

tag2008

PROGRESS IN THE FIGHT FOR BETTER TREATMENT, A VACCINE, AND A CURE FOR AIDS

DEAR FRIENDS OF TAG.

I am pleased to present the 2008 Annual Report for the Treatment Action Group (TAG).

First, I want to thank every one of our supporters—individuals, corporations, and foundations. Our lifesaving and groundbreaking achievements would not be possible without each of you and your commitment to our work.

I urge you to proudly stand with us as TAG continues to make change happen.

In 2008 we invested in our hepatitis coinfection program and in the overall infrastructure of TAG. As we grow, however, we remain committed to our core tenets: to increase the duration and quality of life of all people with HIV until a vaccine and a cure are available.

One 2008 highlight was TAG's catalytic "Cure Meeting," which brought together key scientists to examine the roadblocks to curing AIDS once and for all. I invite you to read in this report about more of our many accomplishments during 2008.

As we continue our work in 2009 we expect the global economic situation to challenge the willingness of countries around the world to meet their commitments to HIV/AIDS research, treatment, and prevention. With renewed political will, however, and the potential for increased investment in HIV treatment research, we believe a crucial positive shift in treatments for all people living with HIV is within reach. I urge you to increase your support for TAG so that we can help make this better day a reality—and soon.

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TAG's unwavering dedication to accelerating new treatments, a vaccine, and a cure for AIDS is more critical that ever. I urge you to stand proudly alongside us as we continue to make change happen.

Barbara Hughes

President, Board of Directors



Actress and humanitarian Doris Roberts (left), recipient of a TAG 2008 Research in Action Award, with TAG board president Barbara Hughes (center). Actress Anne Meara (right) introduced Ms. Roberts.

Research in Action Awards 2008

Treatment Action Group's 2008 Research in Action Awards honored U.S. AIDS ambassador Mark Dybul, actress Doris Roberts, philanthropist Sally Morrison, and restaurateur Florent Morellet.

TAG's 2008 Research in Action Awards benefit, held at the Astor Center in New York City on December 14, 2008, honored four individuals who have made significant contributions to AIDS research and activism.

"TAG is proud to honor these heroes who have fought for decades to keep people with HIV alive," said Mark Harrington, executive director of TAG.

This year's honorees included Emmy Award—winning actress Doris Roberts, who was presented her award by actress Anne Meara; Ambassador Mark R. Dybul, U.S. global AIDS coordinator and coordinator for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), who was introduced by Mark Harrington; restaurateur and AIDS activist Florent Morellet, who received his award from *POZ* magazine

founder Sean Strub; and Sally Morrison, AIDS activist and director/senior partner of the Diamond Information Center, and a former member of TAG's board of directors, who was presented her award by actress Julianne Moore.

The event was cochaired by Scott Campbell, executive director of the Elton John AIDS Foundation, and Jane Silver, president of the Irene Diamond Fund. The evening was emceed by actor Malcolm Gets.

Ambassador Dybul remarked, "TAG has done extraordinary work, and my good friend Mark Harrington has been a great inspiration and leader in the fight against AIDS."

"I love TAG's commitment and courage," said Ms. Roberts.

Ms. Morrison described TAG's work as "advocacy to ensure that direct science is being funded, that money isn't being wasted, and that access to the benefits of science is equitably available to all people—all tremendously important things."

Mr. Campbell commented, "TAG was there from the very beginning to move the research forward. But today there's still no cure, there's still no vaccine, and we still have quite a long ways to go. So it's crucial that TAG is here."

Founded in 1992, TAG fights to find a cure for AIDS and to ensure that all people living with HIV receive the necessary treatment, care, and information they need to save their lives. TAG remains the only organization in the world solely dedicated to AIDS research and treatment advocacy.



Research in Action Award (RIAA) recipient Sally Morrison.

2008 AT A GLANCE

JANUARY

TAG sponsors first francophone African TB/HIV advocacy workshop in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. TAG Hepatitis/HIV Project director **Tracy Swan** appointed consumer representative to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Antiviral Drugs Advisory Committee.

FEBRUARY

TAG Basic Science Project director **Richard Jefferys** presents on HIV transmission and vaccine research at an amfAR/CHAMP/TAG activist training seminar. **Tracy Swan** appointed to New York State Governor's Advisory Council on Hepatitis C.

