# tag2011



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

#### **Dear Friends of TAG:**

I'm thrilled to share with you the 2011 Annual Report of Treatment Action Group (TAG), whose work your support makes possible. All of us in the TAG family—board, staff, consultants, allies, and supporters like you—are deeply grateful for your support and proud of the work it enables.

In 2011, TAG continued its work engaging with researchers, advocating with policy makers, and acting to strengthen community responses to the interrelated epidemics of HIV, hepatitis C virus (HCV), and tuberculosis (TB).

We thank you for your ongoing support to end these three diseases and to ensure that all those living with them receive the information, care, and treatment they need to save their lives.

Yours truly,

## Barbara Hughes President, Board of Directors

- Research in Action Awards
- Limited Art Edition
- HIV Cure Campaign
- Prevention and Treatment Advances
- HCV Treatment Revolution
- Progress Against TB
- 2011 Contributors
- TAG Financials
- · The Palm Donor Circle



TAG's 2011 Research in Action Awards recipient John Benjamin Hickey, TAG's Mark Harrington, recipient Dr. Polly Harrison, TAG board President Barbara Hughes, and recipient Dr. Robert Siliciano.

# **Research in Action Awards 2011**

TAG's annual Research in Action Awards (RIAA) honors 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.



RIAA 2011 recipients actor John Benjamin Hickey (L), microbicide advocate Dr. Polly Harrison (center), and cure researcher Dr. Robert Siliciano (R).

TAG's 2011 Research in Action Awards event was held on Sunday, December 11, at the Midtown Loft on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 29<sup>th</sup> Street. **Jenna Wolfe**, weekend anchor on NBC's "Today Show," hosted the event. The 2011 RIAA recipients were:

John Benjamin Hickey, who won the 2011 Tony Award for best featured actor in a play for his performance in the revival of Larry Kramer's The Normal Heart. He made his Broadway debut in Terrence McNally's Love! Valour! Compassion! and reprised his part in the film version. He has also appeared on Broadway in The Crucible, Mary Stuart, and the Tony Award winning revival of Cabaret, opposite Natasha Richardson. His film work includes Clint Eastwood's Flags of Our Fathers, The Ice Storm, and The Anniversary Party. He appeared on television in Me and My Shadows: Life with Judy Garland, Sex and the City, and the Good Wife, among others. He is currently appearing in the third season of Showtime's The Big C, playing Laura Linney's crazy brother;

**Dr. Polly Harrison**, Founder of the Alliance for Microbicide Development, whose trail-blazing advocacy for woman-controlled prevention methods led to the discovery in 2010 of an effective topical vaginal gel which reduced HIV acquisition by 44% among sexually active women in South Africa; and

**Dr. Robert F. Siliciano**, Medical Investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Professor of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, who made groundbreaking discoveries in HIV in the late 1990s. These discoveries demonstrated the size and location of the reservoir of latently infected CD4 T cells that present the main target for HIV cure research. Currently his lab is leading the search for new curative approaches to HIV that are safe, affordable, and can be rolled out worldwide to end the pandemic.



Host Jenna Wolfe with co-chairs Ben & Christine Anagnos.



NY State Senator (and former RIAA recipient) Tom Duane with co-chair Alby Maccarone, Rick Schubel, and TAG board member Jason Osher.



Presenter Andy Cohen of Bravo Television Network and John Benjamin Hickey with TAG Executive Director Mark Harrington.



TAG board members Frank Rappa and Jamie Saakvitne with Daniel Chow.



TAG board member and artist joy Episalla with 2011 Limited Edition artist Bill Jacobson.

# 2011

# **TAG Limited Art Edition**



Contributing a TAG limited edition to RIAA 2011 was acclaimed artist and photographer Bill Jacobson, who generously donated a limited edition of 20 original framed images entitled New Year's Day #5090 [2003], a 12"x10" archival pigment print, especially printed by the artist for TAG. Jacobson has exhibited widely throughout the United States and Europe, and his work is in major museum collections, including the Whitney Museum, the Guggenheim Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the San Francisco MoMA, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and many others. A solo exhibit, "Into the Loving Nowhere (1989 till now)," opened October 20th at the Julie Saul Gallery in New York City. Jacobson's work was also included in the groundbreaking exhibit "Hide/ Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture" at the Brooklyn Museum. An overview of Jacobson's work is available at his website: billiacobsonstudio.com.

