation to meet all applicable criteria.

In September, Whitman-Walker and Mautner Project: the National Lesbian Health Organization introducing a new program for LGBT seniors. People Advocating for LGBT Seniors (PALS) is a free program that connects compassionate, trained volunteer visitors with LGBT elders, 55 and older, who are living at home or in assisted living and nursing facilities. The program also provides companionship and help, when needed, to access community, health, and government services.

2011 was a year of great successes for the LGBT community. Whitman-Walker is proud to continue its mission of service for this community.

Quality

Quality of care indicators for Whitman-Walker patients remained high in 2011, often beating national benchmarks:

- HIV-positive patients on antiretroviral medication: **90 percent**
- HIV-positive patients on antiretroviral medication with a controlled HIV viral load: **80 percent**
- AIDS patients on Pneumocystis pneumonia (PCP) prophylaxis: **100 percent**
- Female patients who have had a pap smear in previous 36 months: **63 percent**
- Diabetic patients with well-controlled cholesterol (LDL ≤ 100): **77 percent**

Many of the indicators Whitman-Walker uses met or exceeded our own goals and, in many cases, exceeded national benchmarks for care. For example, the number of WWH AIDS patients on PCP prophylaxis exceeded the national benchmark by 14 points.





PATIENT PROFILE

Noah Stetzer

“When Noah was diagnosed with HIV, we faced what looked like the end of the road—but step by step Whitman-Walker helped us walk away from the edge and back to our lives.”

Photo by: Scott Henriksen

Noah Stetzer

We hit the emergency room at 8 o’clock on a Sunday morning. I had been struggling to catch my breath since the night before. Chest x-rays showed collapsed lungs and strange markings that could have been either pneumocystis carinii pneumonia or tuberculosis. A rapid HIV test came back positive.

My partner Jeff had to take on the world outside the emergency room. Just as the ground began to slip away from under him, he called his good friend Chip Lewis, who works at Whitman-Walker. Chip pulled Jeff together and so Jeff could hold everything else together.

A few days later, and we’re still at the hospital. A doctor drops a full set of test results onto my hospital bed without explanation. Those test results with CD4 counts and viral load numbers only meant bad news.

Chip got us in touch with Justin Goforth, Director of Medical Adherence at Whitman-Walker. Justin took Jeff’s call on a random Tuesday afternoon, and spent over an hour on the phone. Jeff sat next to my bed, reading each test result line, and Justin slowly explained what each number meant: serious implications but never hopeless. Thirty-six hours later, Justin came to see us at the hospital. He answered all of our questions and mapped out what the road to recovery would look like.

After 30 days in the hospital, I was able to go home. My recuperation was moving steadily but slowly. I wasn’t released back to work. I reached out to Whitman-Walker Legal Services to get some guidance on navigating my job and my future. Jessica Caspe, Senior Staff Attorney, took me through all the steps of what I would need to know and do as my health improved and I could re-enter the workforce.

It was around then that I looked for help facing the emotional implications of all this. In searching out a counselor, I found Lance Morgan, Max Robinson Center Day Treatment Program Director. At the time, his connection to Whitman-Walker seemed just a coincidence. After we started working together, it became obvious to me that I could not have been luckier to have him. Lance’s years of experience uniquely equipped him to help me get back on my feet.

On January 10, 2010, I had 62 t-cells, advanced PCP, collapsed lungs, and a viral load over three million. My partner and I faced what looked like the end of the road—but step by careful step these good people from Whitman-Walker helped us walk away from that car crash and back to our lives.

Recognitions

Whitman-Walker Health and several staff members were recognized in 2011 for outstanding accomplishments.

In April, Whitman-Walker was named “Clinic of the Year” by the Capital City Area Health Education Center (AHEC) based on WW’s multiple roles in training future health care providers, including Whitman-Walker providers mentoring medical students and helping AHEC scholars develop a curriculum to make it easier for health care students to become certified HIV testers and counselors.

The District of Columbia Bar Foundation awarded the Jerrold Scoult Prize to Erin Loubier, director of public benefits & senior managing attorney in May. The Prize is awarded annually to an attorney who has dedicated a significant portion of their career to providing legal services to those in need.

In October, the Medical Society of the District of Columbia presented the John Benjamin Nichols award to Whitman-Walker in recognition of outstanding contributions to improve the health of the community.

Also in October, the Quality Improvement department received the 2011 National Quality Center Award for Performance Measurement. This award honors grantees that have significantly strengthened their ability to measure the quality of HIV care and/or services.

Executive Director Don Blanchon received the “Impact” award from Vistage International, the world’s leading CEO peer advisory membership organization. The annual “Impact” award is given to a “company leader who contributed to the success of others or achieved strong performance that led to extraordinary growth or made a significant impact on his/her company, industry and/or community.”

