



AIDS LEGAL COUNCIL of CHICAGO

Preserving, Promoting and Protecting the Rights of People with HIV

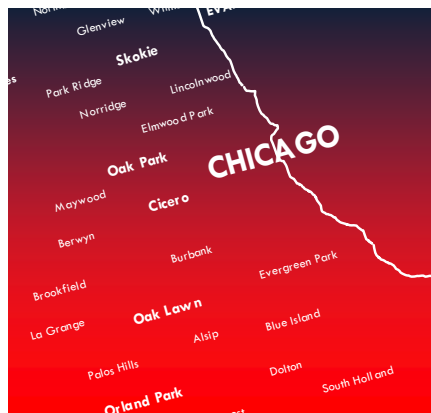
ANNUAL REPORT 2011



AIDS LEGAL COUNCIL of CHICAGO

Preserving, Promoting and Protecting the Rights of People with HIV

The AIDS Legal Council of Chicago exists to preserve, promote and protect the legal rights of men, women and children in the metropolitan Chicago area living with HIV/AIDS. The Council provides direct legal services to people in need; educates consumers, service providers and the public about HIV-related legal issues; and advocates for social policies that ensure fair treatment of all people affected by HIV.



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

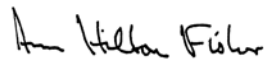
The 2011 Fiscal Year might have been a period of difficult challenges for ALCC, but instead it became a year of quiet victories. Like so many other small not-for-profits, we began our fiscal year facing the prospect of a sizable budget deficit due to continued weakness in the economy. Instead, thanks to the strong support of donors and foundation partners who make ALCC's mission a priority, those deficits never materialized, leaving us in a stronger position today than at any point in our past.

On the outreach front, 2011 was a busy and fruitful year. Our staff conducted 109 legal trainings for consumers and providers, an increase of more than 20% over FY'10. ALCC also continued its role as a leading advocate for people with HIV, particularly in this period of transition for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program and Illinois Cares Rx, programs that many of our clients depend on. With the State now requiring suburban Medicaid recipients to enroll in managed care plans (more on this in the section on advocacy), ALCC is once again on the forefront of the issue, learning what those changes mean for people with HIV and working to make sure those changes are implemented in a way that won't disrupt clients' access to medical care. Our joint efforts with the Woodstock Institute brought us another notable victory this year as a major bank agreed to drop nationwide fees that were unfairly

hurting people who receive benefit checks directly into their checking accounts, including many people with HIV and other disabilities. Thanks to this joint effort, thousands of low-income people across the nation will owe millions less in bank fees, including many people with HIV who live in Illinois.

Overall, our case numbers declined slightly last year, but as I write this, three months into the 2012 fiscal year, we are already seeing demand pick up, particularly from individuals who need help with public benefits issues. These cases, among the most difficult and time-consuming that we handle, are quickly approaching 50% of our caseload, serving as a stark reminder that stability for those who are sickest and most vulnerable is as elusive and tenuous as ever.

I invite you to read our report and contact me if you'd like to learn how you can help ALCC. Thank you for your support and for believing in our work. It truly makes a world of difference for us and our clients.



Ann Hilton Fisher, Esq.
Executive Director

DIRECT SERVICES

The decline in demand for services that we observed in 2010 came to a halt during the second half of FY'11. Although ALCC saw fewer clients and opened fewer cases overall, the second half of the fiscal year proved to be remarkably strong, with 809 intakes between January and June. More recent numbers are suggesting that the trend is continuing and FY'12 could be among our busiest on record.

What stands out in these numbers is a significant increase in demand for help with public benefits — a sign that both continuing weakness in the economy and cost-cutting measures at the government level are driving the need for legal help in this area. Until very recently, public benefits cases represented about 37% of our annual caseload. By the end of FY'11, that figure had risen to 46% and in just the first ten weeks of the current year, it has already climbed to 51%. One example of what could be driving the demand: changes in Medicaid that are being introduced in Illinois. Under the new plan, 40,000 suburban seniors and disabled residents are being pushed into

two managed care plans, neither of which has an adequate number of HIV specialists, clinics or hospitals to support the large population of people with HIV who are being affected by the change. ALCC staff is busy on various fronts, working with clients to identify favorable plans for their needs and working closely with the plans to enroll more hospitals and providers, and to simplify the process for patients to find the care they need.

