
Visions of the Future



AIDS COMMITTEE OF GUELPH
AND WELLINGTON COUNTY

ANNUAL REPORT
2008-2009



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Photo credits: Robert Howes
Tom Hammond
Victor McQuade

Our VISION

We dream of a home where everyone is free to live healthy, vital lives.

Our MISSION

To provide exemplary service in the area of HIV/AIDS in Guelph and Wellington County through innovative health promotion strategies and community partnerships.

Our CORE VALUES

Compassion: to exercise care and compassion to all.

Accessibility: to be open and accessible using innovative and collaborative responses in all we do.

Respect: to respect the uniqueness of each person and offer resources that foster empowerment.

Accountability: to maintain professional integrity and accountability to ensure consistent quality service.



Over its twenty plus years, the AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County has seen many changes and growth, and this past year has been no exception. With the opening of our new affordable housing project Abercrombie Place, the hiring of a new Outreach Coordinator, our new partnership with the AIDS Committee of Cambridge Kitchener Waterloo and Area, and the expansion of the Masai Clinic satellite into Kitchener, our programs and services are now reaching even more people.

Our theme this year is “Where Will You be in 2020?” and over this past year, the Board of Directors has devoted a great deal of time towards answering this question. With staff and community members, we have been reflecting on where we are now and where we need to be heading in the next ten years. We are very excited that a significant piece of the answer has emerged in the form of a new vision statement for the AIDS Committee:

“We dream of a time and place where everyone is free to live healthy, vital lives.”

In the upcoming year the Board will be seeking to engage with everyone we know, and those we don't know yet, to learn from as many friends and community members as possible about how we can make our new dream a reality. We invite you all to become involved in helping us with this inspiring work.

An important responsibility of the Board of Directors is to ensure that risks to the AIDS Committee are minimized as much as possible. This past year the Finance and Human Resources Committees continued to work with the Executive Director and staff to develop a number of new policies and procedures. Good policies and procedures are extremely important because they strengthen our foundation we continue to grow and evolve. We are committed to sustaining the resources necessary to make our dream come true.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank the staff of the AIDS Committee and the Masai Clinic, Executive Director Tom Hammond and Masai Clinic Director Dr. Anne Marie Zadlik, for all of your skillful and compassionate service. We also are most grateful to

President's MESSAGE

our many volunteers, donors and community partners who support us both with in-kind services and financial donations. The innovative and thoughtful direction the Masai Clinic's Community Advisory Committee provides is very much appreciated. Thanks also to Tracey Campbell at the Ontario AIDS Network for sharing her human resources expertise and support.

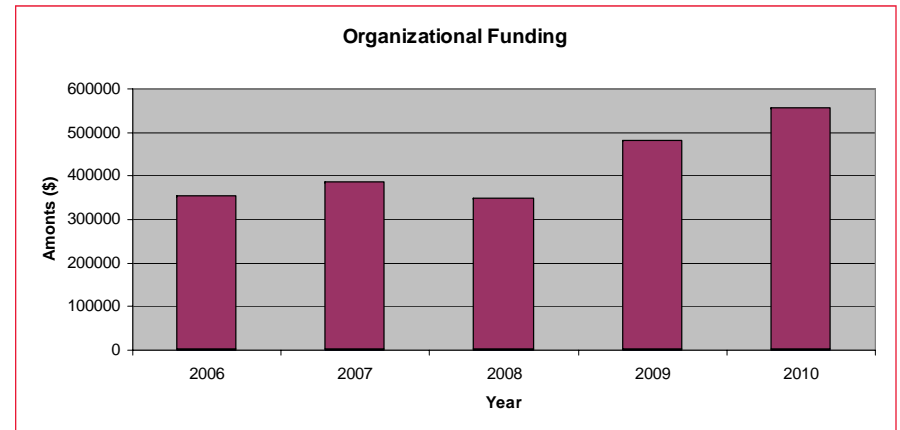
Finally we wish to express our heartfelt thanks to our long time friend and colleague Brian Warrington, for the loving support he has given to the many people he has served for eight years through his various roles at the AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County. We honour and sincerely appreciate all of your passion, commitment and hope, and look forward to our continued future journey together as we move towards 2020.

Kate Bishop,
Board of Directors President

Treasurer's REPORT



It has been another great year of excellent financial management for the AIDS Committee of Guelph and the Masai Centre. With the continued growth of the awareness of the clinic and our consistent role in the community we have seen an increase for the services that the AIDS Committee of Guelph provides. In conjunction with our core funding, our focus for fundraising must always be a priority if we are to continue to provide imperative services for those in our community who count on us. This year along with our implementation of an internal Finance and Audit Committee and our overall emphasis on good fiscal management our reserves for the 2008 – 2009 fiscal years now stands at \$135,989.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank Robinson, Lott and Brohman with the help of our accountant Alan Wiltshire and the Masai Clinic accountant Carl Swanson for their continued support and their contribution with this year's audit.

As treasurer I will continue to oversee a strong Finance Committee to move us forward in the coming year.

Robb Mayer, Board of Directors Treasurer



Taking the AIDS Committee into the next decade, Board Members Sandra Parkinson, Elaine Scott, Andrea Wyshniowsky, Robb Mayer, Michael Partridge and Kate Bishop strategize at the Community Impact Plan meeting.



Pictured at the AGM 2008 Board of Directors: Surefil Bekele, Richard Puntis, Sandra Parkinson, Kate Bishop, Andrea Wyshniowsky, Robb Mayer, Nichola Martin, Elaine Scott and Margaret Starzynski.

“The Support from ACG has impacted my life enormously.”
—PHA Quote

Executive Director's MESSAGE



Imagine the Possibilities

This past year allowed us to reflect on the many successes of the last two decades. We were awarded the opportunity to celebrate our memories and remember our losses through the development of a 20 year commemorative video. Other media opportunities such as our eight pages insert in the Guelph Mercury highlighted our history, programs and special messages from several community partners.

Moving forward into the next ten years we will continue to be faced with more challenges and adversity. However, this last year, we were awarded the opportunity to incorporate stronger infrastructure to prepare for the future as a direct result of an increase in core funding from both of our main funders.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care provided us with an increase in funding to enhance our regional response to HIV and AIDS work that occurs in Guelph and Wellington County, Kitchener/Waterloo and Grey and Bruce Counties. The increase in resources allowed for the opportunity to strengthen our existing partnership with the AIDS Committee of Cambridge Kitchener and Waterloo and Area (ACCKWA).

This valued partnership was able to launch, implement and expand new services to our regions. Some examples include ACG's Outreach Program, and ACCKWA African Caribbean Strategy Worker. Both positions are shared between the two organizations delivering services to each agency once a week.