MARCH

TAG sponsors TB/HIV advocacy workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Led by TB/HIV Project director **Javid Syed**, 70 African activists strategize on how to fight TB/HIV coinfection. TAG policy director **Sue Perez** coordinates meeting among African activists and African Union officials.

APRIL

TAG hosts the Stop TB Partnership's TB/HIV Working Group meeting at its New York office. TAG executive director **Mark Harrington** participates in Ford Foundation meeting to develop a National AIDS Strategy for the United States. TAG's Hepatitis/HIV Project hires **Lei Chou** as its first coordinator to cover hepatitis B virus (HBV) coinfection. **Sue Perez** presents "Civil Society in Global



RIAA attendees Amanda Collins, Warner Music Group; Suzanne "Africa" Engo, youth AIDS activist; and Scott W. Morgan, TAG's deputy director.

Health: Understanding the Changing Architecture and New Initiatives" at a World Bank/International Monetary Fund meeting in Washington, D.C. Javid Syed testifies on the dire threat of HIV-related TB at the UNAIDS Program Coordinating Board meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand. TAG Antiretroviral Project director **Bob Huff** reports on the World CAB meeting in New Delhi between generic drug makers and members of the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition. **Mark Harrington** presents an impassioned plea to the World Health Organization (WHO) to urge countries to implement isoniazid preventive therapy to prevent TB among people with HIV. TAG and the AIDS Rights Alliance of Southern Africa sponsor the first international workshop on a pointof-care (dipstick) diagnostic test for TB, held at Cambridge University, UK.

MAY

Richard Jefferys' critique of a scientifically questionable HIV vaccine trial influences the decision to cancel the \$180 million government-funded study. Tracy Swan organizes the Second International Workshop on Clinical Trial Design: Experimental HCV Drugs for HIV/HCV Co-Infected People, in Sitges, Spain. TAG TB/HIV Project coordinator Claire Wingfield presents TAG's position on the



2008 RIAA recipient.

(photo courtesy of Physicians for Human Rights)

urgency of developing new, point-ofcare TB diagnostic tests at the WHO. **Javid Syed** and **Claire Wingfield** organize a global activist training at the TB Alliance's Open Forum on TB Drug Development in New Delhi.

JUNE

TAG cosponsors the first international workshop on drug development for new drugs to treat drug-resistant tuberculosis, held in Cambridge, MA. The subsequent "Cambridge Declaration" is published in the International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease. Nature magazine publishes Richard Jefferys' letter about the failed Merck STEP HIV vaccine trial. Sue Perez presents on promoting collaborative TB/HIV activities at the U.S. HIV Implementer's meeting in Kampala, Uganda.

JULY

TAG publishes *TB Research & Development: Critical Analysis of Funding Trends*, showing severe shortfalls in global investment in TB research. TAG's Hepatitis/HIV Project team goes to Thailand to give regional workshops on coinfection and treatment access.

AUGUST

TAG publishes the 2008 Pipeline Report. More than 2,000 copies are distributed at the International AIDS Conference in Mexico City. **Mark Harrington** presents "Moving from Universal Access to Comprehensive Primary Health Care for All" at a Mexico City plenary session on the future of AIDS. **Bob Huff** quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* in story on misleading drug company advertising.

SEPTEMBER

TAG launches its updated website, www.treatmentactiongroup.org. TAG hires **Scott Morgan** as its first deputy director, to focus on operations, fundraising, and program management. TAG organizes the "Third African TB/HIV Advocacy Workshop" in Entebbe, Uganda, training a new generation of African HIV activists in TB/HIV coinfection science, policy, and advocacy. Mark Harrington and Claire Wingfield present on HIV/ TB activism at the Consortium to Respond Effectively to the TB/HIV Epidemic meeting in Lusaka, Zambia. Tracy Swan co-conducts a four-day workshop on HIV and viral hepatitis for prison peer educators incarcerated at California's Vacaville Medical Facility. **Sue Perez** participates in a high-level mission to work with the Ethiopian government to strengthen civil society involvement in health sector reform.

OCTOBER

TAG hosts an international workshop bringing together HIV and TB program managers from high-burden countries to collaborate more effectively to achieve universal access to care and treatment. **Bob Huff** speaks on the emerging issue of premature aging and HIV at Project Inform's HAART 2.0 meeting on future directions for HIV treatment and research.

