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Contributions \$200+ from April 1st 2010 - March 1st 2011

\$5000+

International Financial Data Services • Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto • Proud FM - Dufferin Communications Inc • Procter & Gamble • Spearhead LDSC (Toronto) Inc. • Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre • TICOT Social Society

\$1000+

Abbott Laboratories Limited = Aviva Canada Inc = Bell Canada C/O Employee Giving Program = Bentall Limited Partnership = Best Friends/Meilleurs Amis = BMO Charitable Foundation = Capital One Services Inc CAN = CHUM Charitable Foundation = CIBC = Core Event Staff = Corporate Specialty Services Inc. = D&T Davis Charitable Foundation = GNPL + NA = ISIS Regional Fertility Centre = Macquarie Group Foundation Ltd. = Mazon Canada = McGregor Industries = Midore Inc. = Mirvish Productions = Ontario Wealth Management Corp. = Organics Delivered = Procor Limited = RBC Foundation = Remote-Learner = The Roy Public House = The Village Pharmacy = Trebor Inc. = Velotique Ltd. = William S. Croson & Associates Ltd = Woody's on Church

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COMMUNITY THANKS

PWA would like to heartily thank a number of generous community donors: Organics Delivered for their generous donation of produce boxes (which PROUD FM referred to us). Whole Foods Market for their community fundraising through their Bag Hunger program over the 2010 holidays which raised over \$12,000 through donations made during purchase. Thanks to the Metropolitan Community Church and its congregation for their year round food drives and financial contributions for PWA's Essentials Market. Also, a personal thank you to Mr. Spearhead 2011, Dwayne Bryk, for his personal

fundraising event, and passion for PWA's work. His next fundraising event for PWA is scheduled on May 7th at The Black Eagle. As well, thanks to Spearhead members for their Toys For Tots toy drive which made PWA's children clients very happy over the winter holidays. +





HELP PWA

PLANNED GIVING

Do you have a legal will? As a generous donor to PWA you may be interested to learn that charitable giving through ones last will and testament can reduce the amount of estate taxes that you may owe. A legal will is a privilege, a way of exercising your freedom and it can assist those who you care for after you're gone.

Your planned gift will enable PWA to continue serving people living with HIV/AIDS.

You can leave a lasting legacy and leave the world a better place by including PWA in your will. Consider speaking to a lawyer today about drafting a will no matter your age.

For more general information: pwatoronto.org/English/planned-giving.php or call PWA at 416-506-1400 ext. 240.

YOU HAVE OPTIONS

Would you prefer to receive PWA's bi-annual newsletter electronically? Also, PWA sends a monthly e-news on what is going on at the agency and in the community. Sign up and stay connected! Email donate@pwatoronto.org with 'stay in touch' in the subject line or visit the PWA home page at www.pwatoronto.org/english/main.php , enter your email address and click Subscribe.

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PWA MISSION

DID YOU KNOW??

You can host your own fundraiser for PWA and create an online event page to accept secure online donations. It's easy and can be personalized with your picture and any message you wish to express. Your fundraiser will support the practical direct support services helping people living

To create your online event today visit: www.pwatoronto.org and follow the Support Us link, Community Events, FAQ at the bottom of the right column!

PRIVACY STATEMENT

At PWA we do not sell, trade or otherwise share our mailing list. We hope that you enjoy this newsletter and find it informative. However, if at any time you wish to be removed from this or any other mailing, simply contact us by phone at 416-506-1400 ext. 119 or by email at donate@pwatoronto. org. Please allow 2 weeks to update our records accordingly.

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2011

Toronto People With AIDS Foundation (PWA) 200 Gerrard Street East, 2nd Floor, Toronto, Ontario Canada M5A 2E6 Phone: (416) 506-1400 Fax: (416) 506-1404 www.pwatoronto.org

Making a positive difference.



PWA NEWSLETTER

Making a positive difference.

2010 THANK YOU!

PWa

FUTURE REFLECTIONS

2011, the first year of a new decade. Landmarks and anniversaries allow individuals, agencies and communities to reflect. At PWA's January staff meeting, we did an activity in which each staff member chose three words to summarize their experience in 2010. Words like learning, recovery, joy were a few chosen. If you were to take a few moments to reflect on your experience in 2010, what three words would you choose and why?

It's an interesting and important exercise because it got me thinking on how PWA as an agency would summarize 2010. And further to that what I could do to ensure my personal vision of 2011.

What do you want to experience in 2011?