Chief Medical Officer Dr. Raymond Martins received the 2011 Oscar E. Edwards Volunteerism and Community Service Award from the District of Columbia Chapter of the American College of Physicians (ACP). The award is given to a physician who has voluntarily initiated or been involved in volunteer programs or has provided volunteer service post-training.

Patients at Whitman-Walker no longer need to see us as a health care provider of last resort; they can be confident that we will provide them with high quality care.



ERIN LOUBIER



DON BLANCHON



DR. RAY MARTINS

Photos by: Scott Henriksen

Photos by: Penny Hoelting



2011 Special Events

Private fundraising is vital to the work of Whitman-Walker Health. Almost one-fifth of our annual budget comes from individual donors, corporate sponsors and special events. Much of that funding helps to care for patients who do not have insurance or do not qualify for public assistance.



“Premiere Soiree” spring event

This year’s spring event, the “Premiere Soiree,” was held at the Meridian House and served as the venue for the unveiling of the new “Whitman-Walker Health” name and logo along with WHH’s new website. Hundreds of Whitman-Walker supporters attended for this pivotal moment in Whitman-Walker history.

“Going the Extra Mile”

benefit reception for Legal Services

The annual reception to benefit Whitman-Walker’s Legal Services program was held at the House of Sweden and raised more than \$174,000. The Joel A. Toubin Memorial Award was presented to three distinguished lawyers who are engaging in cutting-edge litigation for the legal rights of same-sex couples:

THEODORE B. OLSON and DAVID BOIES, who obtained a ground-breaking ruling against California’s Proposition 8 and are defending that ruling in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and in the California Supreme Court.

PAUL M. SMITH, who is co-counsel in the ground-breaking case against the federal Defense of Marriage Act and is helping to defend the victory in the District Court.

AIDS Walk Washington

The 25th annual AIDS Walk was held on Oct. 29 at Freedom Plaza. Despite the cold, rain and wind, thousands of walkers and runners turned out to show their support for Whitman-Walker and raised nearly \$1 million. For the first time, AIDS Walk had three presenting sponsors: BOOZ ALLEN HAMILTON, NBC4 and the RADIO ONE family of radio stations. In addition, 22 HIV/AIDS service organizations joined as Community Partners.

This year’s Walk had three Grand Marshals to represent three decades of the HIV/AIDS epidemic: DC COUNCILMEMBER JIM GRAHAM, who was Whitman-Walker’s Executive Director during the first Walk in 1987; JOE IZZO, a

psychotherapist and employee of Whitman-Walker since 1986, who has walked in every AIDS Walk Washington; and MAUDIE JONES, a retired Army nurse who walked in 1987 with her children.

JUSTIN GOFORTH, *Director of Medical Adherence and Community Health*, received the Courage Award, presented annually to a person living with HIV or AIDS who has shown remarkable courage and leadership in the fight against the disease.

AISHA KARIMAH, *Director of Community Affairs at NBC4*, received the Partner for Life Award. NBC4, sponsor of the AIDS Walk since 1987, received the Community Service Award.



WWH also recognized “25 for 25,” 25 individuals who have played prominent roles in the fight against HIV/AIDS in DC:

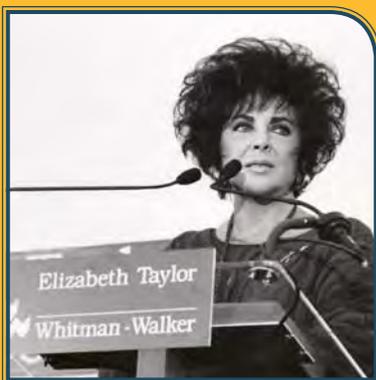
“Today, we want to recognize 25 people who have had a major impact on the fight against HIV/AIDS.”