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) awarded additional funding to develop and support QLINKS. A centralized website for queer and health related issues for the Waterloo/Wellington Region. Looking forward this funding will continue to support the education prevention efforts in Grey and Bruce Counties.

Two other programs funded through PHAC were developed as a result of successful proposal writing. The Positive Prevention Program began Phase one in May 2008 and Phase Two in late March 2009. This new innovative health promotion initiative added a new division to our

prevention efforts in partnership with the Masai Centre.

Dreams do come true when you can imagine the possibilities. ACG's housing program (Abercrombie Place) was created in the spring of 2008 and received further financial support for a Community Support Worker through the Ontario Trillium Foundation with a three year grant.

In looking to the future, ACG has embarked on a Community Impact Plan which will replace our Strategic

Plan for the organization. We value the Community Impact Plan over the traditional strategic planning process because of the level of community engagement that is involved. This plan will act as a living plan for the next three years that will continuously provide feedback and guidance to us from the community. In today's environment, ACG's work plans need to have a sense of fluidity to adapt to changing needs of our community and the people we serve.

Tom Hammond, Executive Director



Tom Hammond and BJ Caldwell attend the 2008 International AIDS Conference in Mexico City.

“Living at Abercrombie Place has been a great place to be at this time of my life. It has allowed me to be more free for personal living. There are challenging times sharing with others but on the whole has been good. It is a place to come to for getting back on one's own two feet.”

—PHA Quote

Community Support REPORT



Vision and partnerships have been key factors in the growth of the AIDS Committee of Guelph in the past year. Many new service arms have been added to the agency with Supportive Housing as one.

With the vision of our Executive Director and the partnership with Matrix Affordable Homes, the first house for clients, Abercrombie Place, opened its doors on the 1st of May 2008 . The name “Abercrombie Place” was chosen to commemorate Robb Abercrombie who was a client, volunteer, and employee of the agency.

The residence is an affordable four bedroom unit with shared living, dining, as well as laundry facilities and internet. The cooperative living model allows the residents and housing worker to develop a plan and works toward identified goals and independent living. Since its inception, four males ranging in age from 35-50, have lived at the house.

As some of you might recall we held an Open House in November of 2008 to introduce the house to staff, board and other partners in the

community. Our goal in the beginning was to provide safe, affordable and secure housing which we know is a key determinant of health for those living with HIV and AIDS. Other goals include education to the community, housing providers, and developers of the unmet need for housing for People Living With HIV.

During this initial phase of this project it was identified that the services of a Community Support Worker and Housing Worker was an essential position that was needed if the project was to succeed. In December 2008 through the collaborative efforts of the Executive Director and the part-time Housing Coordinator, the program received a three year grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. Our goal is to expand the program to include more housing options for clients, and

to secure funding to sustain the program beyond the three year grant period. We know that vision and partnerships have brought us this far, now determination and passion with take us to the next level.

Gary Roche,
Community Support Worker



Abercrombie
Place



“When I look at what I love most about ACG, it definitely comes down to the people. When you walk into an office and you see the smiles on people’s faces and the kind words being spoken. You feel like you have walked into a place that can truly make a difference.”
—PHA Quote

E d u c a t i o n C o o r d i n a t o r ' s R E P O R T



This past year, the Education program continued to provide as much education to as many people as possible in both Guelph/Wellington and Grey and Bruce County. Through workshops, inservices, informal speaks, PHA speaks, online outreach, and train the trainer programs, we have been able to reach more people, more effectively. All things we couldn't do without the generous help and support from our community partners and funders. Highlights from the past year include:

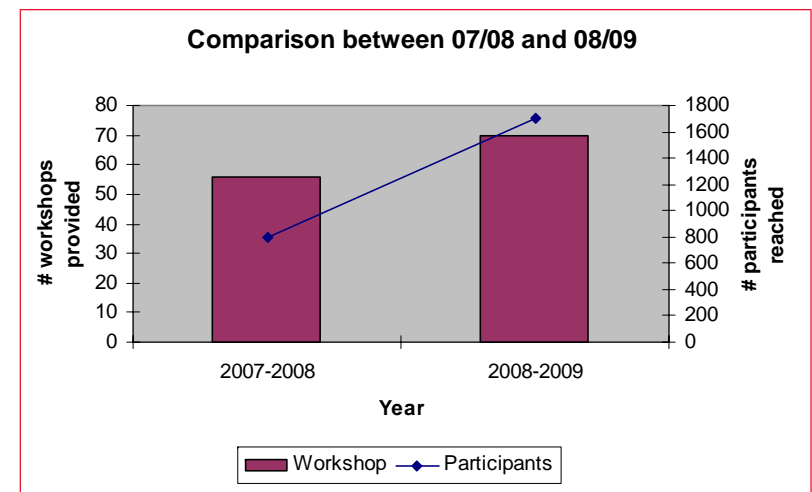
- ◆ We performed over 70 workshops, inservices, and speaks that reached over 1700 of our community members.
- ◆ About 600 HIV, STI, or other sexual health related questions were answered using internet online outreach primarily targeting gay, bi, and other MSM as well as 200 referrals to sexual health testing sites for those identified as at risk were made.
- ◆ There were over 40 consultation meetings/conference calls for networking, planning events, and discussing related issues in Guelph/Wellington and Grey-Bruce counties with more than 20 community partners.
- ◆ We travelled over 7600km within our region.
- ◆ Both the Queer youth group in Grey-Bruce and the Queer men's group in Guelph continue to provide service to those in need.
- ◆ Creation of www.qlinks.ca a new website for Guelph and surrounding area's LGBTQ population to educate, entertain, and keep connected with events locally and internationally.
- ◆ Presenting at the 30th Annual Guelph Sexuality Conference on the topic of The Criminalization of HIV non-disclosure.
- ◆ AIDS Awareness Week at the University of Guelph, and in the regions of Guelph/Wellington and Grey-Bruce were successful including our annual World AIDS Day Vigil and our 4th Annual HIV/AIDS Symposium attended by 60 front line workers.
- ◆ ACG's award-winning project involving Project Serve Canada was a success again this year. We trained over 15 students to provide HIV 101s to high school students in the Guelph area reaching over 290 local students.