With the exception of public benefits, ALCC has seen little movement in other areas of legal assistance. Immigration cases continue to decline, the result of changes in federal policy that now allow for eligible immigrants with HIV to adjust their status without having to apply for an HIV waiver. Estate planning (including wills, powers of attorney and cremation authorizations) continue to be the second most-requested type of legal assistance that we provide, followed by insurance issues, confidentiality and employment. Last year, ALCC helped 856 clients with a total of 1,508 legal problems.

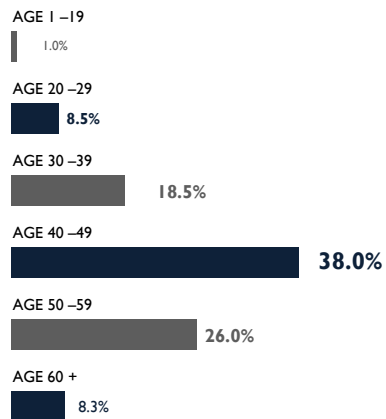
PUBLIC BENEFITS	46%
ESTATE PLANNING	13%
INSURANCE	8%
CONFIDENTIALITY	5.8%
IMMIGRATION / EMPLOYMENT	5.5% (each)
DEBTOR / CREDITOR	5.4%
DISCRIMINATION	3.7%
OTHER	6.7%

AFRICAN AMERICAN	45%
WHITE	29%
LATINO	23%
OTHER	2%

MALE	76%
FEMALE	23%
TRANSGENDERED	1%

MSM <i>Men who have sex with men</i>	56%
HETEROSEXUAL	37%
OTHER / UNKNOWN	7%

UNINSURED	38%
NO INCOME	32%



OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Educating the public about the legal rights of people with HIV is central to the Council's mission. For this reason, we partner annually with dozens of organizations across the state and deliver critical information about HIV and the law to hundreds of consumers, case managers, students, service providers and professionals in a variety of fields.

Between July 2010 and June 2011, ALCC staff delivered **109** trainings reaching **1,412** individuals, an increase of 21% over last year. As usual, clients and providers were most interested in learning about public benefits and confidentiality, with each making up more than 20% of our training calendar. These were followed by estate planning (17%) and employment (8%). One of the Council's objectives last year was to expand our outreach to include more providers whose primary focus is not in HIV care. This is a priority because we understand that people with HIV often receive a wide range of services from non-HIV specific providers. In fact, one of our most successful partnerships in this effort has been with Access Community Health Network

which serves more than 200,000 individuals in more than 50 community clinics throughout the metropolitan area. Another new partner is Thresholds which provides services to people with severe mental health problems. Our latest figures demonstrate that more than 40% of our clients report mental health issues at the moment of intake.

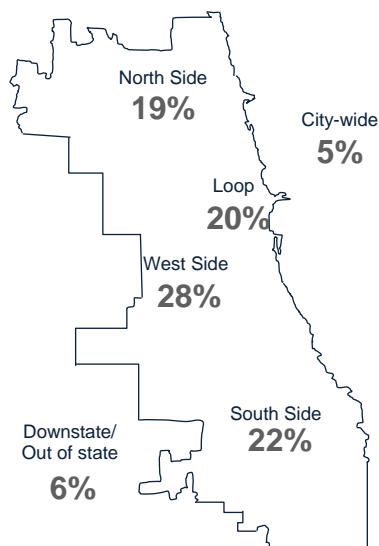
All trainings are scheduled by our Community Outreach Coordinator, Mary Hankey, and delivered by staff at no charge (in English or in Spanish) to groups throughout the entire metropolitan area. ALCC also publishes a comprehensive set of legal guides (available in English and Spanish) that present concise information on HIV and the law in a way that can be easily understood by clients and their providers. We currently have ten different titles on issues ranging from discrimination and estate planning to employment and HIV-related legal problems for adolescents. These are available at the ALCC office, as well as online at www.aidslegal.com.

