The 30th annual World AIDS Day, observed last December, was no ordinary anniversary. It was a true special occasion, an opportunity to acknowledge that the tools and knowledge for ending the AIDS epidemic are really here. But while there is great cause for encouragement, no one is resting on their laurels. They are well aware that putting those tools into action will be an enormous challenge going forward.

“In the past couple of years, we’ve made tremendous breakthroughs in treating HIV and AIDS,” says Dr. Diane Havlir, Chief of the HIV/AIDS Division at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (The General) and Director of its world-renown Positive Health Program (PHP). “We need to recognize and take advantage of the opportunities we have to end suffering and death from AIDS and stem the spread of new infections to millions of people.”

Already, HIV/AIDS has been transformed from a terminal disease to a chronic one. That critical shift is the result of antiretroviral drug therapies that suppress HIV levels in the body. (HIV is a virus that compromises the immune system and damages the liver, heart and other organs.) Developed in part through research conducted at The General, antiretroviral treatment consists of a combination of drugs, tailored to each patient’s medical needs, that are taken daily.

For many years the downside of antiretroviral drug therapy was the risk of debilitating side effects and the need for patients to take as many as 30 pills throughout the day. Now antiretroviral therapies are less toxic and easier for patients to take, often requiring just one pill per day.

For anyone with HIV, but especially for patients at The General, those improvements can mean the difference between life and death. Benefiting from these advances, though, can be challenging.

“The people we see are often dealing with multiple problems such as unstable housing or homelessness, mental illness and substance abuse, in addition to HIV,” explains

Continued on Page 2
Benefits of Early HIV Treatment

The case for early treatment of HIV grows stronger every day. In addition to helping those infected with HIV, early treatment helps their families, partners and the local and global community by:

- Slowing the progression of the disease.
- Curtailing the transmission of HIV from pregnant mothers to their babies.
- Preventing transmission of HIV to sexual partners. Data shows that treating HIV-infected persons early in the course of the disease prevents onward sexual transmission of HIV. This approach is known as "treatment as prevention."
- Helping people who are HIV positive plan for families.
- Reducing the number of orphans. By keeping parents healthy, HIV treatment enables them to care for their children, reduces child labor and enables retention in education.
- Reducing the need for hospitalization for those infected with HIV.
- Dramatically reducing tuberculosis rates. The effects of HIV on the immune system make people particularly susceptible to TB, which is the leading killer of those with HIV. Early HIV treatment thus can save lives and help halt the TB epidemic.
- Helping to control Hepatitis C (Hep C). Both HIV and Hep C are chronic viruses that can be transmitted through shared needles or sex. Rather than sending patients to a separate specialty liver clinic, SFGH has created a model of Hep C treatment that is embedded in its HIV primary care clinic (Ward 86). Studies in patients coinfected with HIV and Hep C are ongoing, including at The General.

"Now, with proper treatment, people with HIV and AIDS can expect to live well into their seventies and eighties."

In fact, the Positive Health Program has launched a special initiative to address the particular needs of people who are aging with HIV.

"Conditions that we see in people as they get older—such as heart disease, renal disease, osteoporosis and dementia—are affecting individuals with HIV in unique ways. By collaborating with our specialists in cardiology and geriatrics here at The General, we’re addressing those issues that show up in people who’ve been infected for decades,” says Hare. “We hope to make their lives happy, healthy and productive as they age with HIV."

There is even talk of a cure for AIDS, now that one person who had been infected no longer has HIV in his body. Timothy Ray Brown was living with HIV in Berlin, Germany in 2007, when doctors there gave him a bone marrow, stem cell transplant that had astounding results. Brown received stem cells from a donor who was immune to HIV and, since the transplant, has shown no traces of HIV in his own body. Today he is being monitored by doctors at The General.

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JOIN US TO SUPPORT SFGH – THE HEART OF OUR CITY!

HEROES & HEARTS

**Luncheon**
11:30am - 1:30pm
An afternoon honoring local heroes and unveiling the 2012 series of Hearts in San Francisco.
Tickets: $300

**Evening Event**
7:00pm - 10:00pm
Hors d’oeuvres, cocktails and music by Celebrity DJ Chef Hubert Keller and DJs A Plus D of Bootie Mashup.
General Admission: $75 & VIP $175

Thursday, February 9, 2012
AT&T Park, San Francisco
Tented Event on the Field

Tickets & Sponsorship Information 415.206.5928 or sfghf.net

One-of-a-kind Table Top Hearts and select Large Hearts available for purchase during Silent Auction at the events.

**macy’s Window Display**  **Table Top Heart Preview**  **January 26th - February 8th, Stockton Street**

SPONSORED BY

San Francisco General Hospital Foundation News  Winter 2011  San Francisco General Hospital Foundation News
Congratulations to our 2011 Hearts Grants Recipients

For more information on any of the funded projects listed below, please contact Kelley Long at (415) 206-5803 or klong@sfglh.net.

