



STD • HEPATITIS • HIV
Prevention & Care

October 2007

'The Golden Lotus Gala' Rain's 13th Annual Wine, Art and Antiquities Auction

This year's Wine, Art and Antiquities Auction will be held Friday, November 16th at the Reynolds Alumni Center on the University of Missouri campus. This year's live and silent auction offers guests the allure of unique treasures surrounded by the ambiance of far-off lands.

Rain has been providing direct support to individuals living with HIV and conducting HIV prevention education for over 14 years. We also address the needs of individuals at risk for, or diagnosed with Hepatitis C (HCV) and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Rain assists clients with the costs of necessary medical care, medications, housing, food essentials, counseling, and on-going support.

The annual gala is Rain's most successful fundraising event, responsible for contributing more than \$40,000 to Rain's operating expenses last year. All of the proceeds remain in the local community to help Rain better serve 33 counties in the North Central Region of Missouri.

Rain is currently accepting donations of one-of-a-kind items, artwork, and specialty services through November 11th. Anyone interested in making a contribution or attending this year's event, please contact Cale Mitchell at (573) 875-8687.



Rain Artists Featured at Tellers Gallery & Bar

Catch a sneak peak at the art work to be featured at this year's Golden Lotus Gala. The opening is scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Tellers Gallery and Bar. The public is invited to attend the opening and visit the gallery.

Tellers is open Monday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 a.m., located in the District in downtown Columbia at 820 E. Broadway.

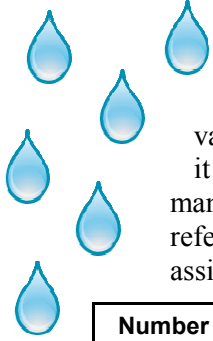
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*Mandarin to English
translation: Wine and Art
Auction, Nov. 16, 2007*

Rain Update

Rain Staff News



Program Updates

Rain provides clients living with HIV and Hepatitis C (HCV) access to various programs throughout the 33 counties it serves in North Central Missouri. Case management offers clients supportive services, referrals to other resources and medication assistance.

Number of clients served y-t-d	Rain Programs
161	HIV Case Management Program
67	Incarcerated Case Management
57	HCV Case Management Program
277	Total Case Management Program
42	Emergency Food Program
56	Rental Assistance Program
75	Utility Assistance Program
22	Dental Program
31	Vision Program
55	Physician & Lab Program
9	Mental Health Program
12	Immunization Program
92	Total Medical Services Program

Case Management News: During the month of September, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) agreed to pay all Medicaid spenddowns for dual-eligible (Medicare and Medicaid) clients. This permitted clients who would have been unable to pay their spenddowns to maintain dual eligibility status. In addition, DHSS will pay all Medicaid-only spenddowns beginning in October.

Housing: The Supportive Housing Program (SHP) was approved for funding and should be operational within the next six months. This program will allow Rain to provide permanent housing for 3 additional homeless individuals in 2008. The housing coordinator has completed training for the Homeless Missourians Information System (HMIS), a tool utilized by agencies all across Missouri to track the state's homeless population.

The Outstate Next Step Permanent Supportive Housing Program (OMO) continues to be a great success. A combination of OMO funding and other sources has allowed Rain to begin construction on Waterbrook Place.

Transportation: Clients not eligible for Medicaid Transport services may qualify for travel reimbursement through case management. Reimbursement may be obtained for travel to physician, mental health, dental and vision appointments, pharmacy visits, and meetings for case management services (2 per year). The maximum amount for travel reimbursement in the outstate region was recently raised from \$75 to \$150 per month.

Rain Staff Directory

Mindy Duncan Executive Director	x 227
Cale Mitchell Executive Assistant	x 261
Christine Smith Case Management Supervisor	x 259
Dustin Hampton Education & Testing Coordinator	x 258
Kimberly Wright Medical Services Coordinator	x 224
Ken Cissna Housing Coordinator	x 228
Bryan Chatfield Positive Start Case Manager	x 230
Steve Santoyo HCV Case Manager	x 233
Misti Pennington Mental Health Case Manager	x 257
Jaya Williams Waiver Case Manager	x 262
Christine Varner HIV Case Manager	x 237
Ken Munyeria HIV Case Manager	x 222
Melissa Pollard Program Assistant	x 236

E-mail us at: info@missourirain.org.