ALCC Training Partners

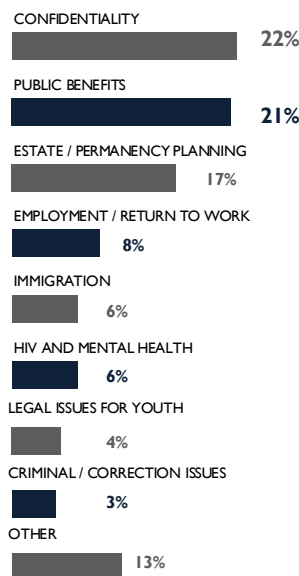
July 2010—June 2011

Access Community Health Network
 AIDS Foundation of Chicago
 Austin Health Center
 Bonaventure House
 Broadway Youth Center
 CAN-TV
 Casa Contreras
 Chicago Bar Association
 Centro Romero
 Chicago House
 Center on Halsted
 Children's Place Association
 Cook County Jail
 CORE Center
 Chicago Women's AIDS Project
 DePaul University
 Disability Rights Consortium
 Family and Children's AIDS Network
 Haymarket Center
 House of James
 Howard Area Community Center
 Howard Brown Health Center
 Human Resources Development Institute
 Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
 International Association of HIV Physicians
 Jackson Park Hospital
 Jane Addams School of Social Work
 Lawndale Christian Health Center
 Mt. Sinai Hospital
 Northwestern Hospital
 Open Door Clinic
 Options for Youth
 Pediatric AIDS Chicago Prevention Initiative
 South Side Help Center
 St. Clair Health Department
 Statewide Illinois Latino HIV/AIDS Network
 Stroger Hospital
 Thresholds
 Test Positive Aware Network
 University of Chicago's Children's Hospital
 University of Illinois at Chicago
 Universal Family Connections
 Veteran's Admin Hospital
 Vital Bridges

ALCC Trainings in the Metropolitan Area



ALCC Trainings July 1, 2010 — June 30, 2011



ADVOCACY

In an era of high medical costs and state fiscal crises, it is unfortunately all but inevitable that state legislators will look to cut back on medical programs that serve the poor. In the last legislative session, three programs relied on by low income people with HIV were targets. Income limits were reduced for both Illinois Cares Rx, which provides relief from high Medicare co-pays for seniors and people with disabilities, and for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, which provides medication to those without access to other sources of payment. Our expertise on these programs, and the recent changes, allows us to be a state-wide resource for individuals with HIV and their service providers.

The poorest and sickest of Illinois residents with HIV are dependent on Medicaid. In March, Illinois began a pilot project that is pushing 40,000 elderly and disabled Medicaid recipients into one of two managed care plans. Even though hospitals and providers were slow to sign up, with many important HIV providers still unavailable through either plan, mandatory enrollment has gone forward.

ALCC has worked aggressively with clients, case managers, providers and the plans themselves to ensure that the needs of people with HIV are met during this period. As a result of our advocacy, a number of critical HIV providers have joined the plans, the plans have agreed to allow individual case agreements without restrictions, and at least one of the plans has agreed to designate HIV as a specialty and allow specialists to also be primary care providers for their patients. We have also advocated on behalf of individual patients, including a young man with HIV, hemophilia and brain damage, whose clotting factor could be infused only by one specific nurse. As a result of our advocacy, the managed care plan hired the nurse just so that our patient could continue to receive his clotting factor.

On another front, ALCC partnered with other consumer and disability rights advocates this year to convince Chase Bank to lift a \$12 monthly fee on basic checking account customers with direct deposits of at least \$500 per month in aggregate from Social Security payments.

The issue arose when one of our clients contacted us after his account was charged \$12 per month because he didn't have a single direct deposit of at least \$500 into his checking account, even though he receives two disability payments from the Social Security Administration that total over \$500 in aggregate. When the 47-year-old customer asked local bank staff to waive the fee, a bank employee suggested that the client have Social Security "send both checks together," which is not feasible.