B.J. Caldwell, HIV / STI Prevention Education Coordinator



Key Partnerships were established or strengthened with:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ◆ AIDS Committee of Cambridge
Kitchener Waterloo & Area | ◆ Guelph/Wellington Women in
Crisis |
| ◆ Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public
Health | ◆ Ontario HIV Treatment Network |
| ◆ Grey Bruce Public Health | ◆ St. Jerome's College, Univ. of
Waterloo—Couple & Family
Therapy |
| ◆ Univ. of Guelph—Wellness Centre | ◆ Wyndham House |
| ◆ Univ. of Guelph—Residence Life &
Community Involvement | ◆ OUTline |
| ◆ Family Relations & Applied Human
Nutrition | ◆ Out on the Shelf, Guelph's Queer
Resource Centre |
| ◆ Stonehenge Therapeutic
Community | ◆ Guelph Queer Equality |
| ◆ Sexual Assault & Domestic
Violence Centre | ◆ Trellis Mental Health &
Development Services |



I have never been treated so well before, like the way I have been treated
by this organization. I am the happiest I have ever been.
—PHA Quote

Harm Reduction's REPORT

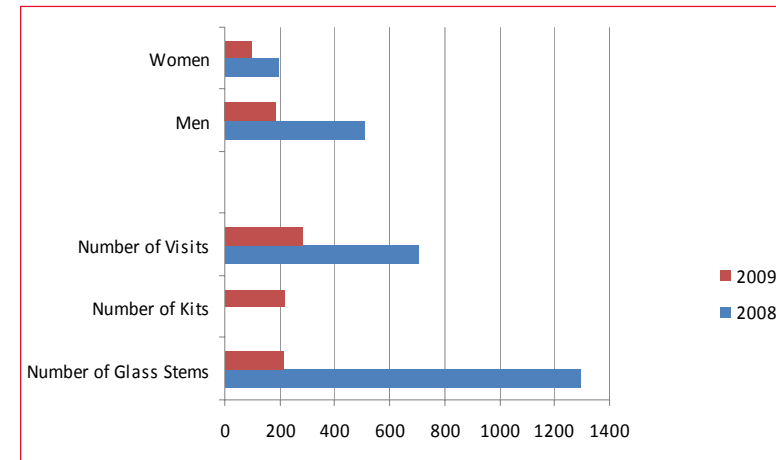
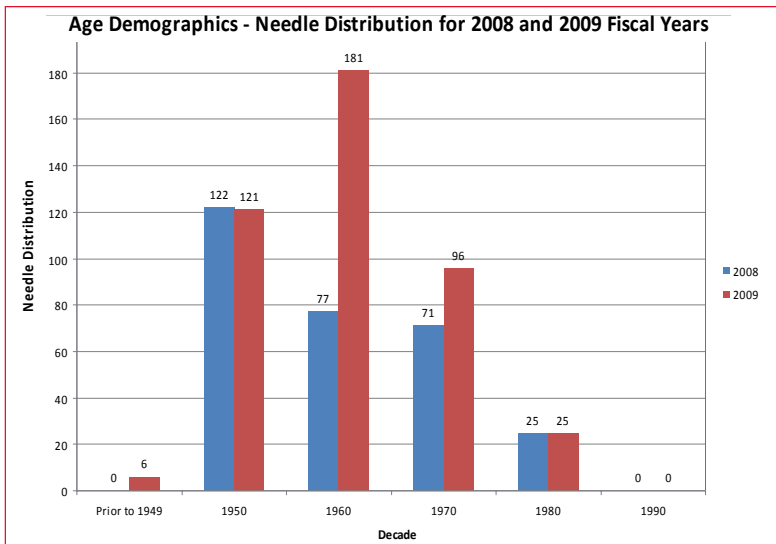
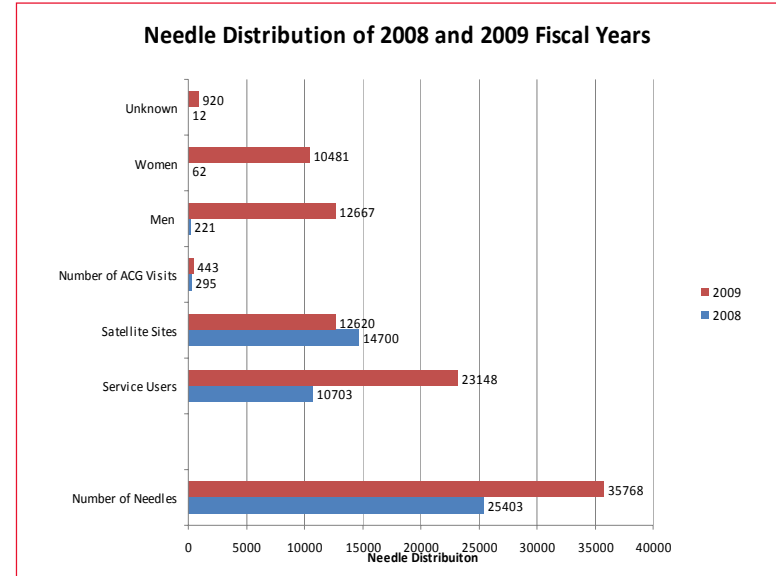


The AIDS Committee's Street Outreach Program was launched in January of 2009, after having been on hiatus for many years. The main purpose of the program is to distribute harm reduction materials, information, and education to clients in the community. However, the program also serves a very important purpose by providing an introduction and entry point for first-time clients to learn about and use the many services offered by ACG and other community agencies. Working with community partners such as the Welcome In Drop-in Centre, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, and

even some local businesses, we are taking the programs already offered by the agency out into the community to reach those who would not otherwise be able, or perhaps willing, to access those services.

In the coming months we are looking forward to expanding into new areas of the community, branching out to work with new partners, and continuing to work with our established client base. The work thus far has been very rewarding and will only get better!

Natalie Basaraba, Harm Reduction and Outreach Coordinator



In 2009 there was a decrease in single glass stem distribution. This was a result in how glass stems were distributed. We moved to a best practices model of distributing complete safer inhalation kits.

“The AIDS Committee has helped me find housing and obtain income from social services and the Ontario Disability Support Program. The support from ACG has impacted my life enormously.”
—PHA Quote

Positive Prevention's REPORT



The 2008–2009 fiscal year marked the first year of the Positive Prevention Program at ACG. The program was funded as a pilot project through the AIDS Community Action Program, a division of the Public Health Agency of Canada. With approximately 80 clients from both ACG and the Masai Centre participating, the Positive Prevention program was successful in meeting its goal of improving the overall health and well-being of those living with HIV and AIDS and preventing the possibility of any new HIV or sexually transmitted infections.

The program was made up of two components: 1-on-1 positive prevention education sessions, which took place in the Masai Centre, and a series of four educational workshops. Both components allowed ACG to expand and introduce its resources to new clients, as well as create a new partnership with David Kelly Services in Toronto.

