



2013 Was GREAT For GAAP

We are thrilled with GAAP's growth over the past year. In 2013, we saw our TREE client population double from the prior year of 2012. TREE is a very costly program that we administer as we supply our clients with a full complement of toiletry and household items that are needed for the month. As you are aware, we provide these items to our clients at no cost to them.

There was discussion at one of our board meetings last year on the idea of reducing the complement of items offered in order to sustain our growth. Overwhelmingly, our Board of Directors stood by the position of not reducing the complement of items and to make strong efforts to increase our donor base (individuals, area churches, student groups and businesses). We were successful in sustaining the increased TREE client population without reducing services or products.

As a general rule, we do not point out specific individuals who support our program, but I can mention that a few donors provided us with very large scale donations last year, including a legacy donation from a long-time friend of GAAP who remembered us in his final wishes.

Trinity Metropolitan Community Church, Spirit of Truth Church, Trinity United Methodist Church, Walgreens Stores, Chroniscript—a Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy, Jackson-Hewitt Tax Service, Five Star Pizza, Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Pride Community Center of North Central Florida, Gainesville Harvest Food Bank, Buccholz High School Gay/Straight Alliance, Walmart, Publix, Target, UF student groups and Satchell's Pizza were some of the generous donors to GAAP.

GAAP Board

- Tige Harrison, President
- Abby Goldsmith, Secretary
- Terry Fleming, Treasurer
- Sidney Curtis
- Leslie Howell
- Kim Howland
- Robert Jenkins
- Chaz Fiumara

TREE Coordinator Robert Jenkins
Newsletter Editor Tige Harrison

Calendar of Events

Lunch

Tuesdays

10:30 am — 1:00 pm

Lunch is served at noon

Food Distribution

Tuesdays—1230pm

Fridays—230pm

3rd Saturday of month—9am-11am

“Fried Chicken Friday” Dinner

Last Friday of each month

5:30pm—7:30pm

Dinner is served at 6pm

TREE Distribution

Tuesdays 11:00am—1:00pm

3rd Saturday of month—9am-11am

Last Friday of month 6pm-7pm

Board Meetings

Third Tuesday of each month

1:30 pm—3:00pm

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 5554
Gainesville, FL 32627

Physical Address:

3131 NW 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32609

Phone:

352-373-4227

Email:

info@gaaponline.org

Website:

www.gaaponline.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/GAAPonline

DONATIONS

Donations may be made by
PayPal.

Visit our website for the link.

www.gaaponline.org

OR

Mail your donation to:

PO Box 5554

Gainesville, FL 32627

GAAP's 1st Annual Reception in Honor of World AIDS Day Was A Huge Success

by Tige Harrison

GAAP's Reception in Honor of World AIDS Day was held on December 8th. It was our first, of what we hope to be many, annual 'signature' event.

I was so happy with the overwhelming support we received. We sold slightly above 80 tickets, including a great number of scholarship tickets which allowed many of our clients to attend this special event.

I wish to give special recognition to Well Florida Council, which provided a great deal of support to our event. Upon hearing of our plans for this event, Well Florida Council immediately indicated they would be supporting our event. They have long understood the need for our service and the staff of Well Florida Council made a strong showing of support at our event.

Generous private donors, Well Florida Council, Five Star Pizza, Primary Care of Gainesville—Dr. Ernesto Lamadrid, Yippikya Family Trading, UF LGBT Affairs and Halcyon Hammock Thoroughbreds made this event the success it was in addition to the strong team of volunteers.

Of course, thank you to Leonardo's 706 for providing amazing food and superb wait and bar staff.

Harald Messer also deserves accolades for the idea of this event. Harald started planning this event in 2012 and he worked on many facets of it, including initial concept, advertising, meal arrangements and physical labor. Many thanks to Harald for his involvement and hard work! We look forward to his continued participation of our 2014 event.

GAAP's 2nd Annual Easter Party Sponsored (Again) by Jackson-Hewitt Tax Service

For the second year in a row, Jackson Hewitt Tax Service has made it possible for GAAP to provide an Easter party for the children of GAAP clients. As you see pictured below, Jackson Hewitt generously provided Easter baskets for all the children.



