

tag2012

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



TAG board president Barbara Hughes, with 2012 Research in Action Awards recipients Dr. Paul Farmer, Jon Cohen, Dr. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Judith Light, and TAG's Mark Harrington

Dear Friends of TAG:

I'm very happy to present TAG's annual report for 2012. As you will read in these pages, there were many new developments in the fields of HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C virus (HCV), and tuberculosis (TB).

As we continued our fight in 2012 to ensure treatment access as well as prevention and care for all who need it, we worked with scientists, activists, researchers, governments, policy makers, and other key stakeholders to continue to accelerate the science that changes and ultimately saves lives.

We are grateful for your continued support, which enables us in our critical advocacy and activism. We look to this year with cautious optimism and great resolve as we work to ensure that people with HIV/AIDS, HCV, and TB receive the lifesaving treatment, care, and information they need.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hughes
President, Board of Directors



Dr. Paul Farmer and RIAA presenter Chelsea Clinton



Gregg Gonsalves, RIAA event chair Peter Staley, and Matt Sharp

2012 Research in Action Awards

TAG's Research in Action Awards (RIAA) honor activists, scientists, philanthropists, and creative artists who have made extraordinary contributions in the fight against AIDS. RIAA is a fundraiser to support TAG's programs and provides a forum to honor heroes of the epidemic.

The 2012 Research in Action Awards, which marked the 20th anniversary of TAG's founding, were celebrated on December 9 at 404, on 10th Avenue and 33rd Street. **Jenna Wolfe**, weekend anchor on NBC's *Today Show*, hosted the event.

2012 RIAA honorees:

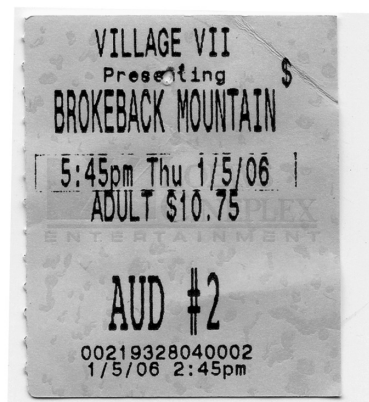
Dr. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi is the virologist who, in 1983, discovered HIV and in 2008 won the Nobel Prize for that discovery. She is president of the International AIDS Society (IAS), has authored hundreds of scientific publications, and leads the IAS's Global Scientific Strategy: "Towards an HIV Cure."

Jon Cohen is an AIDS journalist for *Science* magazine and author of *Shots in the Dark*, a stirring and thorough account of the search for an AIDS vaccine in the earlier days of the epidemic that still serves as a wake-up call for the work that must be done to finally end AIDS.

Dr. Paul Farmer is cofounder of Partners In Health and chairman of Harvard Medical School's Department of Global Health and Social Medicine. His vision and leadership were critical to the movement to make AIDS treatments available to those in the developing world. His work was heralded in Tracy Kidder's hugely popular *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World*.

Judith Light is an Emmy- and Tony Award-winning actress renowned not only for her career in theater, film, and television, but also for her passionate and longtime advocacy for organizations and charities representing AIDS-related and human rights issues, including Broadway Cares/Equity Fight AIDS, the Names Project, the AIDS Memorial Quilt, Project Angel Food, and the Trevor Project.

See video highlights from the 2012 Research in Action Awards at: www.treatmentactiongroup.org/riaa.



Executive Director of the Elton John AIDS Foundation
Scott Campbell and Judith Light



TAG board member Alby P. Maccarone, Jr., RIAA event chair Joy A. Tomchin, Mark Harrington, and Barbara Hughes



Rick Schubel, TAG board member Jason Osher, Barbara Hughes, and TAG board member Monte Steinman



TAG board treasurer Laura Morrison, Barbara Hughes, Congressman Jerrold Nadler, and TAG board member Richard Lynn

TAG Limited Art Edition

Acclaimed artist **Robert Gober** generously donated a limited edition of 20 woodblock prints, which he created especially for TAG.

Gober has exhibited widely throughout the U.S., Europe, and Japan, and his work is held in major museum collections, including the Whitney Museum of Art, the Guggenheim Museum, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Tate Modern, and many others. In 2014, there will be a 30-year survey of his work at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Robert Gober is represented by the Matthew Marks Gallery in New York City: www.matthewmarks.com/new-york/artists/robert-gober/.

