



# 2019

## Annual Report



# Empowering LGBTQ Houston



## OUR MISSION

The Montrose Center empowers our community—primarily lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) individuals and their families—to live healthier, more fulfilling lives.

## OUR VISION

We envision a healthier society marked by permanent, positive changes in attitudes and behaviors toward the LGBTQ communities, and the ability of all LGBTQ individuals to realize their fullest potential.

## Dear Friends,

Thanks to you, the Montrose Center continues to serve as the hub, heart, and a sanctuary for LGBTQ Houston. As one of the **largest LGBTQ centers** in the nation, we are proud to be serving more members of the community than ever before.



We remain committed to meeting our community's needs, as well as expanding services, growing our budget, and pushing back against forces that would take away rights from the LGBTQ community. We are also **expanding our campus**. On Tuesday, August 6th at 10:30 a.m., we were joined by 175 community members as we broke ground on **the Law Harrington Senior Living Center**. The project led by honorary campaign co-chairs, **Mayor Annise Parker** and **State Rep. Garnet Coleman**, was first made possible by a land grant from the Midtown Redevelopment Authority. As a result of the tremendous financial support from the community we began construction on this much needed addition to our community.

As we build the largest, LGBTQ-affirming senior housing center in the South, we have not allowed this important project to stop growth of our programs. This year, we experienced a **24 percent increase in clients served** through LIFE counseling and **welcomed the Center's first psychiatrist** to our team.

Our Hatch Youth Services served **608 youth** from the **ages of 7-25** across our expanding drop-in center, Safe-Zones, and homeless youth rapid rehousing programs. We found new ways to support our diverse partners providing nonprofit incubation, fiscal agency, and free meeting space to **79 LGBTQ organizations** primarily serving transgender individuals and communities of color.

More than **100,000 Houstonians** found hope and community through our programs and services last year, and thanks to your trust and support, we are optimistic that we can meet the challenges of our community in 2020!

**Ann J. Robison, PhD**  
**Executive Director**

## HEALTHY, CONNECTED, AND ACTIVE

## LEADING THE NEXT GENERATION

### SENIORS



### YOUTH



**5,449**

free meals for LGBTQ seniors & caregivers



**620**

seniors served through SPRY programming



**330**

senior educational and social activities



**608**

youth served through Hatch Youth services



**366**

youth served through drop-in services



**57**

interventions with at-risk & homeless youth

## DROP-IN SENIOR CENTER

LGBTQ seniors are more than twice as likely to live alone, and more than half of our senior participants live on less than \$1,250 a month. SPRY services ensure that LGBTQ seniors—heroes that paved the way and fought for the rights we now enjoy—stay healthy, connected, and active in their retirement.

Three times a week, we offer activities including free lunches, exercise classes, Tai Chi, morning coffee, puzzles, and educational speakers. In addition, we host monthly games days, potlucks, movie afternoons, free haircuts, monthly birthday celebrations, and quarterly field trips.

Counseling, case management, and peer and grief support groups are also available. All at no out-of-pocket cost to participants.



## THE NEXT GENERATION

Hatch Youth started as a small meeting of LGBTQ youth in the basement of a church in 1987. Today, we serve over 600 youth each year, and services have expanded far beyond the drop-in services that have always been at the heart of Hatch.

We now lead a city-wide collaborative with 60 other agencies to end LGBTQ youth homelessness. We also provide rapid rehousing services. Since the program began, we have set up 72 youth in their own apartments, with staff providing guidance and support to help them enter adulthood with independence and success.

We also provide weekly in-school support on local campuses through a collaboration with Communities in School. Annual Hatch celebrations include LGBTQ Youth Prom and participation in the Pride Parade.

“ I now have great hope for my future. ”

## MENTAL HEALTH



## HIV



**1,742**

people received  
individual counseling



**185**

violence survivors received  
support & advocacy



**92**

clients served in  
substance use recovery



**48,127**

condom packs  
distributed



**12,155**

people educated  
about HIV



**1,321**

clients received case  
management



## A SAFE, AFFIRMING PLACE TO HEAL

Everyone deserves a safe place to explore behavioral and emotional issues, problems, and conditions without the fear of encountering prejudice, fear, ignorance, homophobia, transphobia, or heterosexism.

We focus on integrated care, offering a whole health approach to wellness and recovery and emphasizing screening and preventative care at affordable rates. In addition to traditional counseling, we are proud to offer a specialized substance use recovery program, as well as the only same-sex domestic violence shelter in Texas.

“My counselor has been incredibly helpful, and has absolutely been lifesaving for me.”

## PROMOTING HEALTH, GIVING HOPE

We incorporate HIV prevention education throughout all our counseling and support services, as well as host educational events and community forums addressing a wide range of HIV-related topics. In addition, outreach workers empower those engaged in high-risk behavior to make healthier decisions, and educators provide thousands with knowledge about the disease and how to reduce risk of infection.