80 clients participated in the 1-on-1 education sessions, and of those, 11 were involved in the educational workshop series. The series focused on strategies on disclosing your HIV status, self-esteem and confidence building, treatment education and adherence, and

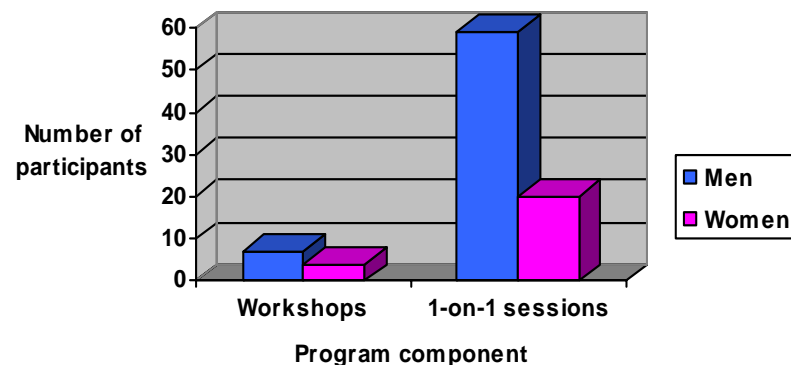
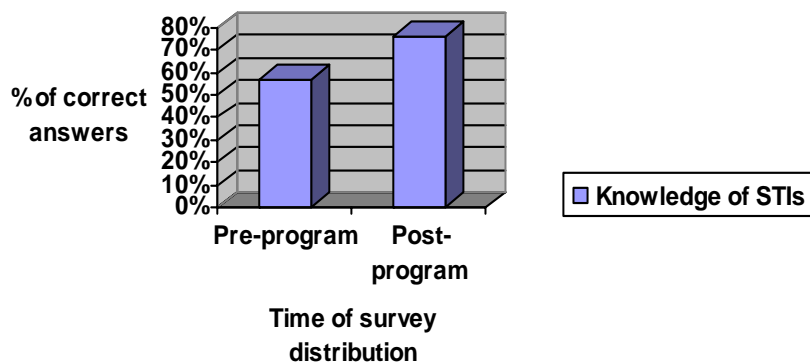
transmission basics. These topics were chosen by a focus group of clients who met at the beginning of the program. To evaluate the program's successes, pre and post program questionnaires were distributed to all participants.

Being one of the first Positive Prevention Programs implemented in Ontario, there was a lot of interest coming from other organizations and individual's working in the field. This allowed me the opportunity to present a summary of our program at both the Gay Men's Sexual Health Summit and the HIV Outpatient Clinic Education Day in Toronto.

With a new funding grant received from ACAP for Phase two of our project, it is our hope that the program will continue to grow and be a model

for other AIDS service organizations to follow in the future.

Cheryl Tucker,
Positive Prevention Coordinator



“Thanks to ACG, my life has changed dramatically—primarily because I now have a roof over my head. ACG helped secure subsidized housing for me, which is something that has impacted every area of my life. The staff at the ACG have also provided me with clothing, food and counselling.”
—PHA Quote

Support Services REPORT



Once again, counselling and practical assistance requests were the most sought after services utilized by our client base in the Support Services program. We also witnessed an increase in new intakes (ten) which included an increase in the number of African-Caribbean newcomers seeking our support.

2008—2009 brought with it a steady increase in demand for transportation assistance. Transportation requests were primarily for medical appointments and the service was offered through the distribution of bus tickets,

taxi vouchers and volunteer drives.

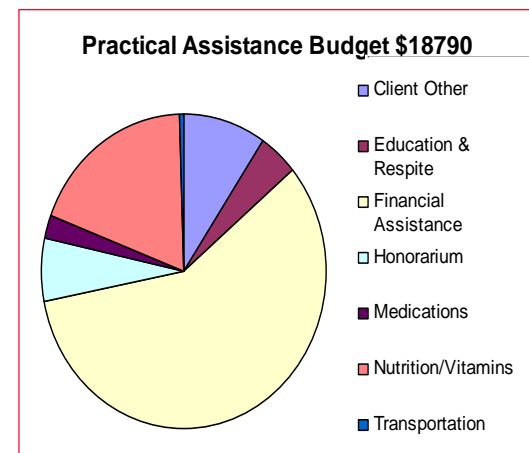
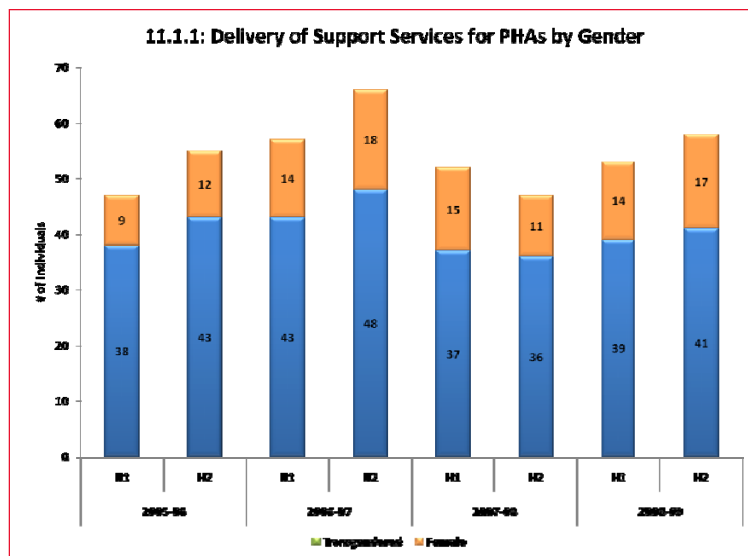
Case management, referrals, complementary therapies, Ensure nutritional drinks, vitamins and supplements continue to be accessed by our services users. Under-housed clients continue to increase in numbers adding demands to an already struggling area of service.

A mainstay of service is our monthly PHA movie night participation remaining consistent each month. Our client day trip to Canada's

Wonderland in August of 2008 was donated to us compliments of Toronto People With AIDS Foundation and Canada's Wonderland and was well received. Twelve clients, who otherwise wouldn't be financially able to attend, took in a day of hot summer fun!

Last year has alerted us that the AIDS Committee of Guelph has more work to do as the number of new client intakes continues to grow and bring with it higher levels of multiple service requests. Practical, financial and housing assistance is increasingly becoming the norm rather than the exception with each new client.

Brian Woolsey,
Support Services Coordinator



“I have been volunteering for four years now and enjoy getting out meeting others. It is a great feeling being able to help others in any way I can. I look forward to more times with ACG.”

—Volunteer Quote

Volunteer Coordinator's REPORT



Volunteers are the cornerstone of what we do by providing support, guidance and direction while assisting us in the areas of administration, practical support, governance, education and fundraising.

They were essential in developing The AIDS Committee's 20th Anniversary publication that ran in the Guelph Mercury. They assisted in our daily operations by driving clients to out-of-town appointments and maintaining our Needle Exchange Program. Additionally, volunteers were involved in Project Serve Canada where

they were trained to deliver HIV 101's to secondary school students. The Board of Directors, which is always continuing to work towards our missions and goals, developed Health and Safety Policies and Procedures. Also, the success of the Red Ribbon Gala was made possible through the aid of volunteers—they set up for the event during the day and during the evening acted as runners, models and silent-auction assistants which made for a smoothly run and enjoyable event.