Rain Breaks Ground on New Housing Project



Front Row: 1st Ward Columbia City Councilwoman Almeta Crayton; Back Row (Left to Right): Rain Board Member Erik LaPaglia, Rain Board Chair Kris Younger, Rain Executive Director Mindy Duncan, Rain Board Secretary Tootie Burns and Rain Board Vice Chair Connie Kilgore.

Rain board members, staff and community leaders gathered with members of the media for the Waterbrook Place groundbreaking ceremony on September 13, 2007.

The project's purpose is to increase the number of long-term, affordable housing units for people living with HIV (PLWH) in the community and to contribute to Columbia's ongoing effort to revitalize the city's historic neighborhoods. Plans for the project consist of constructing eight new housing units near the corner of Garth and Worley, with six single-occupancy units and two units designated for families.

According to Mindy Duncan, Rain Executive Director, "The proposed project will provide PLWH much-needed, stable housing to promote self sufficiency and healthy living." Duncan goes on to explain.

"Homelessness drastically reduces an individual's ability to maintain good health in the best of circumstances. Those with HIV are already at greater risk of developing illnesses and opportunistic infections."

Duncan describes how inadequate housing and homelessness is linked to poor health outcomes,

particularly for those living with chronic illnesses such as HIV.

"Unstable living conditions often lead to decreased medication adherence, poor hygiene and inadequate nutrition; all contributing to deteriorating overall health."

Rain has proven its dedication to helping clients find affordable housing with the development and completion of its first, four-unit housing project in February, 2006. The Waterbrook Project will double the number of units managed by Rain.

During the last weeks of December 2006, Rain was awarded a \$100,000 grant through the Missouri Housing Trust Fund. This grant provided Rain with the final piece of funding necessary for its Waterbrook Place Housing Project.

Additional funding for Waterbrook Place was secured through an \$87,000 Community Development Block Grant through the City of Columbia, a \$135,000 commitment from the Federal Home Loan Bank of De Moines and more than \$900,000 in rental assistance from Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Construction has begun and completion of the project will likely occur in autumn of 2008.

Rain Summer Activities

Twilight Festival - June & September

Thursday evenings during June, Rain set up a table downtown during the Twilight Festival. Staff handed out balloons, stress cubes, candy and agency information to the public.

Boone County Fair - July

Rain operated a booth for the first time during the Boone County Fair, held the last week in July. Staff manned the Rain booth from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. each evening. We handed out balloons, candy and agency information to fairgoers. We also gave away t-shirts, cups and stress cubes to people who could correctly answer health-related trivia questions.

Boone County Back-to-School Health Fair - August

Rain set up a table and staff handed out back-to-school items. Rain donated pens, pencils, notebooks and folders.



Rain's Misti Pennington and Dustin Hampton at the fair.

Client Retreat - September

Rain sponsored a weekend retreat for clients living with HIV. The event offered clients the opportunity to relax, share their experiences, learn basic yoga, and attend presentations on HAART treatment adherence, disease prevention and stress reduction techniques.

World Aids Day 2007 - December 1st

Internationally recognized on December 1st, people, communities and countries will observe the 19th annual World Aids Day.

Founded in 1988 by the World Health Organization (WHO), this day serves as an opportunity to raise consciousness about the issues of people affected by HIV/AIDS world wide. It also reminds us to recognize and remember those whose lives were lost in the battle for a cure.

Rain is currently in the planning stages for World Aids Day 2007 activities. For more information about the event or how to volunteer, please contact Rain at (573) 875-8687 or visit our Web site at www.missourirain.org.



Rain's Jaya Williams, "Just swinging at the picnic."

Client & Staff Picnic - August

Sam Bennett of Harrison Insurance Agency donated barbequed chicken and pork, coleslaw and baked beans for our gathering. The picnic was attended by Rain clients, staff and board members.

Waterbrook Groundbreaking - September

Rain invited members of the community and the media to celebrate the groundbreaking of its new housing project.