

Dear Friends of AIDS Outreach Center:

We are pleased to present the 2008 AIDS Outreach Center Annual Report. This annual publication is an attempt to highlight the many vital programs we deliver to the greater Fort Worth/Tarrant County Community and to acknowledge the tremendous support we receive in support of our mission, both locally and nationally. Since our founding in 1986 as an all volunteer agency, we have worked diligently to provide compassionate support and care to those touched by the AIDS epidemic.

We are very proud of the progress and many achievements that have been made over the past 23 years and hope the communities we serve take comfort knowing that AIDS Outreach Center has been here for you and pledge we will be here as long as there is a need. It is amazing to think back on our history and recount all that has happened in the last two decades. We have gone from being an agency comforting and helping those dealing with end of life issues to helping so many live longer, more active, and productive lives through a variety of social service and medical care programs.

It is sad to note but inevitable that services may change and evolve, funding will come and go from various sources, and staff members move on. But when the volunteers of this organization created the Fort Worth Counseling Center back in 1986, they built a solid foundation that has served as a cornerstone and has led the way for future generations at AIDS Outreach Center. Staff members, volunteers, clients, public and private funding agencies and community partners — together these individuals and groups have all offered their unyielding support to make AOC the leading AIDS service organization in our service area.

With the help of individuals performing and receiving small tips nightly in bars across Fort Worth, to countless volunteers - young and old - helping serve clients daily, to student groups at local universities alerting students to the dangers of HIV, to those supporting special fund-raising events, to the complexities and restrictions of today's fund-raising and grant writing, AOC remains strong and steadfast in our mission. We are here to educate the public about the risk of HIV infection and HIV prevention, serve those already with HIV/AIDS through a variety of crucial social service and medical management programs, and to advocate – to be the voice of those who are socially or economically marginalized or feel they have no voice - for sound HIV public policy.

It is our hope this review of 2008 will provide the insight you need to continue your support and that you come to agree with so many of our loyal friends and partners that AIDS Outreach Center is a unique and special place and a lifeline to so many in our community needing special care. Thank you all so very much. We need you!

After all... HIV/AIDS is about all of us!


Allan Gould Jr.
Executive Director


Michael Cinatt
President, Board of Directors