- **BILL AUSTIN*** – Whitman-Walker’s day treatment program at the Elizabeth Taylor Medical Center bears his name.
- **A. CORNELIUS BAKER** – Cornelius Baker has been a committed HIV/AIDS advocate at the local and national level for nearly two decades, including stints as Executive Director of Whitman-Walker and the National Association of People with AIDS. He currently sits on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.
- **EARLINE BUDD** – Earline Budd is a founding member and former Executive Director of Transgender Health Empowerment, Inc. (THE). She has dedicated her time to helping others, especially in the areas of HIV/AIDS, substance abuse and homelessness.
- **HANK CARDE*** – Freeland Henry “Hank” Carde III was a decorated Navy commander who in retirement became a vocal and outspoken AIDS and gay rights activist. He was a volunteer and full-time employee of Whitman-Walker for several years. He died in 1998.
- **HONORABLE DAVID CATANIA** – A DC City Councilmember for 14 years, David Catania has used his position as Chair of the Council’s Committee on Health to make the HIV/AIDS epidemic a priority of the city government.
- **LOU CHIBBARO** – During his more than 30 years as a reporter for the Washington Blade, Lou Chibbaro has written countless stories on the impact of HIV/AIDS on the local community. He has continued to keep Blade readers up to date on the current state of the epidemic and the government response to it.
- **BARBARA CHINN** – For more than 20 years, Barbara Chinn has done whatever needed to be done to provide support and education to a community gripped by the AIDS epidemic. She served for an extended time at Whitman-Walker and is currently a Program Manager at the AIDS Healthcare Foundation.
- **STEVEN DIXON, MD*** – Dr. Dixon, an OB/GYN by trade, served for many years on the Whitman-Walker board of directors and chaired several AIDS Walks. Dr. Dixon died unexpectedly in 2002.
- **HONORABLE JAY FISETTE** – Jay Fisetto was elected to the Arlington County Board in 1997, becoming the first openly gay elected official in Virginia. Prior to his election, Jay was the first director of Whitman-Walker of Northern Virginia. In both positions, he has worked to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- **TIPPER GORE** – During her time in Washington as the wife of the Vice President, Tipper Gore lent her name and her considerable clout to the fight against HIV/AIDS. She served as honorary chair for the dedication of Whitman-Walker’s Elizabeth Taylor Medical Center and participated in several AIDS Walks during the 1990s.
- **SHANNON HADER, MD** – Dr. Hader is a well-known public health and international development physician with a long-standing commitment to the HIV/AIDS response. She was director of the HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and TB Division of the DC Department of Health, where she helped to focus and improve the city’s response to the epidemic.
- **PATRICIA HAWKINS, PHD** – Pat Hawkins has become a living legend in the DC LGBT community for her decades of activism. She was one of the first responders to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the early 1980s and has spent the last 30 years fighting the epidemic as an activist and a therapist.
- **HENRY MASUR, MD** – Dr. Masur leads the DC Partnership for AIDS Progress, a unique collaboration between NIH and the DC government which aims to create an urban model for decreasing the impact of HIV/AIDS on underserved populations.
- **MIGUEL MEIJA** – Miguel Meija has worked with Whitman-Walker since 1992. He is a certified HIV Counselor and was part of HIV/AIDS service interventions for the Office of Latino Services and Coordinator of street outreach activities (condoms distribution).
- **PATRICIA NALLS** – Patricia Nalls founded The Women’s Collective after several years of living in isolation about her HIV diagnosis. She committed herself to finding, supporting and organizing women with HIV/AIDS. The Women’s Collective offers several integral programs for women and families living with and at risk for HIV/AIDS.
- **HONORABLE ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON** – Now in her 11th term as Congresswoman for the District of Columbia, Eleanor Holmes Norton has been a tireless advocate for local control of and federal resources for the city’s response to its HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- **CARL SCHMID** – The deputy executive director of The AIDS Institute is at every government meeting to which the public is invited, and many the public is not. He stands tirelessly for the rights of people with HIV and fought to get more funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.
- **SUNNYE SHERMAN*** – As one of the first women in the U.S. to publicly reveal her HIV status, Sunnye Sherman helped to break down stereotypes about who was at risk for HIV/AIDS. She died in 1986.
- **RON SIMMONS** – His leadership of Us Helping Us, People Into Living is one of Dr. Ron Simmons’ greatest contributions to the local gay community. The organizational strength and fundraising ability that Simmons brought to Us Helping Us enabled it to become the first independent Black AIDS group to own its own premises.
- **WALTER SMITH** – Walter Smith is currently the Executive Director of the DC Appleseed Center, a nonprofit public interest organization addressing issues facing the National Capital area. Under his direction, the organization is currently involved in fourteen projects, one of which is evaluating the city’s response to HIV/AIDS and recommending improvements.
- **ADAM TENNER** – Adam Tenner, executive director of Metro TeenAIDS since 2001, has spent over 20 years working to improve the lives of youth. Adam helped to turn MTA into a thriving organization with a staff of more than 50 adults and 50 youth peer educators, and an annual budget of more than \$3 million.
- **DOUG WARD, MD** – Dr. Ward has spent his entire professional career with the Dupont Circle Physicians Group, a private practice where he specializes in the treatment of HIV/AIDS. He is also an investigator with the Washington Regional AIDS Consortium and HIV Outpatient Study, a CDC sponsored national observational database.
- **CHANNING WICKHAM** – Since 1994, Channing has overseen all aspects of the Washington AIDS Partnership, including fundraising, grantmaking, program planning and technical assistance. His work has proved invaluable to HIV/AIDS service organizations across the city.
- **REVEREND DR. CHRISTINE WILEY** – The Reverend Dr. Christine Y. Wiley serves with her husband, Dr. Dennis W. Wiley, at the Covenant Baptist Church. She and her husband have made DC’s HIV/AIDS epidemic a major discussion point and call to action for Covenant Baptist.
- **PATRICIA WUDEL** – Patricia Wudel started volunteering for Joseph’s House in the early 1990s, often being on-call overnight while working elsewhere fulltime during the day. She has served as Executive Director for Joseph’s House since 1998, and is responsible for overseeing the work while steering its mission.