TAG PROGRAMS

An AIDS-Free Generation?

Significant HIV treatment and prevention advances over the past several years reached a tipping point in 2012, notably at July's International AIDS Conference in Washington, D.C., where numerous governmental and non-governmental leaders declared that we now have the tools to achieve an "AIDS-free generation." This aspiration was buttressed by former secretary of state Hillary Clinton's pre-World AIDS Day release of the Obama administration's ambitious *PEPFAR Blueprint: Creating an AIDS-Free Generation*.

While TAG applauded the *Blueprint* for reinforcing that the United States' global commitment remains strategic and driven by science, we recognized that the plan far surpassed those in place to achieve domestic targets, as specified in the 2010 White House release of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS). In turn, TAG fortified its efforts in 2012 to end the inertia on HIV/AIDS in the United States, where more than 15,000 people with an AIDS diagnosis still die each year, and new HIV infection rates remain around 50,000 annually.

In December, TAG convened a meeting of HIV activists, service providers, and researchers to address glaring disparities in the U.S. treatment cascade, which begins with only 80 percent of those with HIV being aware of their status and ends with only one in four being effectively treated with antiretroviral therapy. A key advocacy priority borne out of the meeting was the development of an evidence-based research and implementation science agenda to ensure that policy and care programs to address these gaps are based on sound data, particularly within the context of implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid expansion, and the uncertain future of Ryan White CARE Act funding.

A meeting report and action plan from the meeting can be found at: www.treatmentactiongroup.org/hiv/nhas.

TAG Helps Launch HCV Global Treatment Access Movement

Dozens of new drugs are in the pipeline, and the standard of care is rapidly evolving toward short-course, highly effective interferon-free treatment. These therapeutic advances—and rising death rates from HCV-associated complications—have created momentum for a global treatment access movement.

TAG's Director of International Hepatitis/HIV Policy and Advocacy, Karyn Kaplan, is providing leadership and technical assistance to activist allies and coalitions working to create and increase access to HCV prevention, care, and treatment.

TAG is a key stakeholder in all matters related to HCV treatment. TAG's connections with activist allies, researchers, policy makers, foundations, patient groups, academic institutions, regulatory agencies, and the pharmaceutical industry have made it possible for us to organize productive high-level meetings, alter policies, and help advance a strong research advocacy agenda.

In 2012, TAG's Hepatitis/HIV Project:

- Brought together more than 50 international activists at the International AIDS Conference for the first-ever strategy meeting on HCV treatment access;
- Colaunched, on World Hepatitis Day, the *Washington Call for Access to HCV Diagnostics, Treatment, and Care for All*, an advocacy platform for the international HCV treatment access movement;
- Cosponsored a multi-stakeholder meeting to discuss a series of barriers to HCV treatment access in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), and strategized on ways to surmount them;
- Participated in the development of HCV treatment guidelines for LMICs;
- Fought for HCV drug development inclusive of high-prevalence groups, many at risk for liver disease progression: HIV/HCV coinfecting people, current and former injecting drug users, people with advanced liver disease, African Americans, Latinos/Latinas, and transplant candidates and recipients;
- Fought for early access initiatives to provide potentially lifesaving treatment access; and
- Coordinated an international group of HCV treatment activists to give the community a strong voice in HCV drug development.

Toward an HIV Cure

In March 2012, TAG, the AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition (ATAC), and Project Inform cosponsored a workshop to discuss how community input and advocacy can accelerate research and speed the development of a cure for HIV/AIDS. Sixty-one people attended, including seven representatives from the drug and biologics divisions of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), a regulator from Health Canada, representatives from the International AIDS Society (IAS) and several pharmaceutical companies, academic researchers, and many community advocates (both U.S.-based and international). Speakers included representatives from the AIDS Clinical Trials Group, the three recently funded Martin Delaney Collaboratories, Gilead, Sangamo BioSciences, City of Hope, and the University of Pennsylvania.

As part of an ongoing collaboration with the IAS's "Towards an HIV Cure" advocacy effort, TAG also cosponsored a cure research symposium in Washington, D.C., in July and participated in the launch of the IAS Global Scientific Strategy for the field. TAG organized a presymposium workshop for community attendees with the aim of increasing cure-research literacy, and hosted a similar event as a satellite to the subsequent International AIDS Conference.