These activities contributed to 2484.5 hours of service in total, compared to 3818.5 hours of services provided from the previous year. This is a drop in total of 1334 hours. With this said, after an increase in hours yearly for the past three years, the decline is not negative.

The AIDS Committee received core funding for a much needed Outreach worker in January which due to space constraints had to replace our reception area. This in turn forced us to reexamine how our space was being utilized and with some renovations we turned our kitchen area into the "Red Star Lounge". A space that is now staffed by volunteers on clinic days.

Furthermore, with the funding of an Outreach Coordinator, it is expected that hours will only increase when a program is established that will not only utilize peers to distribute harm reduction material on the street but also volunteers who have a vested interest in keeping members of our community safe and supported .

Finally, we look forward to the next year with the funding that was received for Abercrombie Place. This will provide another opportunity for volunteers to get involved with the agency and provide direct support with the housing residents.

Kim Paton, Coordinator of Administrative and Volunteer Services

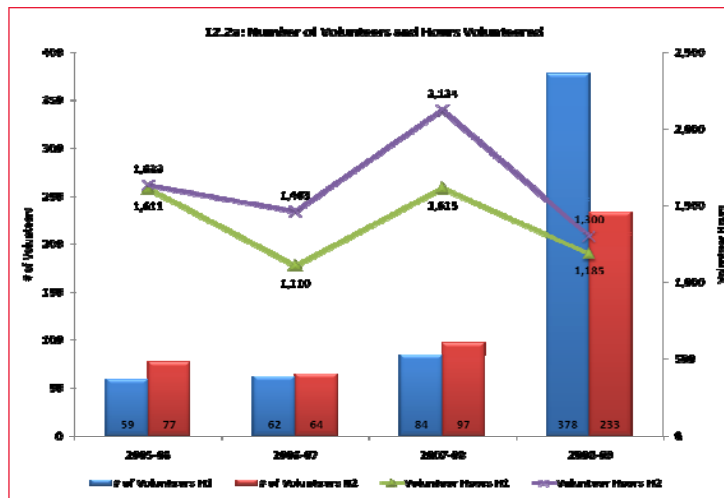
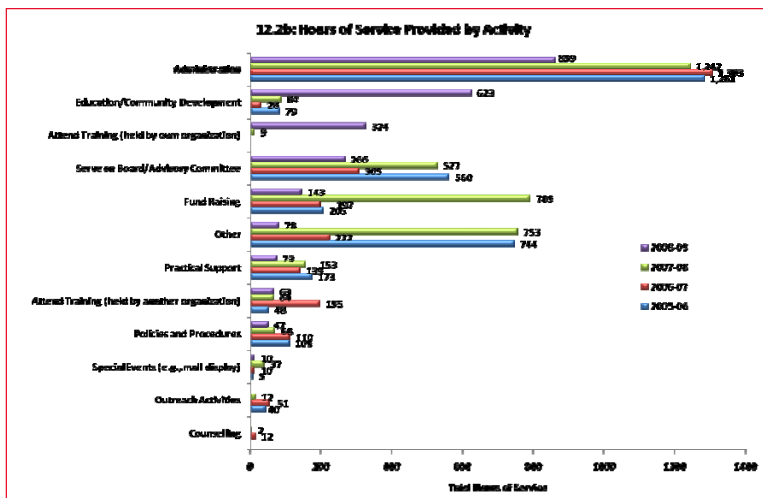
Volunteers

Thank-you for your commitment support and generosity!

- Alex Sarson
- Alexandra Kartes
- Brian McCarthy
- Betty Thomas
- Christopher Reyes
- Danielle Castledine
- Danielle Stein
- Denise Soueidan-OLeary
- Jadine Phillios
- Jim Chaput
- John Borthwick
- Julian Wilson
- Kate Lane
- Lauren McDonald
- Megan DePutter
- Michael Boterman
- Rebecca Hicks
- Robert Howes
- Shannon McCauley
- Tim Gingerich
- Tim Walker
- Tin Vo
- Wesley Bowers

Board of Directors

- Andrea Wyshniowsky
- Elaine Scott
- Kate Bishop
- Margaret Starzynski
- Michael Partridge
- Nichola Martin
- Robb Mayer
- Richard Puntis
- Sandra Parkinson
- Surefil Bekele



Masai Director's MESSAGE



The Masai Centre for Local, Regional and Global Health

The best way to imagine the future is to start by remembering the past. In July of 1990, I was a 26 year old, naïve, new family physician who was three months away from being a new mom. When I walked into the two year old offices of the AIDS Committee of Guelph on Delhi Street and asked if they could use a physician to help treat HIV positive patients, ACG had three staff members and they all looked at me as if I had

three heads. From 1990 to 1996, I joined in the devastating task of caring for so many people as they died. HIV medicine was essentially palliative care medicine. I remember prescribing the first ARV cocktail in 1996 and reading the first undetectable viral load test, shortly thereafter. I felt sheer joy as I witnessed the miracle of that first patient coming back to life on treatment. My heart sang for all those we helped bring back from the brink of death.

That new baby I was expecting in 1990 is now 19 years old and heading back to his second year at the University of Toronto. Instead of trying to care for HIV positive patients in the busy atmosphere of my primary care practice, I now care for them at the Masai Centre. I have joined in a marvelous collaboration with the AIDS Committee of Guelph. That partnership allows for all those living with and affected by HIV to receive care by an ever expanding team all under one roof. This year, the Masai Centre Satellite opened its doors in Kitchener-Waterloo and our team has grown to include the AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener-Waterloo in a more expanded partnership. Three regions of the province, two clinics, two AIDS Service Organization's, one growing and thriving organization and hundreds more receiving care, that is the beauty of partnerships and collaborations.

Thriving organizations like ours that help so many, attract good and compassionate human beings. We have reshaped how HIV care is provided in South Western Ontario and extended that care to hundreds of people across this region. Our African efforts in Leribe, Lesotho have manifested into a treatment clinic that now cares for 21,000 HIV positive people in that country, literally transforming a once dying community. In 19 years we have accomplished a tremendous amount. We now have the ability to spread these positive effects in an ever expanding arena of care.

Our continued efforts both locally and globally, have the power to create a positive pandemic that could end HIV in our region and in the country of Lesotho. Let's hope that by 2020 we are well on our way to accomplishing this task as we continue to work together to transform the lives of those affected by HIV.