PWA is thankful for all our passionate donors and community supporters who validate the practical direct support services making a positive difference in the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS. As an agency firmly rooted in the experience of PHAs, also having ally support makes PWA's ability to support the community stronger. Diversity, in all the forms it is present in Toronto, makes the opportunity to support the HIV+ community that much more relevant with your support of PWA's mission. +





You are important to PWA and we would like to know more about YOU. We would love to hear your story on why you've chosen PWA as one of your partners, recipients of charitable dollars and/or in-kind donations. Please write us, email us or call us (info@pwatoronto.org, 416-506-1400 ext. 239).

Charitable Registration Number 1311 3151 RR0001

VOLUNTEER STORY

KRISTYN AND RENEE

Kristyn Wong-Tam and Renee Pilgrim have been involved as volunteers and advocates of PWA's work for a number of years.

'We love PWA...
it's a smaller
organization that
provides the right
balance of support
(for people living
with HIV/AIDS).'

Kristyn first got involved with PWA when she was a business owner on Church Street. She supported PWA through regular contributions of coffee through her business for clients and also participated in sponsoring the Friends For Life Bike Rally by providing pastries and coffee at departure and coffee throughout the ride to Montreal. From 2007 to 2009, Kristyn participated in the Bike Rally as both a Rider and Crew.

Having been together for 2 and a half years, it's wonderful to find this pair so passionate about PWA's work to provide practical direct support services to people living with HIV/AIDS. Renee is an acupuncturist and trained Traditional Chinese Medicine practitioner. She completed her clinical hours at PWA, and says she has 'witnessed the affect of her services' in the wellbeing of PWA's clients.

Thanks to the wonderful practitioners like Renee, who after her required clinical hours for school, continued on a complimentary basis, treating PWA clients at our office. PWA's Health Promotion pillar of support is our fastest growing service. In 2009/2010, there was a 59% increase in the number of Health Promotion services provided!

One of PWA's Speakers Bureau speakers spoke at Renee's school, Institute of Traditional Medicine where she studied. She said it was a very powerful story, hearing how someone living with HIV/AIDS had adapted to accommodate for a terminal illness that along with the knowledge and understanding comes the associated and imposed stigma. As a result of the school's involvement at PWA, working with PHAs, the Institute of Traditional Medicine has taken on an academic direction of HIV/AIDS specific treatment

volunteered at the Tighty Whitey Car Wash in 2010, directing traffic in support of PWA and Kristyn generously donated artwork to CLIMAX 2010 from her recently re-designed gallery, KWT Contemporary. And as a relatively new city councilor and as the first openly elected lesbian at City Hall, Kristyn is glad to represent a progressive vote under Mayor Ford's administration. 'A recent vote at council that had funding impact on the HIV/AIDS community made it clear to 'me' that the Mayor does not support

Both Renee and Kristyn energetically

grants to community organizations like PWA.' Kristyn said that 'the Mayor was the lone opposing vote to allow provincial funding to pass through Toronto Public Health to organizations such as the Hassle Free Clinic and the Ontario AIDS Network.' Both Renee and Kristyn frame a question, 'How would the community survive if organizations like PWA and others disappeared?'

'PWA isn't just a charity, it's a community hub'.

The use of words for Kristyn and Renee in speaking about PWA and other organizations that they support is so important because they are invested in the LGBT and HIV positive community. One aspect of the Bike Rally that touched Kristyn during her years of participation as a Rider and Crew was that it was representative of the HIV positive community. The involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS is present in all areas of PWA's work and the vital work it does within the community.

Although their involvement with PWA's work has been different, the levels of emotion they speak with when discussing their reasons for getting involved with PWA and staying involved is the same. Renee speaks of her opportunity to treat PWA clients as a real honour and she is excited to help people gain whole health. Renee described one of her roles as a practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine is to create a safe space for her clients. I drew that back to the similar goal that PWA has for its own space, in that we strive to create a point of access and an affirming connection place that is welcoming and safe.