NOVEMBER

TAG cosponsors, along with amfAR and Project Inform, the first-ever workshop on "Eliminating Viral Persistence and Eradicating HIV Infection" that brings researchers, funders, and activists to Washington, D.C. to focus on discovering a cure for HIV. Mark Harrington testifies at the Institute of Medicine panel on drug-resistant TB. Bob Huff offers predictions on the future of AIDS at the PATH aids2031 meeting in Seattle.

DECEMBER

TAG's annual Research in Action Awards (RIAA) benefit honors Emmy Award-winning actress **Doris** Roberts; Ambassador Mark R. Dybul, U.S. global AIDS coordinator for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR); AIDS activist and restaurateur Florent Morellet; and Sally Morrison, AIDS activist and former member of TAG's board of directors. Cochaired by **Scott Campbell.** executive director of the Elton John AIDS Foundation, and Jane **Silver**, president of the Irene Diamond Fund, the 2008 RIAA raises a record \$185,000 for TAG's research and treatment advocacy work. Lei Chou testifies at Institute of Medicine hearing on viral hepatitis. Tracy Swan and Lei Chou win the Chairman's Choice Award at the HIV DART Conference in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico for their poster on the inclusion in clinical trials of women, people of color and individuals coinfected with HIV and viral hepatitis.

Nobel laureate Françoise Barré-Sinoussi (center left) with TAG's Javid Syed (left), Mark Harrington, and Claire Wingfield at TAG's October 2008 TB satellite meeting in Paris.

NIAID director Anthony Fauci at TAG's "Cure Meeting" in Washington, D.C., November 2008. TB/HIV activists (left to right) Lucy Cheshire, Mark Harrington, and Carol Nyirenda at the International AIDS Conference in Mexico City. RIAA honoree Sally Morrison and her son Toby Corser (center left) with actress Julianne Moore (far left) and TAG's board president Barbara Hughes and executive director Mark Harrington.

TAG PROGRAMS

The Antiretroviral Project

TAG's Antiretroviral Project closely monitors and influences the state of research on anti-HIV drug discovery, development, dissemination, and postmarketing surveillance; advocates for accelerated, better-focused efforts in this area; and focuses on innovative treatments for drug-resistant HIV that are easier to take, less toxic, and/or represent a major therapeutic breakthrough. TAG advocates for better postmarketing research on approved antiretroviral drugs to improve standards of care; works on domestic and international treatment guidelines; and educates and mobilizes policy makers, researchers, and the HIV community on anti-HIV treatment research. TAG works with academic researchers, clinicians, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and with domestic and international community coalitions to achieve these ends. TAG also works to catalyze research to understand and eventually defeat HIV persistence in the body and advocates for intensified efforts to cure HIV infection.

The Michael Palm HIV Pathogenesis and Prevention Project

TAG's Palm Project works to improve the state of basic research on HIV/AIDS, including pathogenesis, immunology, vaccine, microbicide, and preclinical discovery and development. The Palm Project advocates for better and faster research into the pathogenesis of HIV infection and the interactions between HIV and the immune system; for research on immune-based therapeutic approaches to HIV infection; for accelerated, scientifically rigorous HIV vaccine and microbicide research; and on projects to educate and mobilize policy makers, researchers, and the HIV community on basic science and vaccine development.



Florent Morellet accepts his 2008 RIAA.

The Hepatitis/HIV Project

TAG's Hepatitis/HIV Project works to improve the state of research, prevention, access to care, and treatment for people living with HIV and hepatitis B virus (HBV) or hepatitis C virus (HCV), the two most common viral coinfections associated with HIV disease, and the leading killers of people with HIV in the United States and many other countries. TAG advocates for greater research and program activities on HIV/viral hepatitis coinfections while working to educate and mobilize policy makers, researchers, and the HIV community. In 2008, TAG expanded its efforts, previously mainly focusing on HCV/HIV coinfection, to encompass HBV/HIV coinfection as well, brought on a Coordinator, Lei Chou, to collaborate with Project Director Tracy Swan. TAG works in the United States and with research and activist partners around the world to fight HIV, HBV, and HCV coinfections.