Anne-Marie Zajdlik MDCCFP
Founder and Director of the Masai Centre,
The Masai for Africa Campaign and
The Bracelet of Hope Campaign



Clinic Coordinator's REPORT



The Masai Centre is currently serving 222 patients from the Wellington-Dufferin Counties, Waterloo Region and Grey-Bruce Counties and once again, it has been a busy year. We continue to embrace the growth and development of our many community partnerships and without our relationship with these organizations we would not be where we are today. We wish to extend our sincere thanks to the following organizations that we are so blessed to be affiliated with:

ACG Staff and Volunteers
ACCKWA Staff and Volunteers
Prime Care Pharmacy
Public Health Grey Bruce
Sanguen Clinic
Waterloo Public Health
Wellington-Dufferin Public Health

Dr. Zajdlik had the privilege of attending the 2009 HIV Medicine “An Intensive Course” at Harvard School of Medicine in Boston and Masai Centre staff and physicians had the opportunity to attend the Clinical Care Options conference this year in Miami Beach, Florida. Both conferences once again proved to be a valuable opportunity for further

education and allowed our team the invaluable experience to network with others, share thoughts and ideas, and work together in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

The opportunity to participate in the Fertility Needs and Desires Study and the HAART study was very exciting for both our patients and the clinic. Both studies have now been completed and we hope to embark on new studies in the near future.

We continue to have the privilege of providing services to our patients, their partners and family members and strive to provide a holistic model of care, offering effective and compassionate care and treatment for those living with HIV/AIDS. A true sense of camaraderie exists among our Masai team members which has allowed us to develop a warm and

compassionate environment in which to serve our patients. We continue to push forward with our dreams for the future and with the continued passion of our team we without doubt, will reach our goals. Many thanks to our team:

Dr. Anne-Marie Zajdlik
Dr. Keith Hankinson
Dr. Chris Steingart
Dr. Graham Smith
Sharon Fair, Clinic Nurse
Martine McQuade,
Administrative Assistant

Thank you for your continued passion!

Carol Meyer, Clinic Coordinator
The Masai Centre for Local, Regional and Global Health



From L-R: Carol Meyer, Sharon Fair, Dr. Anne-Marie Zajdlik and Martine McQuade.

P . O . S . S . E . REPORT



PEER OUTREACH SUPPORT SERVICES AND EDUCATION (POSSE)

POSSE—Peer Outreach Support Services and Education is a much needed (and little known) program of ACG. In a nutshell POSSE is a FREE service providing training, street level outreach, information and support to encourage safer decision making in reducing the risks associated with drug use, sex, homelessness, violence and discrimination. POSSE is a harm reduction and human rights project, run by youth for youth between the ages of 15-24, living in North Halton

and is the proud recipient of the Ontario Trillium Foundation's 2007 Great Grants Award.

2008 proved to be a year of overcoming challenges for POSSE. The two co-founders of the program decided to move on after 6 years. Kimm and Dom had built a great rapport, not only with POSSE youth, but with youth in general in North Halton and their departure led to a lot of the original POSSE youth moving on also. A new program manager was hired in April 2008 and unfortunately did not seem to be 'the right fit' for the position. As a result there was no program manager from June 6 until the end of July. In light of this termination some of POSSE's performance indicators had not been met for the first quarter reporting period. A new performance indicator emerged however: YOUTH OWNERSHIP and SKILL BUILDING. With assistance from some adults on the collaborative, POSSE youth, in their determination to keep things going basically ran the program themselves. Outreach, ordering, reporting, and the day to day operations were conducted by the youth. Their ownership indicated the importance of this project to the youth; and provided youth an opportunity to learn various skills in program operations and management.

On July 29th 2008 I started as the new program manager. One of my first, objectives was to put together POSSE's Celebrating Diversity Day which was scheduled for September 13th. Aside from it raining most of the day, the event came together and, thanks to everyone pulling together, was a success. Shortly after starting the position I also had two proposals due. One was to the Milton United Way to continue the additional outreach we do in that community. The other one was to the Ontario Trillium Foundation to secure funding for our Undercroft youth

magazine. Thankfully both proposals were accepted.

Outreach continued until the end of October and we made some good connections with youth in our community, meeting or exceeding our performance indicators. From October to December we interviewed and hired a new youth administrative assistant, our new paid outreach workers for 2009, and hosted a Rock Show at the Roxy in Acton to raise funds for the Undercroft. Training began in January 2009 with a relatively new batch of POSSE youth, a relatively new admin assistant and a relatively new program manager.

With all the new people comes some new perspectives and ideas. So, while maintaining and respecting the original vision and feel of POSSE we are excited about helping the project grow and evolve.

...and so POSSE version 2.0 begins.

A new web site is at the heart of our new vision with a greater focus on human rights issues. We want to have a social justice calendar, and highlight upcoming social justice events i.e: Day of Silence, International Day Against Homophobia, 30 Hour Famine, International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination, educating youth on these events and telling them how they can get involved. We are also going to create an online version of our Undercroft magazine and start a

youth blog. Celebrating Diversity Day 2009 is scheduled for August 15th in Milton and is shaping up to be even bigger and better than last year. (www.posseproject.ca for details!)

We have ordered new marketing materials and are attending more community events in an attempt to raise POSSE's profile and dispel some of the misconceptions people in the community may have about our program and the harm reduction approach in general.

Everyone is very excited now that outreach has begun again and we're glad to be back out in the community connecting with youth.

I can hardly wait to see what the rest of 2009 brings!

Angus Coll-Smith,
Program Manager—Peer Outreach
Support Services and Education



Peer Outreach Support Services
& Education (POSSE) Project

Contact INFORMATION

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Websitewww.aidsguelph.org

The M asai C linic

The Masai Clinic.....(519) 780-5998
Toll Free 1 (877) 780-5298
Website.....www.masaiclinic.ca

The P O S S E Project

POSSE Office..... 1 (905) 875-6126
Cell (519) 853-5908
Website..... www.posseproject.ca

Financial STATEMENTS

AIDS COMMITTEE OF GUELPH & WELLINGTON COUNTY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

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STATEMENT 2 — Changes in Net Assets

STATEMENT 3 — Operations

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A u d i t o r ' s **REPORT**



Chartered Accountants
and Business Advisors

People Count.

To the Board of the AIDS Committee of Guelph & Wellington County

We have audited the statement of financial position of the AIDS Committee of Guelph & Wellington County as at March 31, 2009, and the statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the committee's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

Common with most not for profit organizations, certain receipts by their nature are not susceptible to complete audit verification by audit procedures. Accordingly, our verification of revenue, other than grants, was limited to a comparison of recorded receipts with deposits.

In our opinion, except for the effect of any adjustments which might have been required had we been able to completely verify revenue, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the committee as at March 31, 2009 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting described in note 1 to the financial statements.

The financial statements, which have not been and were not intended to be presented in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, are solely for the use of the directors and members of the AIDS Committee of Guelph & Wellington County and the funding agencies, to comply with agreements with them. The financial statements were not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than specified users, or for any other purpose.