Located inside Walmart Super Center
1800 NE 12th Avenue, Gainesville
(352) 376-2080

Let's Talk About It - Peer Advocacy Program ***"As peers, we won't walk for you, but we will walk with you."***

The impact of HIV/AIDS is one that has been profoundly felt across the globe. A group of women in North Central Florida is making a positive difference in their communities by taking action to so that the voices and experiences of women affected by HIV are being heard.

The diverse group of women who participate in the *Let's Talk About It* (LTAI) program have developed testimonial materials, participated in community presentations and designed educational exhibits to create awareness about HIV. The peer advocacy program, designed for women living with HIV or caring for someone living with HIV, meets regularly for members to support, encourage and empower each other while also advocating for themselves and their peers.

The newest LTAI advocacy tool to encourage and inspire women living with HIV is the *Let's Talk About It* Blog. Some of the discussions on the blog include communicating with providers, support, healthy living and caregiving.



"As a positive woman, I want to encourage you to understand that knowledge is power!

...We have so much knowledge to share with others about HIV and living with HIV. **You just need to use your voice!"**

~Excerpt from the LTAI Blog

Check it out - *Let's Talk About It* Blog:
www.letstalkaboutitblog.rwhp.org

Do you know a woman living with HIV, or a female caregiver?

Invite them to learn more about Let's Talk About It!

For more information, contact us at:

Phone: 352-372-1095 Email: letstalk@rwhp.org

Website: rwhp.org/letstalk.html

Let's Talk About It is a program of the:  Rural Women's Health Project

Please Consider GAAP Over The Upcoming Summer Months

by Tige Harrison

Not a day goes by that GAAP's Board of Directors doesn't feel blessed by the overwhelming support we receive. I recognize that I am repeating myself, but I am so happy that we have sustained our growth without cutting back on client services.

When UF is in its regular, non-summer sessions we receive a great deal of student support in the form of toiletry drives and volunteer cooks. During the summer months, GAAP experiences a significant decline in donations.

Spirit of Truth Church recognizes our need during the summer months, which is why they hold their annual TREE drive during this period. Spirit of Truth Church has committed to continuing this drive for the summer of 2014.

We at GAAP would love for you to keep us in mind over the coming months for any possible help or additional help you may be able to provide.

How GAAP Has Helped Me

by Anonymous GAAP Client

When I first began to come to GAAP events, I went solely as a client with no thought or concern for helping others. 20 years later, GAAP has taught me the joy of living with HIV as well as the great joy I now get from helping others as a volunteer. "Go GAAP."

Five Star Pizza Continues to Support GAAP

Five Star Pizza has been very supportive of GAAP over the years. Late last year, Five Star Pizza sponsored our 1st Annual Reception in Honor of World AIDS Day. Most recently, Five Star Pizza provided all of the food for GAAP's "Children of GAAP" Easter Party and Egg Hunt. We appreciate their strong support!



Please support those who support us!

Garage/Yard Sale Donations

Twice a year GAAP holds a fundraiser garage/yard sale. If you have items that you wish to donate to our sale, please email us at info@gaaponline.org or leave a message at (352) 373-4227. We will happily make arrangements to pick up your donations.

Thank You TREE Donors

GAAP wishes to thank Buchholz High School Gay/Straight Alliance, Black AIDS Services and Education (BASE), Let's Talk About It, St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Terry Klenk from Santa Fe College and UF LGBT Affairs for their recent TREE collection drives.

TREE Growth 2013 to 2014

by Robert Jenkins

The TREE program continues to grow from 108 packages distributed in the first quarter of 2013 to 180 packages in the first quarter of 2014. The community has supported this growth with both money and in-kind donations. During this time period we have also been able to add feminine hygiene items to our package as a regular inclusion. In the past feminine hygiene items were included only as available. The Board of Directors is currently reviewing the possible inclusion of other needed items to our package.

TREE is one of our vital programs that provides laundry detergent, bleach, toilet paper, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, bar soap, tooth brushes, dish soap and household cleaners to our clients on a monthly basis at no cost to our clients.

Two Sites are Available for Donation Drop-Off:



Quality Cleaners
Next to Fresh Market
4116 NW 16th Blvd
Mon-Fri, 7:30am-7pm
Saturday 9am-4pm



Pride Center
(Liberty Center complex)
3131 NW 13 Street
Mon-Fri, 3pm-7pm
Saturday 12pm-4pm

*****Will you please swing by one of these locations next time you're in the area and drop off an item or two for our TREE program?*****

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state. CH27032