The TB/HIV Advocacy Project

TAG's TB/HIV Advocacy Project educates and empowers communities affected by HIV/ AIDS domestically and internationally to understand, mobilize, and respond effectively to the challenges posed by the intersecting epidemics of tuberculosis (TB) and HIV. Worldwide, TB is the leading opportunistic infection and a leading cause of death among people living with HIV. To educate, mobilize, and empower HIV communities, TAG works to increase community understanding of TB/ HIV coinfection and to increase the quality and quantity of research, treatment, and resources to combat the two epidemics.



Malcolm Gets, emcee of the 2008 RIAA benefit.

U.S. and Global Health Policy

With a full-time policy director based in Washington, D.C., TAG has increased its visibility and capacity in the nation's capitol to monitor and advocate for key domestic and global legislation relating to TAG's advocacy projects. TAG works in coalition with numerous global AIDS and health organizations toward a vision of comprehensive and universal primary health care which combines the need for significant improvements in developing countries' overall health systems and continued support and effort to fight AIDS, TB, and malaria.

TAG Limited Edition

2008 TONY FEHER

Each year at its annual Research in Action Awards benefit, TAG presents a new, limited-edition artwork generously donated by a highly regarded visual artist.

The 2008 TAG Limited Edition, an artist's multiple of 12 titled *Green Blacktop*, was created by Tony Feher, one of the most important sculptors working today.

Past contributing artists have included Carrie Yamaoka, David Armstrong, Richard Renaldi, and Ben Thornberry.

For information about purchasing one of these works, please contact TAG at 212 253 7922.



Artist Tony Feher (center left), who donated the 2008 TAG Limited Edition artwork, and painter Tom Spoerndle (center right), chat with TAG board member Joy Episalla (left) and TAG executive director Mark Harrington (right).

CONTRIBUTORS 2008

\$100,000 OR MORE

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation The Michael Palm Foundation

\$50,000-\$99,000

Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc. The John M. Lloyd Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,999

Bristol-Myers Squibb Gilead Sciences, Inc. Merck & Co., Inc. Newman's Own Foundation Pfizer Inc. Roche / Hoffmann-LaRoche Pharmaceuticals Inc. Schering-Plough Corporation

\$10,000-\$24,999

amfAR: the Foundation for AIDS Research Broadway Cares / Equity Fights AIDS City of New York / New York City Council David Corkery The Diamond Information Center Elton John AIDS Foundation Gesso Foundation GlaxoSmithKline **Tibotec Therapeutics** World Health Organization / Stop TB Partnership

\$5,000-\$9,999

De Beers Nicholas A. R. Debs Dr. Mathilde Krim Richard M. Lynn & Joseph Evall Stephen Mack & Robert Monteleone Robert J. McLain Rainbow Endowment Ellen & Gerry Sigal Mary Wohlford Foundation Andrew David Zacks / The Zacks Family Foundation

\$2.500-\$4.999

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\$1,000-\$2,499

AIDS Global Action Timothy & Mary C. Casey Kenneth Cole Foundation Edgar M. & Elissa F. Cullman Constance D'Aurizio Richard A. & Barbara Knowles Debs / The Debs Foundation Irene Diamond Fund

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\$500-\$999

Daniel Scheffey

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\$250-\$499

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Palm Donor Circle Special Recognition by TAG

The Palm Donor Circle of the Treatment Action Group is TAG's major donor program, named in honor of philanthropist and TAG supporter Michael Palm (1951–1998). Members of the Palm Donor Circle made individual donations of \$1,000 or more to TAG in 2008.

Timothy & Mary C. Casey Kenneth D. & Maria Cuomo Cole David Corkery Edgar M. & Elissa F. Cullman Constance D'Aurizio Richard A. & Barbara Knowles Debs Nicholas A. R. Debs Marcus Edward & Ken O'Neill M. Lee Garrison Steven & Judith O. Gluckstern Kevin Goetz & Neil Dick David Gold Ianet Goldman Walter & Lola Green Judith & Richard Harrington Gregory H. Hoffman & Bradford Jones David Hollander & Robert Shaw Dr. Mathilde Krim Michael K. Longacre Richard M. Lynn & Joseph Evall Alby P. Maccarone, Jr. Stephen Mack & Robert Monteleone

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TAG BE INVOLVED

About TAG

Treatment Action Group is an independent AIDS research and policy think tank fighting for better treatment, a vaccine, and a cure for AIDS. TAG works to ensure that all people with HIV receive lifesaving treatment, care, and information. We are science-based treatment activists working to expand and accelerate vital research and effective community engagement with research and policy institutions. TAG catalyzes open collective action by all affected communities, scientists, and policy makers to end AIDS.