ALCC partnered with the Woodstock Institute to raise the fee issue with Chase Bank, which at the time was undergoing its periodic examination of fair lending practices as required by the federal Community Reinvestment Act (CRA). After the issue was raised with Chase and its federal banking regulator, ALCC, our client and Woodstock staff met with Chase in Chicago where we explained that hundreds of thousands of disability benefit recipients often receive multiple checks of less than \$500 at a time, resulting in repeated fees.

On May 13, Chase announced that it had agreed to change its policy so that customers with direct deposit of Social Security payments totaling at least \$500 per month in aggregate would qualify for the fee waiver. ALCC and Woodstock Institute thanked Chase Bank for making the policy change decision quickly—a decision that will affect tens of thousands of customers with disabilities all over the country and save them millions of dollars every year. In July, Chase Bank additionally announced that it was waiving fees for all its bank customers with direct deposits totaling more than \$500 per month. This added change will provide needed relief to many low-income individuals throughout the country.

OUR CLIENTS

Behind all the numbers and the trends are the very real lives of our clients, and the stories that brought them to ALCC for help. Here are just a few of the many people we were able to assist this year:

DANIEL

Daniel was a long-time client of ALCC who passed away last year. He had worked with various staff members over the years on a variety of public benefits issues and had received help from the Council to settle an employee discrimination suit.

When Daniel called us for the last time, it was clear that his health had deteriorated significantly. He was in the hospital and he wanted our help to establish a power of attorney. We visited him in his hospital room and we were able to execute a power of attorney for health care, for property as well as a will. Since his niece was not present at the moment, he asked if we might return when she was available so that we could answer any questions she might have about the documents before he passed away. We were

more than happy to comply and made sure she could get answers to all of her questions.

CARLOS

Carlos worked for a small liquor store on the southwest side of Chicago until his employer found out his HIV status. He was fired the same day, after his employer told him “if our customers find out, it will be bad for business.” By the time he came to us, Carlos had already filed a complaint *pro se* discrimination case in federal court and was facing a tight deadline to complete discovery. ALCC sought *pro bono* help to represent Carlos. Gregory Andrews of Dykema (now at Jackson Lewis) answered the call, filed a federal court appearance, and within a few months secured a cash settlement for Carlos.

JESSICA

Jessica is 30 years old, but she cannot lift her arms, even to wash her hair. After suffering a severe injury in a car accident, Jessica was left unable to drive, cook or even lift a plate. She valiantly continued working for seven years as

as a help desk agent for an airline, but eventually the pain, the migraines, the short-term memory loss and other conditions including HIV and Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome made it impossible for her to continue. Fearful of losing everything, including her insurance and her apartment, she came to ALCC, looking for help.

Surprisingly, her application for Social Security benefits was denied twice on the grounds that she was still able to perform her work, but ALCC intervened and was able to obtain Social Security Disability and Medicare benefits for her. As a result, not only is she able to stay in her apartment, but Jessica receives \$1,100 each month to cover her expenses and still have coverage for her medical care.

CHUCK

Chuck came to us last year because he was having trouble getting his medications for HIV and schizophrenia. Chuck is one of many people with HIV who has been diagnosed with mental health issues. In fact, more than 40% of ALCC clients report some form of mental health problem when they come to us for help.

Chuck had been a client of ALCC in the past, but his mental health issue often meant that he would disappear for long stretches and be lost to follow-up. When

he did reappear last year, we learned that he had been placed in a Medicare HMO that was not a feasible option for someone of Chuck's limited income. ALCC staff immediately got to work to get him out of that plan and into another one that would better suit his medical and financial needs. Now Chuck is covered by Medicare Part D and Illinois Cares Rx and has no difficulty or interruptions receiving his medications.

GREG

Greg suffers from glaucoma and has been legally blind for more than 20 years. Thanks to his long-term private insurance policy, Greg had been able to access medical care, but when he finally turned 65, he suddenly realized that his long-term disability insurance was expiring, leaving him without access to the medical care he needed for his glaucoma, heart condition, HIV and severe anxiety.

