I want to express my sincere gratitude to all those individuals who supported The Center for AIDS Information and Advocacy in 2010. Without your support, we would not have been able to continue in our mission to educate and to inform those dealing with HIV and AIDS in our community. As the disease has evolved, The CFA has also evolved to meet the needs of those living with HIV/AIDS. Our donors and supporters enable us to do that.

Last year was another great year for The Center. We planned for the launch of our clinic for non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP). We hope that the nPEP clinic, a partnership with the University of Texas Medical School, will be instrumental in stopping the spread of HIV in our community. We also planned for a cure summit with a leading researcher in HIV. And we continued to provide Project LEAP to train a new generation of advocates to fight HIV in our community.

Again, I would like to thank those very generous individuals who gave to The CFA in 2010; you allowed us to continue with our mission. I would also like to thank our dedicated staff who work everyday to make a difference in the lives of those in our community facing HIV/AIDS. And, as always, we continue doing what we do until there’s a cure.
Following the introduction of protease inhibitors in 1995, The CFA opened its doors with the goal of helping to shape research priorities and serving as an information resource for people living with HIV. Although Houston was burdened by a high prevalence of HIV disease, it lacked a unified voice in advocating nationally for local access to treatment and clinical research.

While other organizations in Harris County provide medical care and social services, The CFA is the only HIV/AIDS non-profit in Houston that is dedicated to gathering, interpreting, and disseminating potentially life-saving information while also helping to drive the national HIV/AIDS research agenda. Our board and staff dedicate themselves to keeping the medical and affected communities informed, updated, and involved in the search for a cure.

Named for one of The CFA’s three co-founders, the L. Joel Martinez Information Center is located at 1407 Hawthorne at the intersection of Hawthorne and Yupon in central Houston. The Information Center is staffed by an MD, an RN, and an MSPH and offers service without fees or paperwork. In addition to providing one-on-one consultations to clients who have questions about their treatment regimen or lab work, the information center also provides a wide variety of publications and fact sheets.
Project LEAP -- Learning, Empowerment, Advocacy, Participation -- is the most comprehensive advocacy training program in the nation for people living with HIV. The goal of Project LEAP, a program made possible with funding from the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Act, is to “increase the number and effectiveness of HIV-infected individuals and affected others who can participate in organizations, councils and committees dealing with the allocation of public funds for HIV-related services.”

As designed by The CFA, Project LEAP runs for seventeen weeks. Students learn about HIV treatment and research, the specific needs of the HIV-affected community in Houston, who makes decisions about HIV funding, and the history of AIDS-related activism, among other things.

Graduates of Project LEAP are encouraged to apply for appointment to the Ryan White Planning Council. Membership on the Planning Council provides HIV-infected and affected individuals with a voice in the funding allocations process.

Guest speakers at Project LEAP have included the CEOs of AIDS service organization in Houston, local HIV-treating physicians, and lawyers who specialize in HIV-related law. The CFA has facilitated Project LEAP since 2003.
In 2010, The CFA’s executive director, Paul Simmons, completed his term as co-chair of the Community Science Committee of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG). The ACTG, funded by the U.S. government, is the largest HIV clinical research consortium in the world. With Paul in this position, The CFA was able to carry out an essential part of its mission and influence the HIV research agenda.

In conjunction with the University of Texas Medical School in Houston, The CFA planned for the opening of a clinic where individuals who have recently been exposed to HIV could receive treatment that might abort the infection before it took root. Non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis, or nPEP, has shown promise in reducing the incidence of HIV infection. The CFA took a leading role in making nPEP more widely available to Houstonians.

As it has for many years, The CFA provided critical support to HIV research units in the Texas Medical Center, helping to advance the search for better treatments and making clinical research available to Houstonians. The CFA supported community advisory boards for HIV researchers at the Baylor College of Medicine, where investigators are working on a vaccine for HIV, and at the University of Texas Medical School, where investigators are working on new treatments.

Advocacy
Giving Houston a Voice
The Blue Book, formally known as the Houston Resource Guide, is a publication of the Houston Area HIV Services Ryan White Planning Council. The book is a compendium of HIV service providers in the greater Houston area.

As part of its commitment to act as a nexus agency, The CFA sponsored the first annual Meet the Blue Book in 2010. The event had two purposes: 1) to bring together representatives from Houston’s AIDS service organizations so they could develop a referral network and share information and resources, and 2) to honor the recipient of the L. Joel Martinez Award for making a significant contribution to the lives of Houstonians living with HIV. In 2010, the award went to Tori Williams (pictured second from left, above). From her founding of the Pet Patrol, to her work on the AIDS Memorial Quilt, to her superior management of the Office of Support at the Ryan White Planning Council, Tori has a long and impressive record of serving the needs of people with HIV/AIDS. The CFA was pleased to honor her.

The CFA continues to serve as a hub agency that provides a forum for networking, discussion, and education among the staff and volunteers of AIDS service providers in the greater Houston area. And with the L. Joel Martinez Award, The CFA continues to honor the legacy of its co-founder.
The CFA’s flagship publications — Research Initiative/Treatment Action and HIV Treatment Alerts — were both published twice in 2010. Research Initiative/Treatment Action is devoted to exploration of questions in clinical practice and is targeted to health care providers. HIV Treatment Alerts is a consumer-friendly publication that covers developments in the treatment of HIV infection.

In spring 2010, Research Initiative/Treatment Action examined accelerated aging among people living with HIV. In the fall, the publication examined HIV’s impact on adolescents and young adults. Meanwhile, the spring issue of HIV Treatment Alerts reported on developments at the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, while the fall issue reported on developments at the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy.

Both publications are edited by Mark Mascolini, whom some have described as the Walter Cronkite of HIV news reporting. The CFA’s publications are well-written and well-sourced and carry timely, useful information for clinicians as well as lay people. Research Initiative/Treatment Action and HIV Treatment Alerts are vital sources of information not only for residents of Houston, but also for people throughout the United States.
The CFA’s Mission
Imagining an End to AIDS

Our Mission
The Center for AIDS Information & Advocacy (The CFA) empowers people living with HIV to make informed decisions about their healthcare by providing the latest research and treatment information and by advocating for accessible, affordable, and effective treatment options until there’s a cure.

Our Goals
• Make difficult medical and scientific information easier to understand
• Prevent deaths from HIV
• Cut HIV transmission
• Promote health and wellness
• Provide exceptional customer service

Our Services
The CFA features services with no paperwork, no lines, and no fees. Our services are confidential and anonymous, and are offered by friendly and courteous staff.

Our Location and Hours
The CFA is located at 1407 Hawthorne at the intersection of Hawthorne and Yupon in central Houston. The L. Joel Martinez Information Center, found at the same location, is opened Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Our Mailing Address
Mail for The CFA should be sent to P.O. Box 66306, Houston, TX, 77266-6306.

Our Phone Numbers
The CFA’s phone number is 713.527.8219; our fax number is 713.521.3679.
Donors
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$25,000+
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        AIDS Walk 2010
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The Meadows Foundation
Karen Minott
George Cameron Nash
Bill Patterson & Dennis McNabb
Austin Smith
Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2010

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| TOTAL ASSETS                                        | 787,936|

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| TOTAL LIABILITIES                                    | 320,618|

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| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS                     | 787,936|