



2004

# annual report

O F T H E T R E A T M E N T A C T I O N G R O U P

## Dear Friends of TAG:

*I am so proud to share with you our 2004 Annual Report. This has been an exciting yet challenging year for the Treatment Action Group (TAG), as well as HIV/AIDS activists worldwide. I would like to first acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the staff and Board of TAG. Without these key individuals, we would not have made the substantial progress we are sharing with you today.*

*TAG has deepened and broadened its response as the epidemic has grown. Yet, we have not been able to keep pace with the tyranny and destruction of AIDS. We fight for better research and broader access to an increasing number of treatment options. The most powerful tools we have against HIV/AIDS are effective therapies that are widely available, and accessible information that enables people to make thoughtful decisions about their health and treatment. This has led TAG to work on AIDS vaccine, microbicide, and immune-based therapy research; antiretroviral research, development, and accessibility; hepatitis c virus (HCV) and HIV coinfection; and tuberculosis (TB) and HIV coinfection. We have accomplished a great deal over the past year, but as you know, the epidemic continues to grow, as does the number of people infected.*

*Your support is what enables us to continue our work and build on the foundation TAG has so effectively established. Thank you for your support, encouragement, and dedication to the mission of TAG and the work that lies ahead.*

Sincerely,

Barbara Hughes  
Board President

TAG is grateful to the many advisers and consultants who supported our work in 2004, including our website designer **Joel Beard**, layout consultant **Lei Chou**, editors **Jen Curry**, **Andrea Dailey**, and **Bob Huff**, and **Julie Davids**, author of the 2nd TB/HIV Workshop report. We thank **Mike Barr** for his many years editing TAGline and **Will Berger** for helping run the TAG office from 2003-2004. Most of all we thank our Board, donors, and fellow HIV/AIDS activists for giving us the support and inspiration we need to continue our work. Following is an outline of some of the year's more notable projects and accomplishments.

**2004** was a year of major growth and accomplishment for TAG. Our staff made substantial progress in fighting for better research and broader access to treatment.

**Basic Science & Vaccines Project Director Richard Jefferys** continued to be one of the community's strongest voices for faster, better AIDS vaccine, microbicide, and immune-based therapy research.

**Antiretroviral Project Director Rob Camp's** frequently updated antiretroviral (ARV) pipeline table kept activists informed of progress in this busy field. He also developed TAG's policies on new drugs that were in development or were recently approved by the FDA, such as Gilead's **Truvada (emtricitabine/tenofovir)** and Glaxo's **Epzicom (epivir/abacavir)**.

In July 2004, TAG's **Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)/HIV Coinfection Project Director, Tracy Swan**, published her magnum opus on *Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) and HIV/HCV Coinfection: A Critical Review of Research and Treatment*, and led activist efforts to focus more resources on deadly HCV coinfection.

In Bangkok at the **15th International AIDS Conference**, TAG was honored to participate in a press conference with former South African President **Nelson Mandela**, who called on the world to respond to the challenges posed by the twin epidemics of **HIV** and **tuberculosis (TB)**. At the press conference, TAG also announced receipt of a two-year leadership grant from the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** for our **TB/HIV Project**.

## 2004 *at a glance*

**JANUARY** – Richard Jefferys' policy statement on the **NIAID/Army/Thai canarypox/gp120 HIV preventive vaccine trial** was published, coinciding with a "Policy Forum" in *Science* magazine by 22 scientists critical of the study. Richard's statement was cited in *The Washington Post* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. TAG joined activists around the country to condemn **Abbott's** 400% price increase for **Norvir** brand **ritonavir**. Invited by TAG, NIAID's **Anthony Fauci** presented an update on AIDS research to the **Federal AIDS Policy Partnership**. The **World Health Organization (WHO)** released the *Interim Policy on Collaborative TB/HIV Activities* ([www.who.int/tb/publications/tbhiv\\_interim\\_policy/en](http://www.who.int/tb/publications/tbhiv_interim_policy/en)), and *Scaling Up Antiretroviral Therapy in Resource-Limited Settings: Treatment Guidelines for a Public Health Approach* ([www.who.int/tb/publications/tbhiv\\_interim\\_policy/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/tb/publications/tbhiv_interim_policy/en/index.html)), each co-written by TAG's **Mark Harrington**.