Greg came to ALCC and explained his problem to paralegal Kate Miller who helped him arrange alternate medical coverage through Medicare and then, within two weeks, helped to resolve some additional problems so that he could continue to get his prescription medications in the future. Greg was approved for both Medicaid and Medicare and now has minimal costs for any of his medicines.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act, Part A & B
Illinois Department of Public Health

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

\$60,000 OR GREATER

Family & Children's AIDS Network

\$40,000—\$49,999

Polk Bros. Foundation

\$30,000—\$39,999

Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois

\$20,000—\$29,999

Chicago Bar Foundation

\$10,000—\$19,999

Public Interest Law Initiative
Louis & Nellie Sieg Foundation

\$5,000—\$9,999

AIDS Foundation of Chicago

\$1,000—\$4,999

Braeside Foundation
DIFFA / Chicago
Frank & Gertrude Dunlap Foundation
Hamill Family Foundation
Season of Concern
Lawyers for Diversity
Chicago Pride League

CORPORATE SUPPORT

\$15,000 +

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

\$10,000- \$14,999

Sidley Austin LLP

\$5,000—\$9,999

Winston & Strawn LLP
McDermott Will & Emery LLP
Anonymous

\$2,500—\$4,999

Jenner & Block LLP
Schiff Hardin LLP
DLA Piper LLP
Mayer Brown LLP
Marshall Gerstein & Borun LLP

\$1,000—\$2,499

Reed Smith LLP
Wintersteen & Dunning

MEDIA SPONSORS

Windy City Times

EVENT SUPPORT

Kimpton Hotels

Orbitz

About Face Theatre
Allen J. Grant and Associates
Ambassador East Hotel
The Annoyance Theatre & Bar
Arbre Nail Spa
Art + Science Salon
Banana Republic
Bikram Yoga Andersonville
Brazil in Chicago
Café Selmarie
Chicago Architecture Foundation
Chicago Athletic Clubs
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago Dramatists
Collar & Leash
Crew Bar + Grill
DLA Piper
Dr. Memar Dermatology
Faces for Radio
Fitness Formula Clubs
Free Nation of Beauty
Gino's East

Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago
Goodman Theatre
Goorin Bros. Hatmakers
Halsted's Bar + Grill
HERO Fitness
House of Glunz
Hub 51
Hydrate
Instituto Cervantes
Italidea
Japan America Society of Chicago
Joffrey Ballet
Justin Hayford
Lakeside Inn
Madeleine Donovan Interiors
The Menz Room
Merz Apothecary
Metropolis Coffee
Multilingual Chicago
Namaskar Yoga
O'Brien's Restaurant
Old Town Oil
Paciugo
Pastoral
Peapod
Pizza D.O.C.
Reckless Records
Reeling Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Restoration Salon
River North Chicago
Rosebud Restaurants
Scarlet
Shen Shen Health & Harmony
The Spice House
Steppenwolf Theatre
Swissôtel Chicago
Unabridged Bookstore
White Ginger
Windy City Rollers
WTTW I/Chicago
XSport Fitness
Zanies Comedy Nite Club

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

\$5,000 +

T. Smith
& Eva Janzen Powell
Christopher Dickinson
Todd Nelsen

\$2,500—\$4,999

Anonymous
Thomas Dunn
Ann & Bill Fisher
Ed Jeske
& John Hern*
Glen Kaun
Jeffrey Watts

\$1,000—\$2,499

Toby Bishop
Eric Braverman
Diana Chafey
Steven Coursey
Daniel Coyne
Katrina Crafton
Jordan Heinz
D. Matthew Feldhaus
Chris & Linella Gavin
Jerry Glover
Jean Langie
Michael Leppen
Steven Levin
James Perry
& Robert Horton
Elisier Quintana
Nabeela Rasheed
Benjamin Rosemergy
William Sineni
Michael Sullivan
Randall Ward
Richard Wilson
& Sam Burckhardt
Charles Wintersteen
Sue Fisher Yellen
Chad Zawitz

