



ST. ANN'S CORNER OF HARM REDUCTION

Annual Report 2008

Helping Drug Users Help Themselves



Healing is a Process, Not a Destination

At SACHR, our harm reduction philosophy is rooted in the practical and proven approach of meeting people on their own turf, on their own terms. We invest in the well-being of our community by offering a sanctuary to anyone who needs a healthy place – for a minute or for months.

Our core services seek to restore each participant's basic human dignity and are based on the five components of harm reduction – each linked to the other to form a foundation for healing. Last year, 5,000 new participants began their journey with SACHR.

Palliative Care is the cornerstone in changing high-risk behaviors and begins with people having a place of safety where basic survival needs are provided with kindness and dignity. These services are provided through needle exchange, safe sex outreach, hot lunches, showers and clothing distribution.

Stress Reduction and learning relaxation techniques allow participants to look at their own reality before they begin moving forward toward change. Our unique sanctuary space serves as a safe and quiet haven and a place where participants receive alternative health services, such as acupuncture, massage, yoga and self-relaxation techniques.

Message from the Executive Director

St. Ann's Center of Harm Reduction began almost two decades ago as a grassroots needle exchange program to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS among intravenous drug users in the South Bronx. The organic evolution into what we are today – a multi-service agency offering a broad continuum of interventions – reflects our continued investment in meeting the community's changing needs. Our approach, however, remains rooted in our beginnings of meeting people on their own turf, on their own terms – anonymously and free of charge.

Now, as a partner with Promesa Systems, Inc., SACHR is poised to embark on an exciting opportunity to significantly impact the health and well-being of our neighbors. This Annual Report also gives you highlights of other accomplishments, but only provides a snapshot of our daily work. It cannot measure the steady steps our participants take to regain their lives, health and self-respect.

I invite you to visit our new website, launching in January, sachr.org, if you would like more information and ask you to consider making a contribution to help us continue our important mission.

Joyce Rivera

Education and Information empowers participants to make informed choices and supports them in navigating obstacles to finding housing, health care and financial assistance.

Healing and Empowerment promotes healing from past wounds in order to gather the courage and strength needed to face their life changes. Open support groups, mental health assessments and social learning classes respond to the basic human need for belonging and help to create new communities where participants find ac-

ceptance and regain self esteem.

Social Integration is built around a cluster of interventions, including case management, referral services, access to online information at our Internet café, and job assistance. Programs help ease the difficult transition from dependency to independence.

St Ann's Corner of Harm Reduction

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2008 Overview

Palliative Care Programs

- 3,600 syringes were exchanged with 1,200 people
- 15,600 safe sex outreach and risk reduction education encounters reached 5,500 people
- 15,500 hot lunches served to 1,600 people
- 700 clothing distributions and/or warm showers provided to 150 participants

Stress Reduction Programs

- 60 participants received a total of 650 massage, yoga and/or self-relaxation sessions
- 9,600 acupuncture treatments were given to 1,500 people

Education and Information Programs

- 4,400 workshops and educational sessions reached 1,000 participants

- 250 people benefited from Hepatitis services
- 400 participants received HIV testing and counseling

Healing and Empowerment Programs

- 500 participants engaged in 2,500 support group sessions
- 3,000 mental health interventions were provided to 600 participants
- 100 participants were trained in 1,500 peer support groups

Social Integration Programs

- 4,800 referrals to other service organizations or appropriate community programs helped 2,000 participants
- 200 participants used the Internet café
- 60 individuals took part in 600 treatment adherence sessions

Mission/Objectives

The St. Ann's Corner of Harm Reduction (SACHR) is a culturally diverse, community-based outreach project. We are committed to reducing the spread of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and the potential for harm associated with unsafe drug use and unprotected sex. We pursue this goal in a manner that is nonjudgmental and culturally and linguistically appropriate. Our public health interventions are immediate and effective investments in our community.

Philosophy

SACHR meets every person where he or she is. We recognize that people take risks and that change is never easy. We do not wait for people to choose to quit life-threatening behaviors. Instead, we create a safe haven where participants can consider their personal choices and begin to move toward manageable changes.

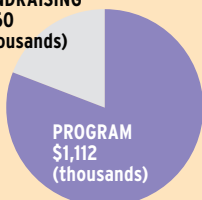
All of our services are free and anonymous, with no demands placed on those who need help. We are here for them, and they know it.

Sources of Income

FISCAL YEAR	GOV'T CONTRACTS	GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS	OTHER	TOTAL
05/06 Audited	\$1,369 (thousands)	\$2	\$0	\$1,371
06/07 Audited	1,344	40	10	1,394
07/08 Estimate	1,080	64	14	1,158

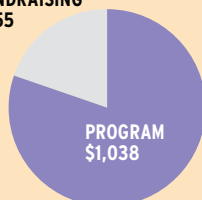
Expenses

MANAGEMENT FUNDRAISING \$260 (thousands)



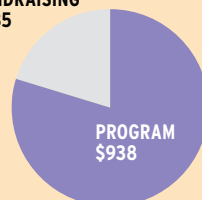
'05/06 Audited
Total \$1,372 (thousands)

MANAGEMENT FUNDRAISING \$255



'06/07 Audited
Total \$1,293.

MANAGEMENT FUNDRAISING \$235



'07/08 Estimate
Total \$1,173.

SACHR Staff

Joyce Rivera

Founder and Executive Director

Bart Majoer, Drs.

Deputy and Clinical Director

Board of Directors:

Jose Morales, Jr., Chair

Hospital Administrator, (ret.)

Rosemary E. Coluccio, Treasurer

*Director of Finance & Administration
International Women's Health Coalition*

Barbara Hart, Secretary

Cheryl Pasternack

Stella Simmons

Luis N. Colòn, Esq.

Adrienne Rosario

Harlem Children's Zone, Inc.