# **HIV CURE CAMPAIGN**

In 2011, TAG launched the Accelerating Research to Cure AIDS Project. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) committed over \$70 million to three Martin Delaney Collaboratories dedicated to conducting basic and clinical research to cure HIV. To ensure that clinical trials are expedited in a safe, ethical, and community-participatory manner, in April 2011 TAG cosponsored, with amfAR, AIDS Policy Project, and Project Inform, the first international workshop on HIV cure-related clinical research issues. You can read the report of the Baltimore, MD, workshop here: http://www.treatmentactiongroup.org/cure/2011-workshop-report. Researchers, regulators, and activists agreed on a common set of priority issues to move HIV cure research forward faster. The workshop recommendations are being implemented during 2012 in a Cure Research Project bringing together the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); the NIH; academic, pharmaceutical, and biotechnology researchers; and community groups including TAG, through the Forum for Collaborative HIV Research to advance the agenda set in Baltimore last year. In June, Dr. David D. Ho of New York's Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center presented an update on HIV cure research at TAG's annual Palm Donor Circle event, where the Cure campaign was launched. Later in 2011, TAG brought together 36 activists from around the country for an intensive workshop on HIV cure and aging research. The activists then visited over 100 legislators in both the Senate and the House to urge them to keep funding for the NIH, including its AIDS research programs, strong. Surprisingly, at the end of 2011, Congress voted the NIH an extra and unexpected \$150 million to ensure its growth though still at rates below inflation.

# HIV PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ADVANCES

The biggest HIV research advance of 2011 was the stunning 96% reduction in HIV transmission achieved in HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) study 052, which asked whether giving HIV therapy to the HIV-positive partner in a serodiscordant committed relationship at a CD4 count of 350–550 CD4 cells/mm³—which was earlier than recommended in then-current treatment guidelines—would reduce transmission of HIV to the HIV-negative partner. This dramatic benefit of earlier treatment as prevention (TasP) was complemented by data from the same study indicating that the earlier treatment benefitted the individual taking it by reducing their HIV progression by 41%. Several other studies showed that dual-HIV therapy could reduce HIV acquisition when taken by HIV-negative individuals as long as they took the therapy regularly.

These advances brought into sight for the first time the possibility of ending the HIV pandemic using current prevention and treatment approaches combined optimally in a setting of universal access [see "We CAN End the AIDS Epidemic": http://www.treatmentactiongroup.org/policy/we-can-end-aids-epidemic].

TAG led the Coalition for HIV and Aging Research and Policy Advocacy (CHARPA), which met with officials from NIH and succeeded in persuading them to establish a new advisory committee for HIV and aging research, including scientists and activists, whose recommendations will come out in mid-2012.

2011 also saw FDA approval of a new non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI) to treat HIV, the drug rilpivirine (Edurant) marketed by Janssen/Tibotec as a single pill or in a fixed-dose, once-a-day combination with Gilead's Truvada (tenofovir/3TC) as Complera.

Despite the advances in research, TAG and our allies had to battle a bitter fiscal climate in Washington, DC, and globally to ensure that funding for U.S. and global research and treatment programs survived the austerity and budget cuts prevalent in almost all developed nations. In a turnaround late in 2011, the Obama administration committed to more ambitious HIV treatment targets globally, setting a goal of supporting HIV treatment for at least six million people around the world by the end of 2013. In the United States, thousands continued on state AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) waiting lists for HIV treatment, but the administration made halting—and inadequate—efforts to reduce the wait by helping cash-strapped states.

# HCV TREATMENT REVOLUTION UNFOLDS AS TAG FIGHTS FOR HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH AND WIDESPREAD ACCESS

In 2011, TAG's Hepatitis/HIV Project Director, Tracy Swan, continued her work with activists and community groups, the FDA, the European Medicines Agency (EMA), the pharmaceutical industry, academic researchers, clinicians, and policy makers to improve the quality of, and broaden access to, HCV treatment for everyone who needs it. She coordinated the Hepatitis Community Advisory Board (HCAB), an international group of treatment activists focused on hepatitis C virus (HCV) drug development. HCAB works to ensure that clinical trials include people most in need of treatment as soon as it is safe to do so, and that these therapies are developed for people considered more difficult to treat than traditional trial participants.