\$500—\$999

Jody Adler
Karen & Kimball Anderson
Geoffrey Anderson
Glenn Arakaki
Colleen & Carl Boraca
Alan Boudreau

Ricardo Cifuentes
Eric Christoff
Jeffrey DeJong
Philip Hannema
Todd Harding
Robert Harris
Brett Johnson
Emile Karafiol
Daniel Lange
Joshua & Jennifer Lee
Martin Malin
Ronald Marmer
David Munar
Daniel Robinson
Pamela Rodriguez
Robert Saqueton
Beverly Sha
Melanie Sikorski
Andrew Skiba
Todd Solomon

\$250—\$499

David Altman
Bryan Anderson
Jim Bennett
William Bergfalk
Bernard Bradshaw
Anthony Bruck
Donald Budzinski
& Ron Sangthong
Keith Burson
Victoria Carmona
Bernard Cherkasov
& Danny Cohen
Mardge Cohen
Jeffrey Colman
Larry Danzinger
Howard Eglit
Brian Fliflet
Mike Fisher
Nancy Gerrie & Richard Bowen
Vincent Getzendanner, Jr.
Andrew Greene
Stuart Graff
Susan & Michael Hankey
Jacquelyn Haynes
Doressia Hutton
Richard Ingram
Reena Jashnani
Christopher Lane
Robert LoPrete
Jeffrey Margulis

Sarah Marmor
Kevin McGirr
Michael McRaith
Swarup Mehta
Bradley Mickelson
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Craig Nadborne
Nathan Nally & Byron Flitsch
Christine Naper
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Tom Yates
Members of Balsa and
OUTLAW from the University of
Chicago Law School

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Lilia Arroyo-Flores
Eduardo Bono
Henry Chang
Kevin Johnson
Martin Serra
Luis Sierra

**Top fundraisers for ALCC's Legal
Beagles AIDS Run Walk team.*



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets
Year Ended June 30, 2011

Revenues & Other Support

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Public Support			
Grants from Government Agencies	\$ 538,999		538,999
Grants and Contributions	218,021	121,000	339,021
In-Kind Professional Services	159,308		159,308
Net assets released from restriction	81,000	(81,000)	
Cy Pres distributions	2,257		2,257
Special events			
Gross Proceeds	57,815		57,815
Direct Expenses	(27,825)		(27,825)
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT	1,029,575	40,000	1,069,575
Other Revenue			
Program services fees	26,244		26,244
Investment Income	3,866		3,866
TOTAL REVENUE	1,059,685	40,000	1,099,685
Expenses			
Program Services	\$ 872,934		872,934
Management and General	65,574		65,574
Fundraising	102,053		102,053
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,040,561		1,040,561
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	19,124		59,124
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,029,203	81,000	1,110,203
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	1,048,327	121,000	1,169,327



FUNDING & ADMINISTRATION

AIDS Legal Council of Chicago spends approximately 84¢ of every dollar on program services. Half of ALCC's revenues comes from government contracts, 12% comes from individual gifts/special events and the remainder comes from a mix of foundations, corporate/law firm donors and miscellaneous sources.

Expenses by Category

PROGRAM SERVICES	84%	\$872,934
FUNDRAISING	10%	\$65,574
ADMINISTRATION	6%	\$102,053
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$1,040,561

Revenues by Category

RYAN WHITE PART A	33.8%	\$358,755
VOUCHERED SERVICE GRANTS	17%	\$180,244
FOUNDATIONS	13.8%	\$146,750
INDIVIDUALS / EVENTS	11.6%	\$122,710
CY PRES AWARDS	0.2%	\$2,257
LAW FIRMS / CORPORATIONS	5.6%	\$59,550
MISCELLANEOUS	2.8%	\$30,110
IN-KIND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	15%	\$159,308
TOTAL REVENUES		\$1,059,684

ALCC STAFF

LEGAL STAFF

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PARALEGAL
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