**FEBRUARY** – The International Treatment Preparedness Coalition World Community Advisory Board (World CAB) met with **Boehringer-Ingelheim**, **GlaxoSmithKline**, and **Roche** in San Francisco, to demand **lower anti-retroviral drug prices in developing countries**. TAG participated in the 11th **Retrovirus** conference. TAG **condemned Abbott** at a press conference on a **400% price hike for Norvir**. **Richard Jefferys** conducted a teach-in on **immune-based therapies**. TAG met with **Thai activists** to discuss troubled vaccine trial. **Tracy Swan** updated the hepatitis C virus (**HCV**) drug pipeline.

**MARCH** – Richard Jefferys wrote up a report on the **Microbicides 2004 conference**, held in London. New U.S. **Antiretroviral Treatment Guidelines** were posted. Activists from the Alliance for Microbicide Development, the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition, Gay Men's Health Crisis, and TAG met with NIAID Director **Anthony S. Fauci** and colleagues at NIH to provide input on **\$500 million clinical trials recompetition**.

**APRIL** – Activists demonstrated against **Abbott** and petitioned NIH to issue generic license for ritonavir based on unreasonable price for government-funded drug. Spurred by TAG, the NIH **Office of AIDS Research** convened an external review of NIAID trials recompetition. Activists wrote to U.S. international AIDS coordinator Randall Tobias to **protest obstructionist U.S. policy** regarding the use of generic antiretrovirals in developing countries.

**MAY** – Mark Harrington represented TAG at the tuberculosis (**TB**) advocacy workshop at the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** in Seattle, WA, and testified at **NIH meetings** on clinical trials recompetition review meetings in Bethesda, MD. **Dr. Mathilde Krim** graciously **hosted** an evening event for TAG at her home in New York City.

**JUNE** – The **Irene Diamond Fund** awarded TAG \$50,000 for its **NIH advocacy** work. Mark Harrington participated in the WHO TB advisory committee and TB/HIV working group meetings in Geneva, Switzerland. **Tracy Swan** completed a comprehensive report on **HCV/HIV Coinfection**. **OAR** sent recompetition recommendations, with input from TAG, to NIAID.

**JULY** – TAG had a major presence at the **15th International AIDS Conference in Bangkok, Thailand**. **Mark Harrington** spoke at the **Global Fund Partners Forum**. TAG published **Tracy Swan's HCV/HIV Coinfection Project Report**. TAG announced receipt of a two-year leadership **grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for our TB/HIV Project** at a press conference where **Nelson Mandela** highlighted the importance of confronting TB along with HIV.

**AUGUST** – TAG announced an international TB/HIV advocacy grant competition with **Open Society Institute (OSI)**. **Richard Jefferys** covered the AIDS Vaccines 2004 conference in Lausanne. **Rob Camp** participated in the AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition Drug Development Committee meeting and updated TAG's **antiviral pipeline**. TAG met again with Dr. Fauci at NIH regarding the clinical trials recompetition.

**SEPTEMBER** – TAG/OSI **TB/HIV advocacy grant** review, Montreal, Canada. Mark Harrington gave plenary speech on future treatment at the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) conference in Atlanta, GA, and attended the Global TB/HIV Working Group meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where he and 10 **AIDS activists** provided input to the **Global Stop TB Partnership** on improving TB/HIV research and policy coordination. **Richard Jefferys** testified at the FDA's Vaccines Advisory Committee on the troubled Thai vaccine trial. Rob Camp updated the TAG **ARV pipeline**.

**OCTOBER** – TAG held the **3rd International TB/HIV Community Workshop** in Paris at the 35th TB Union conference. 45 activists from around the world planned TB/HIV advocacy strategies and met with the Global Stop TB Partnership and TB Union to discuss **increasing HIV community involvement in TB**. **Rob Camp** met with **Gilead** and **Tibotec** to discuss their new **ARVs**. **Tracy Swan** presented on **HCV/HIV** at the national **Harm Reduction** conference.

**NOVEMBER** – **Mark Harrington** voiced **HIV community concerns** at WHO HIV oversight committee meeting on **3x5 initiative** in **Geneva, Switzerland**. Tracy Swan addressed **HCV/HIV coinfection** at the New York State hepatitis C conference.

**DECEMBER** – TAG staff presented trainings on antiretrovirals, HCV treatment, vaccines, and clinical trials at **North American AIDS Treatment Action Forum (NATAF)**, St. Louis, MO. TAG's annual **Research in Action Awards** benefit honored playwright **Eve Ensler**, researcher **Gerald Friedland**, and TAG donor **JP Morgan Chase Private Bank**.