- 7L Patient Beds Replacement
- 7L Patient Dayroom Table Replacement
- Adolescent HIV Program Planning
- A Labor of Love: Creating a Healing Environment in the Birth Center
- ASL 5000 Advanced Breathing Simulator
- Bay Area Perinatal AIDS Center
- Blending the Cost Curve through Cost and Radiation Consciousness
- Body and Soul: Getting to the Heart of the Matter
- Brain and Spinal Injury Center
- Burn Care Project
- Cancer Awareness, Resources and Education
- Community Engagement Initiative
- Critical Care Access to Education Improvement Project
- Critical Care Early Mobility Program
- CVIP SMARTSteps Diabetes Program
- CVIP Space Renovation Project
- CVIP Youth Speaks Health Diabetes Prevention Campaign
- Department of Pediatrics SimJunior
- Efficient Management System: Lean
- Essentials for Healing: Health at Home Patient Needs
- Expansion of Interpreter Call Center
- Eyeglasses Access Program
- Faxitron Breast Care Improvement Project
- Feeding Tube Care Improvement Project
- Happiest Baby on the Block
- Health Education Consultant/Trainer for MEA Staff
- Helping Our Patients Find Their Way
- Improving Communication in the Hematology-Oncology/Outpatient Clinic
- Improving Neuro-Intensive Care in the SFGH Infant Care Center
- Improving Otolaryngology Ultrasound Patient Experience
- Improving Safety of Children’s Health Center Waiting Rooms
- Improving the Staff Break Room
- Instilling Hope Through Innovative Activities Program at the Skilled Nursing Facility presented to them by Sue Currin, CEO, SFGH and Connolly Bottom, Volunteer, SFGH Foundation.
- Instilling Hope Through Innovative Activities Program
- Integrate, Opioid Education, Pain Management, and Pain Awareness
- In-Hospital Patient Room Upgrade
- In-House Program and Services
- Innovation 2000
- Interdisciplinary Opi Leadership Academy
- Investing in the Future of Nursing
- Karthik’s Project
- Kern’s Project
- Kidney Care
-KonS
- Lactation Services Education
- Low Birth Weight Project
- Medical Education for Obstetricians and Delivery Nurses
- Microbiology/Infectious Diseases
- Multipurpose Room Renovation
- Naloxone
- Nursing Grand Rounds
- Nutrition
- Outpatient Pharmacy Digital Patient Signature System
- Patient-Centered Group Medical Visits for Patients with High Blood Pressure
- Patient Changing Table
- Pediatric & Adult Liquid Medication Safety Project
- Perioperative Thromboelastography for SFGH
- Perry Outreach Program
- PES Physical Renovation of the Chart Room
- PES Physical Renovation of the Day Room
- Pink Hearts Club
- Preventing Wound and Ostomy Care
- Psychiatric Dayroom Communication Project & Patient Care Area Renovation
- Radiation/Patient Waiting Room Upgrade

Hearts Gifts

With Valentine’s Day just around the corner, be sure to purchase your HEARTS gifts today! Tote bags, note cards, and the original Hearts in San Francisco books are available for purchase at our online store at http://sfglh.net/store/.

100% of the proceeds from the sales of these items benefit San Francisco General Hospital Foundation—Supporting the Heart of Our City!

Annual Report Corrections

We deeply regret that the following gifts were omitted from our 2009 Annual Report.

$9,999 - $5,000
- The Robert Trigg McClellan Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee

$999 - $500
- Anson Moon
- Tribute Gifts
- In Honor of Gene O’Connell, RN
- Dr. Valerie L. Ng and Mr. Kenneth Li
- Dr. Valerie L. Ng and Mr. Kenneth Li
- In Memory of Richard Hollingsworth
- Dr. Valerie L. Ng and Mr. Kenneth Li
- In Memory of Elliott Rapaport, MD
- Dr. Valerie L. Ng and Mr. Kenneth Li
- In Memory of Richard Hollingsworth
- Dr. Valerie L. Ng and Mr. Kenneth Li
- In Honor of Richard Hollingsworth
- Dr. Valerie L. Ng and Mr. Kenneth Li

♥ = Gold Heart Circle Member

To view complete current or past Annual Reports, please visit: http://sfglh.net/aud_fn_statements.html.
Kaiser Permanente awarded a $199,952 grant over two years to continue support and expansion of the Kaiser-developed PHASE Initiative within San Francisco’s community clinics. PHASE (Preventing Heart Attacks and Strokes Everyday) is a simple combination of medications and lifestyle changes that can reduce heart attacks and strokes among patients, especially those with heart conditions or diabetes. Kaiser Permanente also awarded a $150,000 grant over two years to build upon quality improvement infrastructure at SFGH and the SFPDH Community Oriented Primary Care Clinics to enhance operations and clinical quality to improve the patient experience.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals awarded a $250,000 grant to expand a primary care-based model offered through the SFGH HIV/AIDS Division - Positive Health Program to increase hepatitis C education, evaluation and treatment in community clinics that serve marginalized and vulnerable people in San Francisco.

SAVE THE DATE: Nurses Gala benefiting the Dorothy Washington Nursing Scholarship Fund will be held Friday, September 14, 2012 at the InterContinental San Francisco from 7:00-10:00pm. For sponsorship information, please contact Elaine Lan at (415) 206-5959 or elan@sfghf.net.