Although hepatitis C can be cured, many people remain undiagnosed and untreated. In the United States, where at least five million people are living with HCV, the death rate from HCV complications surpassed HIV-related mortality five years ago. In turn, liver disease from HCV coinfection is a leading cause of death among HIV-positive people where antiretroviral therapy is available. Thanks to pressure from TAG and our allies, trials in people with HIV and HCV coinfection now begin years earlier, providing lifesaving information and access.

In 2011, the first of many changes in the standard of care for hepatitis C began. The first all-oral cure was reported from an early-stage trial. The standard of care improved with the approval of two protease inhibitors specifically made to work against HCV, but these drugs must be used with pegylated interferon (which is injected once weekly) and ribavirin—a pair of toxic drugs. Although HCV protease inhibitors increase cure rates and can shorten treatment duration, they cannot be taken with many commonly-used drugs, including certain antiretroviral agents, and they make HCV treatment more expensive, more difficult to undergo, and more complicated to deliver. Unlike HIV, where activists have fought to create a treatment delivery system that educates and supports patients and their medical providers, the infrastructure to diagnose and administer HCV treatment is inadequate, and there is a lack of experienced and willing providers. TAG's Hepatitis/HIV project works with our allies, domestically and globally, to leverage HCV treatment advances into widespread access to a cure.

# PROGRESS AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (TB)

Last year saw several significant advances against tuberculosis (TB), which is the leading global killer of people with HIV. Many countries began to roll out the Cepheid GeneXpert MTB/RIF test, which can diagnose TB in two hours compared with the standard 8–12 weeks with bacterial culture, and which can also detect certain forms of drug-resistant TB. The test is a breakthrough, but its cost (\$17,000 per machine and \$17 per test cartridge) and technical requirements mean that it is still far from being the point-of-care diagnostic test that is the holy grail of TB diagnostics research. 2011 also saw the first study of a novel combination against TB in the TB Alliance's NC-001 study, as well as a regulatory filing from Otsuka for conditional approval in Europe of its new TB drug, delamanid (OPC-67683), and the ground-breaking compassionate-use early access program from Janssen/Tibotec for its new TB drug, bedaquiline (TMC207), for people with advanced drug-resistant disease. TAG continued to lead global activist engagement with the TB research establishment by founding the Global TB Community Advisory Board (TB CAB), which met in November with Janssen/Tibotec, Otsuka, and the TB Alliance. TAG also met with the main funders of TB research globally in Bellagio, Italy, in March 2011 to encourage greater communication and collaboration among those supporting discovery and development of better strategies to ultimately eliminate TB.

# **2011 CONTRIBUTORS**

#### \$100,000 OR MORE

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Genentech Inc.

World Health Organization/Stop TB Partnership

### \$50,000-\$99,999

Gilead Sciences Inc.

Elton John AIDS Foundation

Veterans Affairs Medical Center of Washington D.C. ViiV Healthcare Company

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

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Plus donations from an additional 287 contributors

# **In-Kind Donations**

Jonathan Adler Shops

A/X Armani Exchange

David Barton Gym Marc Berman/Club 570

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LÄRABAR J.Lohr Vineyards & Wines