## TAG PROGRAMS

### Antiretroviral Project

TAG's Antiretroviral project staff review the state of research on anti-HIV drugs; advocate for greater efforts in this area; focus on innovative drugs that are active against drug-resistant HIV, easier to take, or less toxic. TAG advocates for better post-marketing research on approved antiretroviral drugs to improve standards of care; works on domestic and international treatment guidelines; and educates and mobilizes policymakers, researchers, and the HIV community on anti-HIV treatment research. TAG works with academic researchers, clinicians, federal agencies such as the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and with domestic and international community coalitions to achieve these ends.

### Basic Science & Vaccines Project

TAG staff and consultants review the state of basic research on HIV/AIDS, including pathogenesis, immunology, vaccine, microbicide, and pre-clinical drug discovery and development, and 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 policymakers, researchers, and the HIV community on basic science and vaccine development.

## **TAG PROGRAMS**

### **HCV Coinfection Project**

Led by TAG's Coinfection Project Director, TAG staff and consultants review the state of research on the opportunistic complications, infections, cancers, and coinfections related to HIV/AIDS, and advocate for greater efforts in this area while working to educate and mobilize policymakers, researchers, and the HIV community. Current efforts focus on hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection, which may co-infect up to a quarter of all people with HIV in the United States and often leads to end-stage liver disease. TAG works to improve research, treatment, and community awareness of these coinfections.

### **Federal Affairs / NIH Project**

TAG staff and consultants work to secure additional funds for the U.S. and international AIDS research, treatment, and public education programs and seek to influence policymakers, researchers, and the HIV community so that the funds are spent effectively and efficiently. TAG closely monitors the AIDS research programs at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to ensure that they are efficient, effective, and address the highest priority questions in AIDS research and treatment, both domestically and internationally; and advocates in Washington, D.C., for a strong and independent NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR). To these ends, TAG helps lead coalitions such as the AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition (ATAC), the Coalition for Salvage Therapy (CST), the Fair Price Coalition (FPC), the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership (FAPP), the Research Working Group (RWG), and Save ADAP.

### **TAGline & Website**

TAG staff and consultants publish ten editions each year of the research and treatment policy newsletter, *TAGline*, as well as the bi-annual *TAG Update*, the *Annual Report*, and frequent updates on the TAG website, [www.treatmentactiongroup.org](http://www.treatmentactiongroup.org).

### **TB/HIV Project**

TAG's TB/HIV Project seeks to educate and empower 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 with the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and in alliance with the Open Society Institute (OSI), the Stop TB Partnership, the World Health Organization, and others 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.

### **International Program**

TAG staff and consultants work with individuals and organizations in New York, in Washington, D.C., and around the world to catalyze more effective global interventions against the HIV pandemic. TAG helped organize the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC), which in 2004 helped to win a \$1 million contract from the World Health Organization to support treatment education and literacy efforts in developing countries. TAG works to mobilize more effective international programs from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB & Malaria (GFATM), UNAIDS, the U.S. government, the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), and others.

### **Community Outreach & Education**

TAG staff and consultants work to educate communities around the U.S.A. affected by HIV about the latest developments in research and treatment and to train and mentor individuals to advocate on their own behalf. These activities include playing a leadership role in the North American AIDS Treatment Action Forum (NATAF) and helping to organize trainings for the AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition (ATAC) and its Drug Development Committee (DDC).

**TREATMENT ACTION GROUP, INC.  
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

**A S S E T S**

<b>Current assets:</b>	<b>Years ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2 0 0 4</b>	<b>2 0 0 3</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 403,725	\$ 261,075
Investment-donated marketable securities, at market	-	7,832
Due from vendor	-	3,937
Prepaid expenses	1,506	924
Unconditional promises to give - Unrestricted	613,429	47,115
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b><u>1,018,660</u></b>	<b><u>320,883</u></b>
Property and equipment - net of accumulated depreciation	12,333	18,272
Security deposits	2,756	2,756
<b>Total assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,033,749</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 341,911</u></b>

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 12,664	\$ 8,690
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b><u>12,664</u></b>	<b><u>8,690</u></b>
Net assets		
Unrestricted	249,018	333,221
Temporarily restricted	772,067	-
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b><u>1,021,085</u></b>	<b><u>333,221</u></b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,033,749</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 341,911</u></b>