Program areas include AIDS policy issues, antiretroviral treatment, basic science, vaccines, viral hepatitis, and tuberculosis.

Join TAG's Board

TAG is always seeking new board members. If you are looking for a great place to invest your time and talents, please call Barbara Hughes, TAG board president, to learn more about board opportunities with TAG.

212 253 7922 barbara.hughes@treatmentactiongroup.org

Contribute!

TAG welcomes donations from individuals who want to see the AIDS research agenda remain responsive to the needs of all people living with HIV.

To make a charitable donation to TAG, call 212 253 7922 or go online to www.treatmentactiongroup.org.

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TAG is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. E.I.N. 13-3624785



TAG FINANCIALS 2008

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2008		
Assets			
Current assets: Cash and cash equivalents Contributions receivable Prepaid expenses and other receivables	\$ 1,350,325 1,253,097 14,974	\$ 651,189 1,986,400 99,606	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	2,618,396	2,737,195	
Property and equipment—net of accumulated depreciation Security deposits	57,961 20,654	43,739 20,654	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,697,011	\$ 2,801,588	
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Current liabilities Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 2,630	\$ 7,054	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,630	7,054	
Net assets Unrestricted Temporarily restricted	1,126,049 1,568,332	718,134 2,076,400	
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2,694,381	2,794,534	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 2,697,011	\$ 2,801,588	
Statement of Cash Flows			
Cash flows from operating activities: Increase (Decrease) in net assets Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:	\$ (100,153)	\$ 1,000,292	
Depreciation	14,352	6,387	
(Increase) Decrease in current assets: Contributions receivable Prepaid expenses and other receivables Security deposits	733,303 84,632 -	(580,229) (97,711) (16,198)	
(Decrease) Increase in current liabilities: Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(4,424)	2,613	
NET CASH (USED IN) PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 727,710	\$ 315,154	
Cash flows from investing activities:	(00.574)	(40 771)	
Purchases of property and equipment	(28,574)	(42,771)	
Net cash used in investing activities Net decrease (increase) in cash balance	(28,574) 699,136	(42,771) 272,383	
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	651,189	378,806	
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,350,325	\$ 651,189	

TAG FINANCIALS 2008

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

Unr		Inrestricted Temporarily Restricted		-	Year ended December 31 2008 2007			
Revenue and support:								
Direct mail	\$	44,340	\$	-	\$	44,340	\$	36,108
Donations		29,427		-		29,427		64,884
Grants	4	429,600	1,253	,207		1,682,807	2	2,410,370
Special event income		159,151		-		159,151		147,782
Travel and other reimbursement		40,159		-		40,159		37,578
Interest and dividend income		4,768	26	,886		31,654		52,368
		707,445	1,280	093		1,987,538	2	,749,090
Net assets released from restrictions		1,788,161	(1,788	,161)		_		_
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	2,4	495,606	(508,0)68)		1,987,538	2	,749,090
Expenses:								
Program Services								
Antiretroviral Project		53,147		-		53,147		68,087
U.S. & Global Health Policy Project		99,952		-		99,952		69,144
Michael Palm HIV Pathogenesis and								
Prevention Project		157,086		-		157,086		182,491
Hepatitis/HIV Project		263,452		-		263,452		163,800
TB/HIV Advocacy Project	1,	259,987		-		1,259,587		1,026,610
TAG Publications and Website		79,298		-		79,298		92,373
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	1,	912,922		-		1,912,922	1,	,602,485
Management and general		98,316		_		98,316		84,659
Fund-raising		76,453		-		76,453		61,654
TOTAL SERVICES EXPENSES	2,	087,691		_	2	2,087,691	1	,748,798
Increase in net assets		407,915	(508,0)68)		(100,153)	1	,000,292
Net assets, beginning of year		718,134	2,076,	400	_ 2	2,794,534	1	1,794,242
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR		126,049	1,568	,332	2	2,694,381	2	,794,534