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the watsons

# **TAG FINANCIALS 2011**

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2011	2010 (Restated)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,319,417	\$ 1,107,256
Contributions receivable	1,038,191	1,078,031
Prepaid expenses	5,789	7,517
Donated inventory  TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	242,500	200,500
	2,605,897	2,393,304
Property and equipment-net of accumulated depreciation	30,130	35,369
Security deposits	43,015	20,654
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,679,042	\$ 2,449,327
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 23,023	\$ 2,860
TOTAL LIABILITIES	23,023	2,860
Net assets		
Unrestricted	1,656,206	1,269,459
Temporarily restricted	999,813	1,177,008
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2,656,019	2,446,467
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 2,679,042	\$ 2,449,327
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS		
Cash flows from operating activities		
Increase (Decrease) in net assets	\$ 209,552	\$ (258,708)
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	26,452	17,264
Donated inventory received	(70,000)	(50,000)
Direct benefit to event participants	28,000	22,500
(Increase) Decrease in current assets	20.040	(27.025)
Contributions receivable	39,840	(37,935)
Prepaid expenses Security deposits	1,728 (22,361)	3,201
(Decrease) Increase in current liabilities	(22,301)	_
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	20,163	(13,282)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 233,374	\$ (316,960)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchases of property and equipment	(21,213)	(1,350)
Net cash used in investing activities	(21,213)	(1,350)
Net increase (decrease) in cash balance	212,161	(318,310)
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,107,256	1,425,566
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,319,417	\$ 1,107,256
Supplementary disclosures of cash flow information		
Donated goods and services	\$ 110,624	\$ 78,937

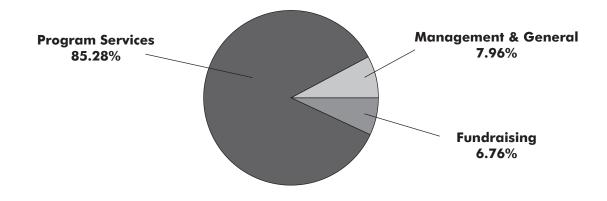
RESTATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND PRIOR PERIOD; Effective January 1, 2010, TAG made adjustments to its net assets to reflect the estimated fair value of art-prints contributed in prior years, but not recorded on prior years financial statements. As a result, the balance of net assets of January 1, 2010 increased by \$173,000. In addition, special event income was increased by \$27,500 in the Statements of Activities of year 2010 to reflect additional donated art-prints inventory and used in special event.

# **TAG FINANCIALS 2011**

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

			Year ended December 31	
		Temporarily	0011 T. I	2010 Total
REVENUE AND SUPPORT	Unrestricted	Restricted	2011 Total	(Restated)
	¢ 00 7/0	<b>.</b>	¢ 00 7/0	<b>*</b> 40.000
Direct mail	\$ 28,760	\$ -	\$ 28,760	\$ 40,808
Donations	25,049	1 000 710	25,049	20,331
Grants	655,893	1,003,713	1,659,606	1,455,351
Special event income	215,689	_	215,689	429,150
Travel and other reimbursement	34,327	_	34,327	45,466
Interest and dividend income	5,851 965,569	1,003,713	5,851 1,969,282	5,136 1,996,242
Net assets released from restrictions	1,180,908	(1,180,908)	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	\$ 2,146,477	\$ (177,195)	\$ 1,969,282	\$ 1,996,242
EXPENSES				
Program services				
HIV Project	\$ 141,132	\$ -	\$ 141,132	\$ 255,619
Cure Project	162,746	_	162,746	-
Hepatitis and HIV Project	257,057	_	257,057	236,979
Tuberculosis and HIV Project	843,927	_	843,927	1,484,152
Communications and Advocacy Project	34,484	_	34,484	12,983
U.S. and Global Health Policy Project	61,266	_	61,266	12,927
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	1,500,612	_	1,500,612	\$ 2,002,660
Management and general	140,076	_	140,076	116,977
Fundraising	119,042	_	119,042	135,313
TOTAL SERVICES EXPENSES	1,759,730	_	1,759,730	2,254,950
Increase (Decrease) in net assets	386,747	(177,195)	209,552	(258,708)
Net assets, beginning of year, as originally reported	1,269,459	1,177,008	2,446,467	2,532,175
Restatement to Reflect Correction of Donated Inventory	_	_	_	173,000
Net assets, beginning of year, as restated	1,269,459	1,177,008	2,446,467	2,705,175
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,656,206	\$ 999,813	\$ 2,656,019	\$ 2,446,467

# **Summary of 2011 Functional Expenses**



# THE 2011 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 2011.

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# **TAG BE INVOLVED**

# **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.

Make a tax deductible gift now. www.treatmentactiongroup.org/support

# 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.
Call 212 253 7922 or Email: 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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#### **Treatment Action Group**

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