



IN THIS ISSUE....

- A Message from the Executive Director
- Register for Women as the Face of AIDS Summit
- World AIDS Day 2022
- Thanksgiving for All: Iris House Feeds Thousands in Need
- Iris House in New Jersey
- Iris House Kid's Holiday Party

The 18th Annual Women as the Face of AIDS Summit



SAVE THE DATE MAY 8, 2023

Presentations, Panels, and Discussions

Hybrid In-Person (NYC) and Virtual Format

Want to be a sponsor or exhibitor? Want to learn more?

Visit www.irishouse.org
email: krichardson@irishouse.org



Dear Friends,

SPRING 2023



This year, Iris House is celebrating 30 years of serving women, men, and their families infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. In the beginning, we were primarily an organization serving HIV+ women of color and their families. With time, Iris House evolved into an

organization also serving: families; HIV+ men; high-risk men, women, and youth; the LGBTQ+ community; and HIV+ young people. As we look forward to recognizing our 30th year with a fall gala (stay tuned for details!), let's revisit our program achievements at the close of 2022.

We made a huge impact on food insecurity and ensuring families had meals on their tables during the Thanksgiving holiday with several days of food giveaways to residents of some of the most poverty-stricken communities. Due to the COVID epidemic, for the first time in two years, we held our annual children's holiday party on December 20th. It was a fun time for all with great food, music, toys, and a visit from Santa. Thanks to generous donors, each child was able to take home two toys.

World AIDS Day offered Iris House another platform to spread the message "Get Tested, Know Your Status." We held several testing events in and around our New York and New Jersey offices.

Iris House is hard at work in New Jersey. Our programs have expanded to recently include COVID-19 outreach and vaccination, two Fresh Market food pantry bag distribution events, HIV testing events, and partnering with local businesses to educate the community about our PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) services.

Finally, Iris House closed 2022 on a high note. We served our clients and community with much-needed services. Sometimes we all need a helping hand. And Iris House is proud to be that helping hand and will continue to be a resource for those in need. We look forward to continuing this excitement in 2023 and hope you will be a part!

Ingrid Floyd
Executive Director

World AIDS Day 2022

Advocates worldwide united to recognize World AIDS Day (WAD) on December 1, 2022 under the theme – “It’s Not Over,” inspiring a renewed sense of urgency and purpose in the 40-year fight to end AIDS, supporting people living with HIV, and honoring all those we’ve lost to AIDS-related illnesses.

Iris House held several events to acknowledge this day, including asking our social media followers to create brief videos, hosting our mobile HIV testing van, and delivering HIV 101 workshops throughout New Jersey.

Further, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), our global partner, put together a WAD recap video featuring events from 45 AHF country teams and their partners who tested over 25,200 people for HIV and distributed nearly 1.3 million free condoms. Together, we can look back at the progress made in responding to HIV/AIDS while remembering that “It’s Not Over,” carrying on the fight.

Iris House in New Jersey



In New Jersey, our program activities keep expanding, reaching more residents. We have been delivering HIV testing and are excited that Kean University joined our condom distribution program with free condom kiosks in all residences. During PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) week, we worked with a local business, connecting individuals to our PrEP services. We also participated in Plainfield’s Truck or Treat around Halloween, giving away more than 50 safer sex kits and lots of candy.

For World AIDS Day, we hosted several NJ-based events, including two HIV testing events, a COVID-19 vaccine event, and four events encouraging flu shots. Further, we delivered 180 safer sex kits to students at Kean University and held workshops at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Lastly, the COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach Team succeeded in getting 58 people vaccinated/boosted from October to December 2022.



iris.house



irishouseinc

CONNECT WITH US!



@irishouseinc



www.irishouse.org



Thanksgiving For All: Iris House Feeds Thousands of People in Need



Iris House distributed over 1,000 turkeys and whole chickens! We feed those in need when they require it most! Our teams work tirelessly without fanfare. The week prior to the Thanksgiving Day holiday, Iris House's food and nutrition program worked to ensure our clients and community residents facing food insecurity had the necessities for their holiday dinner. Iris House distributed over 1,000 turkeys and chickens along with all the sides for a complete Thanksgiving meal. In Harlem, East Harlem, and the Bronx, we fed over 3,000 people for the holiday. Our volunteers are critical to our work .



Iris House Kid's Holiday Party Returns

Since the COVID pandemic began, Iris House put its kid's holiday party on hold as we could not congregate safely. In 2022, we've come back! On December 20, 2022, at Bethel Gospel Assembly Iris House brought together nearly 100 clients and community residents from our underserved neighborhoods, and their children and grandchildren to partake in a safe but fun holiday party, including food for all, gifts of their choice for the kids, and pictures with Santa.

A special thank you to the Novis family for their support of this annual event! We also appreciate the generosity of The Annual Toys Party at Chelsea Piers, The Apollo Theater, Euro Money Institutional Investors, The Gateway School, High Water Women, and our many donors who purchased gifts for children in the Iris House family.





2348 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd.
New York, NY 10030



Board of Directors

William Arroyo, M.D., Chair
Steve L. Carlton, Esq., Treasurer
Condessa M. Curley, M.D., Secretary
Cynthia Davis, MPH, Vice-Domestic Chair
Angelina C. Wapakabulo, Global Vice Chair
Michael Weinstein, President

Board of Advisors

Nick Charles
Naima Walker Fierce, J.D.
Ingrid Floyd
Vanessa Johnson, J.D.
Theresa Mack, M.D., MPH
Camille Sealy, M.Ed, MPH
Cynthia Taylor

Ingrid Floyd, MBA, Executive Director
Michael Smirlock, PhD, Deputy Executive Director

Senior Management

Ofelia Barrios, Senior Director of
Community Health Initiatives
Sheri Cruz, Director of Behavioral Health
Ken DeJesus, Director of Testing and Outreach
Harry Gibbs, Senior Director of Housing Programs
Serge Jean, Director of Nutrition
Gary Louis, Director of Finance
Nathalie Menard, Clinical Program Manager
Erika Miller, Quality Assurance Director
and Program Evaluation Manager
Jason Osher, Director of Development
Audria Russell, Program Manager, New Jersey