TAG continued to provide ongoing coverage of HIV cure research in publications such as TAGline, its annual Pipeline Report, and via the organization's website and Michael Palm HIV Basic Science, Vaccines, and Prevention Project Weblog. The TAG website includes a frequently updated page listing cure-related research resources and clinical trials (www.treatmentactiongroup.org/cure).

First New TB Drug on the Market in 40 Years

TAG was part of several major victories in the global fight against TB in 2012. Among the most important achievements of the year was the Zeroes Campaign, a bold new strategy that calls for global action to achieve zero TB deaths, zero new TB infections, and zero suffering and stigma. The campaign, which launched in May 2012, galvanized the global community with support from over 317 individuals and 146 organizations, including the Stop TB Partnership, which endorsed it as part of its operational strategy, the *Global Plan to Stop TB 2011–2015*.

TAG also played a critical role in raising awareness of childhood TB and in calling for it to be included in statistical data collected by the World Health Organization. In January 2012, TAG held a federal advocacy meeting on childhood TB, which spurred a call to action among domestic advocates and policy makers to increase funding and support for childhood TB R&D activities. TAG worked with international advocates to document pediatric drug-resistant TB globally and develop a road map for advocacy, and co-hosted a congressional TB briefing to highlight childhood TB advocacy.

The Community Research Advisory Group (CRAG) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Tuberculosis Trials Consortium continues to grow as a respected advisory body. TAG and the CRAG have been instrumental in developing the *Good Participatory Practice Guidelines for TB Drug Trials (GPP-TB)*, which was recently acknowledged by the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues. The team also codeveloped a proposal to implement the *GPP-TB*, which is likely to receive National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding in 2013.

The Global TB Community Advisory Board (TB CAB), a group of highly skilled activists from nine countries, celebrated its one-year anniversary in 2012. With support from TAG, the TB CAB played an active role in TB drug development, including advocating for compassionate use programs for new TB drugs entering the market.

The culminating event of 2012 was the FDA's accelerated approval of the first new TB drug from a new drug class in over 40 years. Regulatory approval of bedaquiline, a new drug to treat multidrug-resistant TB, is an enormous win for the global TB community. With 1.4 million TB deaths annually, the need for new drugs has never been more urgent. As new drugs enter the market, TAG will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that these essential medicines reach all those in need.

Mounting Fiscal and Political Pressures Threaten Safety Nets

TAG's policy program in Washington, D.C., has continued to make measurable progress in the fight for increased HIV, TB, and hepatitis funding, education, and advocacy despite mounting fiscal and political challenges. Budgetary cuts, notably the sequestration enacted in March 2013, threaten the fragile safety-net infrastructure for low-income and marginalized people living with HIV in the United States.

Over the past year, TAG advocated for the creation of the first-ever TB congressional caucus, presented at three congressional briefings, organized a number of high-profile community advocacy activities, and led the development of a number of sign-on letters, position statements, declarations, press releases, and reports. TAG strengthened critical working relationships with HIV and TB/HIV community members, civil-society partners, as well as key administration and congressional stakeholders with influence over funding and policy decisions.

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\$100,000 OR MORE

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Veterans Affairs Medical Center of Washington, D.C.
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World Health Organization/Stop TB Partnership

\$10,000–\$24,999

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TAG FINANCIALS 2012

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Year ended December 31	
	2012	2011
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,399,659	\$ 1,319,417
Contributions receivable	1,091,547	1,038,191
Prepaid expenses	20,523	5,789
Donated inventory	255,500	242,500
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	2,767,229	2,605,897
Property and equipment – net of accumulated depreciation	41,707	30,130
Security deposits	43,015	43,015
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,851,951	\$ 2,679,042
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 25,636	\$ 23,023
TOTAL LIABILITIES	25,636	23,023
Net assets		
Unrestricted	1,761,603	1,656,206
Temporarily restricted	1,064,712	999,813
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2,826,315	2,656,019
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 2,851,951	\$ 2,679,042