Guelph, Ontario
May 20, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'RLB LLP'.

Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

A u d i t o r ' s **REPORT**



Chartered Accountants
and Business Advisors

People Count.

To the Board of the AIDS Committee of Guelph & Wellington County

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Guelph, Ontario
May 20, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'RLB LLP'.

Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

Financial STATEMENTS

AIDS COMMITTEE OF GUELPH & WELLINGTON COUNTY

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

	Restricted — Opening Doors	Unrestricted	2009 Total	2008 Total
BALANCE , beginning of year	\$ <u>19,585</u>	\$ <u>124,856</u>	\$ <u>144,441</u>	\$ <u>111,272</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES , for the year	<u>10</u>	<u>58,411</u>	<u>58,421</u>	<u>33,169</u>
BALANCE , end of year	\$ <u><u>19,595</u></u>	\$ <u><u>183,267</u></u>	\$ <u><u>202,862</u></u>	\$ <u><u>144,441</u></u>

see accompanying notes

Financial STATEMENTS

AIDS COMMITTEE OF GUELPH & WELLINGTON COUNTY

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

REVENUE	MINISTRY OF HEALTH	HEALTH CANADA		HEALTH CANADA		MASAI CLINIC	GENERAL	2009 TOTAL	2008 TOTAL
		Prevention	Positive Prevention	Prevention	Positive Prevention				
Grants	\$ 254,804	\$ 80,000	\$ 66,401	\$ 134,200	\$ 650	\$ 536,055	\$ 434,340		
Donations and fundraising	0	0	0	22,854	5,690	28,544	17,191		
Opening Doors (note 7)	41,040	0	0	0	4,115	45,155	49,420		
Income Gala	0	0	0	0	62,737	62,737	42,353		
United Way	0	0	0	0	23,897	23,897	22,651		
Trillium	0	0	0	0	18,226	18,226	0		
Other	0	0	5,750	11,714	51,818	69,282	21,516		
	<u>295,844</u>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>72,151</u>	<u>168,768</u>	<u>167,133</u>	<u>783,896</u>	<u>587,471</u>		
EXPENDITURES									
Wages and benefits	162,139	50,807	37,761	83,735	22,820	357,262	294,550		
Hepatitis C Funding	6,600	0	0	0	0	6,600	0		
Advertising and events	431	957	263	0	31,682	33,333	18,511		
Bonding and insurance	2,935	0	0	3,458	0	6,393	5,955		
Printing, stationery and office	8,144	3,093	4,464	7,910	7,408	31,019	27,659		
Equipment purchase and rental	6,187	2,003	2,068	1,664	5,319	17,241	5,253		
Professional fees	22,990	0	0	4,987	13,386	41,363	31,416		
Computer maintenance	500	3,793	0	4,891	2,472	11,656	8,778		
Staff education	2,899	1,800	723	3,591	415	9,428	8,888		
Ontario AIDS network	1,013	0	0	0	140	1,153	1,078		
Telephone	2,149	1,559	1,000	1,986	497	7,191	6,354		
Travel	3,683	4,796	1,037	251	2,076	11,843	6,792		
Bank charges	500	0	0	65	71	636	1,023		
Other supplies	0	0	0	0	3,149	3,149	2,597		
Volunteer support	1,667	0	0	0	0	1,667	1,788		
Practical support	0	0	0	0	16,628	16,628	13,187		
Rent and utilities	22,496	7,204	6,495	26,617	3,223	66,035	53,609		
Practical Assistance	13,482	4,114	4,459	0	1,579	23,634	0		
Resource material	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,864		
Charity donations re Gala	0	0	0	0	23,433	23,433	20,000		
Opening Doors Conference (note 7)	45,145	0	0	0	0	45,145	29,619		
	<u>302,960</u>	<u>80,126</u>	<u>58,270</u>	<u>139,155</u>	<u>134,298</u>	<u>714,809</u>	<u>543,921</u>		
GRANT REPAYABLE	(7,116)	(126)	13,881	29,613	32,835	69,087	43,550		
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(10,666)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(10,666)</u>	<u>(10,381)</u>		
EXCESS OF (EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUE)									
REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES for the year									

\$ (7,116)
\$ (126)
\$ 3,215
\$ 29,613
\$ 32,835
\$ 58,421
\$ 33,169

see accompanying notes

A u d i t o r ' s **REPORT**

1. **BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies set out below to comply with the organization's agreement with funding agencies. The basis of accounting used in these financial statements materially differs from Canadian generally accepted accounting principles because capital assets purchased are charged to operations in the year the expenditure is incurred, rather than being capitalized on the statement of financial position and amortized over their estimated useful lives.

2. **SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the Committee have been prepared using the accrual method of accounting. Under this method, revenue is recognized when earned and expenses are charged to operations as incurred.

(a) **CAPITAL ASSETS**

All capital assets are expensed in the year of purchase. Capital assets expensed in the current year were \$13,539.

(b) **REVENUE RECOGNITION**

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Contributions are recognized in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

(c) **USE OF ESTIMATES**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(d) **INCOME TAX STATUS**

The organization is exempt from income tax under section 149(1)(e) of the Income Tax Act.

3. **STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

The statement of cash flows has not been presented as it would not provide any further useful information.

4. **COMPARATIVE FIGURES**

Certain figures presented for comparative purposes have been changed to reflect the current year's presentation.

A u d i t o r ' s **REPORT**

5. LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Committee has entered into operating leases for certain office equipment and office space. The office space lease is on a net rent basis and future payments are subject to adjustments. Minimum payments the Committee is required to make over the next four years for equipment and office leases are:

2010	\$	1,000
2011		500
2012		<u>0</u>
	\$	<u>1,500</u>

6. CONTINGENCIES

Grants received from the Ontario Ministry of Health are conditional and require the funds to be spent on specific services. Should expenditures not meet the requirements of the Ministry, a portion of the grants may be required to be repaid. It is not determinable by the Committee if any additional amounts, other than those recorded on the statement of financial position, may be required to be repaid.

7. OPENING DOORS

The Opening Doors Restricted Fund records income and expenses specifically designated for the holding of an annual regional AIDS conference.

8. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Credit risk management

The organization's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, short term investments, accounts payable and deferred revenue. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

The organization does not have a significant exposure to any individual customer or counterpart.

Fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities

The carrying values of cash, accounts receivable, short term investments, accounts payable and deferred revenue approximate their fair value due to the relatively short periods to maturity of these items.

The carrying amount of the long term debt approximates its fair value because the interest rates are close to market rates.

Financial STATEMENTS

PEER OUTREACH SUPPORT SERVICES & EDUCATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

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A u d i t o r ' s **REPORT**



Chartered Accountants
and Business Advisors

People Count.