People living with HIV work with experienced clinical and medical case managers who provide access to a variety of services, including on-site primary medical care, crisis intervention, long-term planning, housing and job assistance, and much more. The Center also offers counseling and substance use recovery treatment dedicated to the specific needs of the HIV community.



## BUILDING COMMUNITY



## WOMEN'S PROGRAMS



**57,650**

visits to our community center



**2,205**

community events and meetings held



**\$45,250**

donated in conference center space



**\$17,625**

in supplemental grocery assistance distributed to LGBTQ women in need



**11,708**

self-identified women received mental health & case management



**750**

individuals celebrated at women-centered community events



“ I wouldn't be exaggerating to say the Center saved my life. ”

Thousands of individuals find their way to our community center each month. Leaders organize for change. Those who are struggling find solace in peer support groups. Families celebrate milestones. Community groups hold meetings, fundraisers, and celebrations.

Everyone leaves feeling more connected to one another. Whether you practice yoga, attend a recurring meeting, or share common stories with an acquaintance while volunteering at the Center, we are proud to be the welcoming space where the community connects.

## COLLABORATING FOR SUCCESS

Volunteer care teams provide support to LGBTQ women living with chronic illness to help them live as independently as possible. They assist with work around the house, pet care, errands, and provide supplemental grocery assistance and transportation vouchers to help clients get to and from doctor appointments.

We work to eliminate barriers to healthcare and promote health and wellness for LGBTQ women. Our services are focused on queer, POC, and trans individuals and include political advocacy for awareness of LGBTQ health disparities.



# LAW HARRINGTON SENIOR LIVING CENTER: THE 1ST LGBTQ-AFFIRMING SENIOR HOUSING IN TEXAS

## SENIOR LIVING CENTER



“ This is one great project and it is a step forward for our community. I want to thank everyone who was involved in making the Law Harrington Senior Living Center happen. ”

- Former Mayor Annise Parker



*Rendering of the Law Harrington Senior Living Center*

“ This is a major day in the City of Houston. There is no better testament to community investment than to ensure the vibrancy of seniors in our community. ”

- Mayor Sylvester Turner



## BREAKING GROUND FOR OUR SENIORS

On Tuesday, August 6, 2019 the Montrose Center broke ground on the Law Harrington Senior Living Center, the first LGBTQ-affirming, affordable senior independent living center in the South.

Housing remains one of the biggest challenges for LGBTQ seniors as they are twice as likely to live in social isolation and are four times less likely to have the money needed for retirement compared to their heterosexual peers. As in Montrose, many long-time senior residents of Third Ward are seeing their rents and property taxes increase beyond their means.

After an incredibly successful groundbreaking event, the Law Harrington Senior Living Center is expected to open its doors to our seniors early 2021.



# BOARD

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Gretchen Myers, President**  
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**Eric R. Liston**  
**Michael Sirimaturos**

## **HONORARY BOARD**

**Marion E. Coleman**  
**Debra Danburg**  
**Sue Lovell**  
**Annis Parker**

**2018-19****FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS****Revenue**

Government Contracts	\$	5,217,992
United Way of Greater Houston	\$	141,324
Client/Participant Fees	\$	1,594,988
Donations	\$	8,015,206
Special Events (Net)	\$	360,118
Other Income (Inc. Rental)	\$	162,309
Direct Donor Benefits	\$	(85,061)

**TOTAL REVENUE** \$ 15,406,876**Expenses (by Program)**

Case Management & Outreach	\$	4,075,010
Way Out Recovery	\$	404,417
LIFE Program (Gen. Counseling)	\$	981,736
HIV/AIDS Counseling	\$	300,272
Anti-Violence Program	\$	523,183
Education	\$	356,712
SPRY (Seniors)	\$	155,555
Hatch Youth	\$	201,977
Women's Services	\$	100,037
Management and General	\$	533,342
Fundraising	\$	440,362

**TOTAL** \$ 8,072,603**Expenses (continued)**

Personnel	\$	3,972,880
Fringe Benefits	\$	462,999
Payroll Taxes	\$	343,133
Professional & Contract	\$	516,344
Direct Client Assistance	\$	1,784,629
Depreciation	\$	21,931
Supplies	\$	121,001
Telecommunication	\$	40,218
Postage	\$	3,619
Occupancy	\$	581,944
Equipment Lease	\$	21,149
Printing	\$	6,919
Local Travel	\$	91,940
Professional Development	\$	12,106
Bad Debt Expense	\$	8,407
Other	\$	83,384

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$ 8,072,603**2018-19****FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**



[www.montrosecenter.org](http://www.montrosecenter.org)  
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