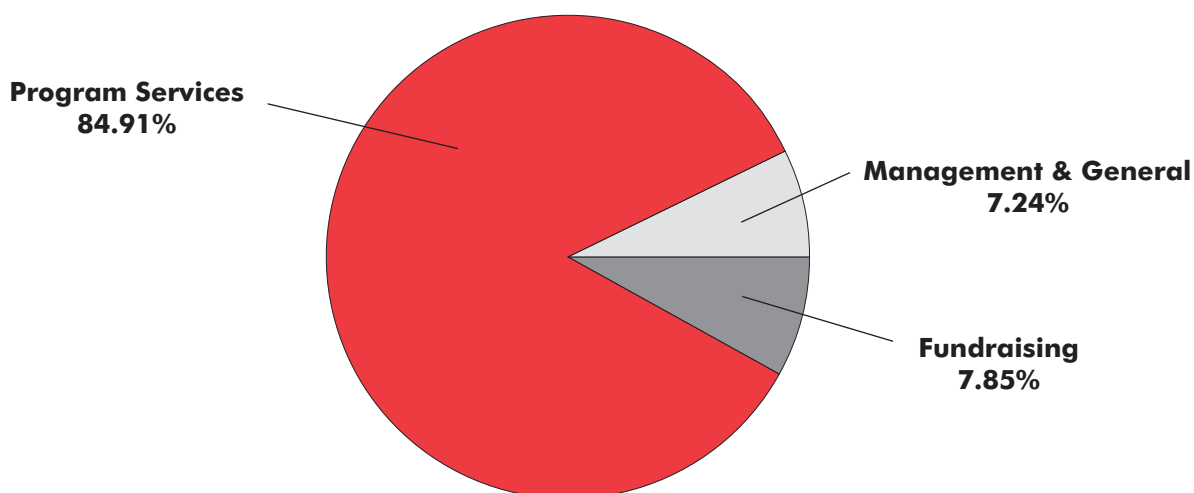
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Cash flows from operating activities		
Increase in net assets	\$ 170,296	\$ 209,552
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	14,450	26,452
Donated inventory received	(130,000)	(70,000)
Direct benefit to event participants	117,000	28,000
(Increase) Decrease in current assets		
Contributions receivable	(53,356)	39,840
Prepaid expenses	(14,734)	1,728
Security deposits	–	(22,361)
(Decrease) Increase in current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	2,613	20,163
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 106,269	\$ 233,374
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchases of property and equipment	(26,027)	(21,213)
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(26,027)	(21,213)
NET INCREASE IN CASH BALANCE	80,242	212,161
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,319,417	1,107,256
CASH, END OF YEAR	1,399,659	\$ 1,319,417
Supplementary disclosures of cash flow information		
Donated goods and services	\$ 158,951	\$ 110,624

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

			Year ended December 31	
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2012 Total	2011 Total
REVENUE AND SUPPORT				
Donations	\$ 66,022	\$ –	\$ 66,022	\$ 53,809
Grants	586,328	1,107,212	1,693,540	1,659,606
Special event income	365,513	–	365,513	215,689
Travel and other reimbursement	15,503	–	15,503	34,327
Interest and dividend income	4,687	–	4,687	5,851
	1,038,053	1,107,212	2,145,265	1,969,282
Net assets released from restrictions	1,042,313	(1,042,313)	–	–
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	\$ 2,080,366	\$ 64,899	\$ 2,145,265	\$ 1,969,282
EXPENSES				
Program services				
HIV Project	\$ 128,534	\$ –	\$ 128,534	\$ 141,132
Cure Project	163,552	–	163,552	162,746
Hepatitis and HIV Project	229,342	–	229,342	257,057
Tuberculosis and HIV Project	1,052,649	–	1,052,649	843,927
Communications and Advocacy Project	76,024	–	76,024	34,484
U.S. and Global Health Policy Project	26,759	–	26,759	61,266
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	1,676,860	–	1,676,860	1,500,612
Management and general	143,039	–	143,039	140,076
Fundraising	155,070	–	155,070	119,042
TOTAL SERVICES EXPENSES	1,974,969	–	1,974,969	1,759,730
Increase in net assets	105,397	64,899	170,296	209,552
Net assets, beginning of year	1,656,206	999,813	2,656,019	2,446,467
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,761,603	\$ 1,064,712	\$ 2,826,315	\$ 2,656,019

Summary of 2012 Functional Expenses



THE 2012 PALM DONOR CIRCLE

With TAG's Accelerating Research to Cure AIDS Campaign in Red

The **Palm Donor Circle** 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 in 2012.

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www.treatmentactiongroup.org/support

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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. Call 212.253.7922, or e-mail barbara.hughes@treatmentactiongroup.org.

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.

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