NOTICE TO READER

We have compiled the statement of financial position of Peer Outreach Support Services & Education as at March 31, 2009 and the statement of operations for the year then ended from information provided by management. We have not performed an audit or a review engagement and do not express an audit opinion or negative assurance on these financial statements. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Guelph, Ontario
June 22, 2009

RLB LLP

Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

Financial STATEMENTS

PEER OUTREACH SUPPORT SERVICES & EDUCATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2009

		ASSETS		2008	2009
CURRENT					
	Cash	\$ 62,132	\$ 19,151		
	Accounts receivable	122	320		
	Prepaid expenses	200	0		
		<u>19,471</u>	<u>\$ 62,454</u>		<u>\$</u>
		LIABILITIES			
CURRENT					
	Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 3,842	\$ 4,978		
DEFERRED INCOME		<u>52,538</u>	<u>12,617</u>		
		<u>56,380</u>	<u>17,595</u>		

Financial STATEMENTS

PEER OUTREACH SUPPORT SERVICES & EDUCATION

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

	2009	2008
REVENUE		
Grants	\$ 143,439	\$ 113,237
Other Income	<u>4,081</u>	<u>794</u>
	<u>147,520</u>	<u>114,031</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Administration services	13,337	7,931
Interest and bank charges	0	6
Office	11,500	6,067
Rent	7,075	2,525
Repairs and maintenance	1,737	458
Salaries	99,585	99,096
Telephone	3,445	3,377
Travel	<u>6,646</u>	<u>3,518</u>
	<u>143,325</u>	<u>122,978</u>
NET EARNINGS (LOSS) for the year	4,195	(8,947)
NET ASSETS, beginning of year	<u>1,877</u>	<u>10,824</u>
NET ASSETS, end of year	<u>\$ 6,072</u>	<u>\$ 1,877</u>

Donor's 2008—2009

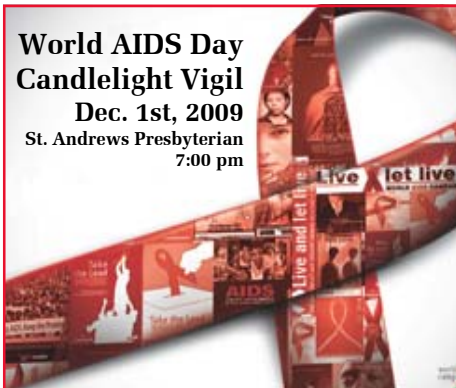
Thank you to everyone who has donated to the AIDS Committee in the financial year 2008—2009. Without your continuous support, we would not have been able to accomplish what we do without your support. Your donation helps us to make a difference to families and other members of our community.

2 Be Inspired Photography Abbott Amy Smania Andrea Bird Anne-Marie Zajdlik Andy McDougall Angela Machaj Annette Twist Anthony Bragg B. Waite Barbara Cohen Barbara Shaw Barber Glass Barber Gallery Beauty Supply Outlet Belgian Nursery Bingemans Grand Experience Birute Znotinas Blyth Festival Boehringer Ingelheim Borealis Grille and Bar Brisson Leis & Associates Bristol-Myers Squibb Bruce Trail Conservatory Cambridge Centre Honda Cambridge Golf & Fashions Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Canoeing the Grand Carol & Frank Meyer CASA Loma Chatelaine Lighting	Cheryl Ruddock Child Studies Club Chris Chanter CN Tower Complete Tax & Business Coty CTV Cynthia Gardiner Danny Lui Dapane Gilad Diana Restaurant Diane Synnott Doreen Kirkland Drayton Entertainment E.J. Stross Edeet Ravel Elizabeth Clarke Elizabeth Fasken Elora Festival and Singers Elton Yerex Embree Chartered Accountants F & M Breweries Fantasia Firewood Imaginations Floral Images Friends in Our Kitchen George Thurtell Gerry Weiler Gilead Glaxo-Smith-Kline Golf North Graeme Sheffield Guelph Chamber Choir Guelph Jazz Festival	Guelph Little Theatre Hamilton Bulldogs Hockey Harmony Crafts Hockey Hall of Fame Homewood Corporation Hubert Haisoch Intercontinental Montreal Jackie & Colin James Jane & Richard Rokeby Jo Kealey Joan Rosemary Vanderkamp John & Katherine Borthwick John Roberts Julie Cradder-Thompson Kama Designs Kamil Juices Karen Bellamy Kathy Crain Kay Valeriote King Crab Oyster Bar & Grill King St. Trio on University Kingsway Fishing Tackle Kloepfer Gallery Kitchener Rangers Hockey K-W Symphony Leslie MacTaggart Linda Nielsen Taylor Linda O'Neill Lindsay Foster Lisa A. Browning Lisa Lawless Maid of the Mist Margaret Mohan Margaret Peter Maria Hilts	Mariposa Cruises Marjorie Mansell Marks Work Warehouse Marlene Jofriet Marie Coutts Martine & Victor McQuade Mary Richardson McDonalds Restaurant Meals that Heal Medieval Times Melissa Reginato Merck Frosst Michael Cathcart Michael Johnson Midnight Sun Tanning Muriel McMahon National Ballet of Canada Norfolk Psychological Ontario Place Ontario Science Centre Opera Atelier Orange Crate Food Co. Outdoor Services Peter Brazolot Parachute School of Toronto Pfiizer Canada Inc. Pharma Plus Planet Bean Playdium Prime Care Pharmacy Quatic Industries Ramada Guelph Reids Candies Rob and Debbie Fleming	Robert Blonski Rosalinde Baumgartner Sadko Hadzihasanovic Schering-Plough Segue Music Sharon Fair Sheila Dantzer Skylark Studios Sleeman Brewery & Malting Sorbara Law Solé Restaurant & Wine Bar Susan Peach Susan Paton Tania Love The Salon and Spa Tibotec Toronto Maple Leafs Tranquil Body Solutions Via Rail Incorporated Vickie Martin Victor Navarro Whirlpool Jetboat Wild Birds Unlimited Wild Water Kingdom Williams Coffee Pub Wings of Paradise With the Grain Woodbine Entertainment Woolwich Arms Wyndham Art Supplies Zacks—Stone Road Mall
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AIDS Committee of Guelph
Charitable Status Number:
BN 10668 9821 RR 001



**World AIDS Day
Candlelight Vigil**
Dec. 1st, 2009
 St. Andrews Presbyterian
 7:00 pm



**A TASTE
FOR LIFE**



**Mark your Calendars!
Taste for Life 2010**
 Wednesday, April 28th

*Red Ribbon
Gala*



Saturday, May 29th, 2010
 For information / ticket purchases: (519) 763-2255

ACG
AIDS COMMITTEE OF GUELPH
AND WELLINGTON COUNTY

409 Woolwich Street
 Guelph, ON N1H 3X2
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**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2008—2009

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