**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Increase (Decrease) in net assets	\$ 687,864	\$ (55,432)
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Unrealized (gain) loss on marketable securities	-	(1,440)
Realized loss on sale of marketable securities	466	-
Depreciation	5,939	5,651
Donation of marketable securities	-	(1,705)
(Increase) Decrease in current assets:		
Due from vendor	3,937	(3,937)
Prepaid expenses	(582)	(104)
Contributions receivable	(566,314)	4,959
(Decrease) Increase in current liabilities:		
Accrued expenses	3,974	(8,653)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b><u>\$ 135,284</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (60,661)</u></b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from sale of marketable securities	7,366	-
Purchases of property and equipment	-	(7,518)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>7,366</b>	<b>(7,518)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash balance</b>	<b><u>142,650</u></b>	<b><u>(68,179)</u></b>
<b>Cash, beginning of year</b>	<b><u>261,075</u></b>	<b><u>329,254</u></b>
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b><u>\$ 403,725</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 261,075</u></b>

**TREATMENT ACTION GROUP, INC.  
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES**

	<b>Years ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2 0 0 4</b>	<b>2 0 0 3</b>
<b>Changes in unrestricted net assets</b>		
<b>Revenue and support:</b>		
Bequests	\$ —	\$ 1,705
Direct mail	36,034	40,694
Donations	13,850	8,167
Grants	386,000	508,309
Special event income	70,853	105,590
Travel and other reimbursement	3,733	5,190
Interest and dividend income	<u>1,429</u>	<u>2,467</u>
	<b>511,899</b>	<b>672,122</b>
<b>Net assets released from donor restrictions</b>	<b>209,563</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Total unrestricted revenue and support</b>	<b>721,462</b>	<b>672,122</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Program services</b>		
Antiviral project	101,046	97,377
Federal Affairs/OAR project	11,822	19,916
Basic Science project	96,060	95,291
HCV Coinfection project	95,113	33,066
TB/HIV Project	246,841	—
Community outreach program	10,228	67,092
TAGline/Website	73,568	73,549
International program	<u>13,895</u>	<u>178,114</u>
	<b>648,573</b>	<b>564,405</b>
<b>Supporting services expenses</b>		
Management and general	91,129	101,771
Fundraising	<u>65,497</u>	<u>62,818</u>
<b>Total services expenses</b>	<b>805,199</b>	<b>728,994</b>
<b>Other income (expenses)</b>		
Realized gain (loss) on sale of marketable securities	(466)	—
Unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities	<u>—</u>	<u>1,440</u>
<b>Total other income (expenses)</b>	<b>(466)</b>	<b>1,440</b>
(Decrease) Increase in unrestricted net assets	(84,203)	(55,432)
Temporarily restricted net assets		
Grants	979,189	—
Net assets released from restrictions:	(209,563)	—
Interest income	<u>2,441</u>	<u>—</u>
Increase in temporary restricted net assets	772,067	—
<b>Increase (Decrease) in total net assets</b>	<b>687,864</b>	<b>(55,432)</b>
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>333,221</b>	<b>388,653</b>
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 1,021,085</b>	<b>\$ 333,221</b>





**\$100,000 or more**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**\$50,000-99,000**

Paul L. Newman  
Roche Pharmaceuticals

**\$25,000-\$49,999**

Bristol-Myers Squibb Virology  
The Irene Diamond Fund  
JP Morgan Chase

**\$10,000-\$24,999**

Boehringer Ingelheim Corporation  
The Gesso Foundation  
Gilead Sciences, Inc.  
GlaxoSmithKline Inc.  
Richard M. Lynn & Joseph Evall

**\$5,000-\$9,999**

Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS  
Randall G. Drain  
The Mary Wohlford Foundation

**\$2,500-\$4,999**

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Mark O'Donnell  
The Open Society Institute

**\$1,000-\$2,499**

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**\$500-\$999**

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**Thank You!**

## TAG MISSION STATEMENT

Founded in January 1992, the Treatment Action Group, or TAG, is the first and only AIDS organization dedicated solely to advocating for larger and more efficient research efforts, both public and private, towards finding a cure for AIDS.

The Treatment Action Group (TAG) fights to find better treatments, a vaccine, and 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 focuses on the AIDS research effort, both public and private, the drug development process, and health care delivery systems. We meet with researchers, pharmaceutical companies, and government officials to encourage exploration of understudied areas in AIDS research and speed up drug development, approval, and access. We work with the World Health Organization and community organizations globally, and strive to develop the scientific and political expertise needed to transform policy. TAG is committed to working for and with all communities affected by HIV.

TAG is a non-profit corporation with 501c (3) status. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Monte Steinman

### STAFF

Mark Harrington  
*Executive Director*

Rob Camp  
*Antiretroviral Project Director*

Richard Jefferys  
*Basic Science & Vaccines Project Director*

Tracy Swan  
*Hepatitis C Coinfection Project Director*

Javid Syed  
*TB/HIV Project Director*

F. Joseph McConnell  
*Administrator*



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