During our conversation to gain insight into Kristyn and Renee's motivations for volunteering they described PWA as 'pretty amazing', and I feel confident in saying that PWA feels exactly the same way about them! PWA wishes to thank all our volunteers for their ongoing donations of time, dedication and passion. National Volunteer Week is April 10th-16-th 2011, we hope all PWA's volunteers will accept our acknowledgement and appreciation for their continued philanthropy and volunteerism. •

SIGNATURE EVENTS

LOVE BOWL

Thanks to the Toronto Historical Bowling Society, sponsors, bowlers and their fundraising, LOVE BOWL raised over \$12,000 for PWA on February 19th at Thorncliffe Bowlerama. The LOVE BOWL top fundraiser, Gordon K., won a VIA1 rail return trip for 2 to Ottawa with

a 2 night stay at the Westin Ottawa. The generous sponsors of this event: Bristol-Myers Squibb, Segura Viudas, Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel and VIA Rail Canada. Thanks to D>rophies and the silent auction and draw donors, Camino Chocolates, CN Tower, Fossil, Steam Whistle Brewing, R. Thompson Chocolates, Umbra and Whole Foods Market. +

Thank You to Our 2011 Sponsors Community Sponsor Lane Sponsors Lane Sponsors Silent Auction and Prize Donors Silent Auction and Prize Donors Agency Partners Leaders Scotiabank Group Major Supporters BMS Airology GILEAD Media Partners Media P

MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT CO-OP CLUB NIGHT, APRIL 19, 2011

For the first time, Mountain Equipment Co-Op is opening its King Street West store to Bike Rally participants, friends and family for a Camping Gear & Equipment Seminar and an afterhours evening of exclusive shopping. Everything in the store will be 10% off, with the exception of bikes and boats (5% off) and no additional discounts on already discounted items. This offer applies to in-store goods only. MEC staff and Bike Rally volunteers will be on hand to answer any questions you might have. The store will be closed to the general public for this event. +

This is an invite-only event and capacity is limited. Please RSVP to seminars@bikerally.org with names and email addresses of those attending.

FRIENDS FOR LIFE BIKE RALLY

Registration for the 2011 Friends For Life Bike Rally presented by Scotiabank Group is open for Riders and Crew! The 13th annual Bike Rally Crew needs Registered MassageTherapists, nurses and a chiropractor. +

If you are interested in riding or crewing to Montreal this summer, July 24-29, please call Katherine, PWA's Special Events Coordinator, at 416-506-1400 ext. 238 or learn more at www.bikerally.org.

TORONTO PEOPLE WITH AIDS FOUNDATION'S



Scotiabank Group®

CLIMAX

Are you coming to the 2nd annual CLIMAX on Sunday May 15th? Support PWA at the National Ballet School with musical performances by the Toronto born and reigning Canadian R&B Queen Jully Black, Jeffrey Straker, Richard Ryder and Miss Conception with a host bar and light brunch. One tiered ticketing at \$75 in support of PWA is sure to be a CLIMAX-tic time! New this year, PROUD FM is supporting not only PWA but The Triangle Program and Pride Toronto. +

Purchase your tickets online today by following the links at www.pwatoronto.org or by calling PWA at 416-506-1400 ext. 238 or by emailing donate@pwatoronto.org.



Designed by: Troy Brooks and Raymond Helkio

Join PROUD FM
in support of
PWA on May 15th
for the second
annual CLIMAX
(Canadian Live
Intimate Music &
Art Xperience)

PWA PROGRAMS

PEER LEADERS

PWA's Peer Leaders Program is PWA's newest program and one that embodies the principal of Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GIPA). People living with HIV/AIDS who demonstrate experience, interest and/or skill in leadership, are given the opportunity through the Peer Leaders Program to design, implement and evaluate a program of their own creation for PWA clients, while providing support to one another.

The Peer Leaders Program is advised by a committee which fosters a team approach to encourage support, respect, collaboration and leadership principles. Two of the current projects peer leaders have undertaken are: Peer support group of HIV+ Muslim women and a harm reduction group for HIV+ gay men. +

Ed Argo, PWA's Speakers Bureau Coordinator facilitates this program. He can be reached at eargo@pwatoronto.org or by calling 416-506-1400 ext. 207.

MEDICATION ACCESS PROGRAM

PWA, as the largest provider of practical direct support services for people living with HIV/AIDS in Canada, and is also the sole provider of a medication access program. People who cannot access HIV medications can receive help from our Treatment Access Program through Llewellyn, PWA's Treatment Access Coordinator. Through the program, PWA works with HIV Primary

Care Physicians and pharmaceutical companies to help people receive short-term compassionate access to medical care and medications. It also provides referrals and advocacy to help establish long-term access to medical and drug coverage through government assistance programs, such as the Trillium Drug Program.

While the program is available to any person living with HIV/AIDS in

Ontario who faces barriers to medications, it is especially valuable to people from countries where HIV is endemic who are engaged in the immigration/refugee process, are not yet covered by any drug plan and are unable to finance HIV medications privately.

Thank you to PWA's pharmaceutical and health care provider partners for providing access to life saving and improved quality of life medications. +