**Deceased*

“These people, many of whom are no longer with us, helped to bring us from a time of despair to a time of hope.”

~WWH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DON BLANCHON, AIDS WALK,
OCT. 27, 2011



IN MEMORIAM
*Elizabeth
Taylor
&
Frank
Kameny*

In Memoriam

2011 saw the passing of two revolutionary figures in the fight against HIV/AIDS and in the LGBT community.

ELIZABETH TAYLOR was the first major Hollywood star to take up the cause of HIV/AIDS. For a quarter of a century, she used her status as a household name to not only raise money and awareness of the epidemic, but to change attitudes and open minds. Her work played a crucial role in turning the fear and ignorance around HIV/AIDS into compassion and understanding.

FRANK KAMENY was one of the first genuine leaders of the LGBT civil rights movement. Frank took up the fight for equality at a time when gay people were considered mentally ill and undesirable. His work helped to create the modern LGBT community and make it a force for political and social change. Much of the LGBT civil rights movement successes came from the movement he began.

We will miss their energy and their dedication. And we will ensure that their work continues.

2011 Board of Directors

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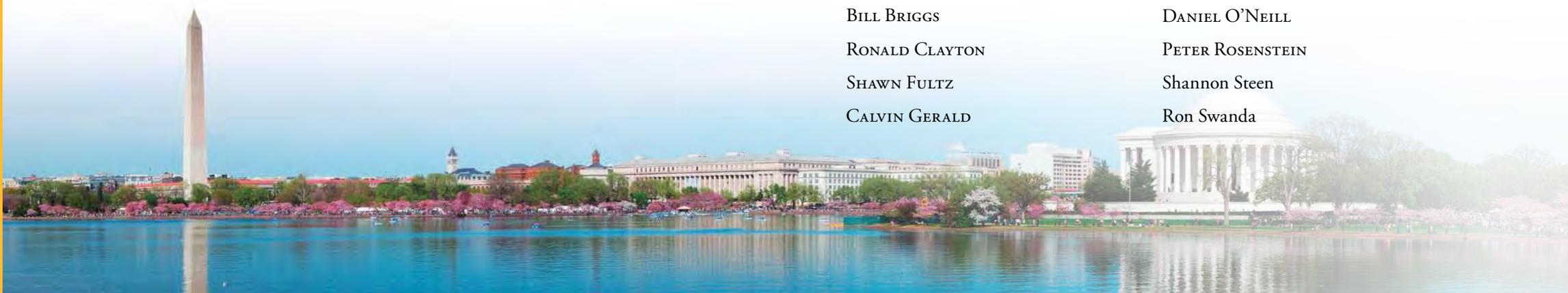
PETER ROSENSTEIN

Shannon Steen

Ron Swanda

“To Whitman-Walker Health: our storied past, our present role and our bright future. May the next 33 years be as compassionate, as heartfelt and as successful as the first 33 years!”

~ WWH BOARD CHAIR DAVID MESSING, PREMIERE SOIREE, APRIL 27, 2011





PROGRAM PROFILE

Legal Services

“I never thought I would need assistance of this kind – that said, I was treated with such dignity and respect. I’m very hopeful now.”

– WWH LEGAL SERVICES CLIENT

Legal Services

In 2011, the Legal Services Program celebrated 25 years of service to the community. What began in 1986 as a service to help people dying of AIDS put their legal affairs in order has grown into a thriving program that provides a wide range of legal assistance to people living with HIV and to the LGBT community.

Throughout its existence, Whitman-Walker Legal Services has helped many thousands of persons living with HIV/AIDS in the Washington, DC metropolitan area to enforce their rights in the workplace; obtain access to health care; protect their medical privacy; obtain disability income; navigate U.S. immigration laws; and safeguard their own and their families’ futures.

Long recognized as a national and international model, the Legal Services Program was recognized in 2004 as a “Human Rights Hero” by the American Bar Association’s Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities.

In recent years, Whitman-Walker Legal Services has expanded to offer counsel and representation to medical and mental health patients of the health center regardless of HIV status. The program also helps lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals combat discrimination; access health care; obtain immigration relief if faced with persecution in their countries of origin; and protect themselves and their families with wills, advance health care directives and other planning documents. Whitman-Walker Legal Services also helps transgender women and men with name changes and gender changes in identity documents and other legal records.

