

Dear Friends,

We are proud of the accomplishments described in this 2018 Annual Report and glad for the opportunity to thank you for your generous support enabling high quality care to Honduran people living with HIV.

We highlight our expanded laboratory services and the long-standing partnership with the e3 Girls Education Fund. You'll read about our unrelenting efforts to educate, test and treat people for HIV. Be sure to see the message from Honduras Executive Director, Pascual Torres. You'll find a photo of him distributing some of the 60,000 cartons of Kate Farms nutritional formulas, a donation resulting from a partnership forged by board member Elisabeth Fowler.

Finally, our mental health services for people living with HIV were spotlighted



when Pascual and psychologist Siomara Lopez traveled to the U.S. in 2018 to talk with supporters. They described how our patients use skills learned at our clinics to strengthen relationships and build confidence. The Board of Directors, Pascual and Amy (all pictured above) join

me in expressing deep gratitude for your help and friendship.

Denise Main

*Co-founder & President,
Board of Directors*

RESPONDING TO POVERTY AND HIV

"Tina's" bed sits on concrete blocks, elevated because of the annual flooding that washes over the dirt floors of her wooden slat home. She washes pots and pans outside using water from the river. She lives in extreme poverty, a primary reason why people with HIV in Honduras have worse health outcomes than individuals in the U.S.



Tina in her kitchen with the monthly food support she receives.

Poverty affects a person's access to adequate schooling and jobs. People without a high school education find their best employment opportunities are in clothing factories. However, these require laboratory and health testing. When found HIV-positive, prospective employees are often turned away or if already hired are fired.

Forty-six-year-old Tina supports herself selling second-hand clothing. The Siempre Unidos staff enrolled her in the monthly food support program, crucial to maintaining her nutritional status so her antiretroviral medications work effectively. She asked us to convey her tremendous thanks (or gracias) for your help.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Denise Main, MD, *President & Co-founder*
Elisabeth Fowler, *Treasurer & Director*
Richard Schaper, *Secretary & Director*
Jay Lalezari, MD, *Medical Director*
Elliott Main, MD, *Assistant Secretary*
Lydia Arellano, *Director*
Janet Brown, *Director*
Tom Coyne, *Director*
Evelyn Wells, *Director*
Pascual Torres, *Director & Co-Founder*

Amy Rankin-Williams, DrPH
U.S. Executive Director

The Rev. Pascual Torres
Honduras Executive Director

CONTACT INFORMATION:

1001 Smith Road
 Mill Valley, CA 94941
 415-448-6118
info@siempreunidos.org
www.siempreunidos.org

CLINIC-BASED SERVICES

Suppressed Viral Load = Decreased Likelihood of New HIV Infections

In April 2018, the “Doctora Denise Main” laboratory opened, the result of major fundraising efforts to expand the clinic’s lab facilities and purchase new equipment. The laboratory now includes a viral load machine – the second in the entire country – to measure the amount of HIV in a positive patient. This tells our clinicians how a person is responding to treatment and how infectious the individual is. A person with a suppressed viral load is very unlikely to infect another with HIV. Before having our own viral load machine, Siempre Unidos, like all government clinics, was often without this critical test for months at a time.

Siempre Unidos’ exemplary clinical care has resulted in 81% of our patients having suppressed viral loads. To put this into context, the UNAIDS goal is for countries to see 90% of their population tested, 90% of those treated and 90% of treated patients with suppressed viral loads. With the availability of prompt and reliable viral load tests, we expect to improve care to reach the goal of 90% suppression.

Overall, our two clinics treated 464 HIV-positive patients (191 women and 273 men), ensured monthly nutritional support to 50 impoverished HIV-positive patients, received over 1,700 patient visits for primary care, held 456 counseling sessions and 24 support group meetings and served over 4,600 breakfasts and lunches.



Siempre Unidos lab technicians stand outside the expanded laboratory.

ADVOCACY

HIV and Stigma Reduction Training



Luz’ employees at Siempre Unidos HIV training.

Siempre Unidos organizes many different activities to advocate for the rights of people living with HIV – marches through the city center, pro bono legal representation, and educational workshops. Pascual and the staff are always on the look-out for more such opportunities.

Noteworthy is this: A newly diagnosed patient told our clinical staff that he had confided his status to his company’s owner, Luz. Luz asked Siempre Unidos to train her 55 employees on HIV, how its transmission can be prevented and measures to decrease stigmatization. Her leadership and support help to improve the lives of people living with HIV and contribute to ending AIDS.

OUTREACH

HIV Testing to Assess Prevalence Among New Groups

Honduras lags behind other Latin American countries with 61% of its adult population HIV tested versus an 81% regional average. In the areas where we work, Siempre Unidos is the only

organization that maintains ongoing HIV education and testing.

During 2018, we ensured HIV testing for high-risk groups (people who are LGBTQ,

ethnic minorities and prisoners) where we continue to diagnose new cases of HIV in 2 - 5% of those screened. We expanded outreach to mobile groups to assess HIV knowledge and prevalence. These groups include truck, bus and taxi drivers, police officers, military recruits and university students. The groups have not been systematically screened in Honduras. Thus far, 425 people have received information about HIV prevention. Eighty-four percent agreed to be tested. Of them, almost 1% were positive. Each of these individuals now receives care in our clinics or at a government facility.

Testing is the crucial first step to end AIDS. When a person is negative and learns his/her status, that individual can take steps to prevent transmission. When a person is positive, we can ensure high-quality treatment and thus reduce the likelihood of that individual infecting another.



Bus drivers line up to receive HIV testing and counseling, a program supported by Gilead.

SPECIAL FEATURE

The e3 Girls Education Fund

e3 (engage, educate, empower) is an education initiative under the umbrella of Siempre Unidos that funds tuition and other school expenses for Honduran girls whose families live in extreme poverty and with HIV. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Zoë Brock, founder of e3. Below are her reflections.

e3 began as a seventh-grade school project 9 years ago when I myself was receiving a scholarship to attend school. As a college senior, I still am. I find myself at the intersection of certain privileges that have afforded me an incredible education thanks in large part to financial scholarships. With all of the resources and support at my disposal, e3 exists as an effort to proliferate similar educational opportunities for other girls. I am grateful for the generosity of many individuals in my home community of Santa Barbara, CA, among others. Through our shared work, the beneficiaries of our scholarships have excelled in school.



Zoë Brock, pictured in white T-shirt, and friend raise funds for the e3 fund at a school bake sale.



A Message from El Reverendo

Dear board members, generous donors and friends of Siempre Unidos,

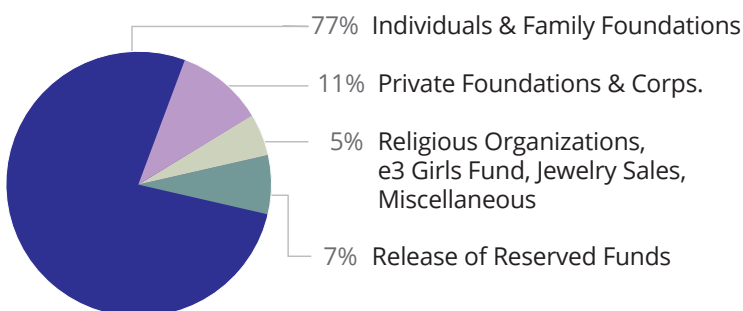
This occasion gives me the opportunity to thank you for your time, talent and donations. It would be unimaginable to achieve our goals and reach so many people - men, women, youth, children and the elderly - without the invaluable support of this network of wonderful people who contribute to us in so many ways to make the mission of Siempre Unidos possible: "Do good and heal."



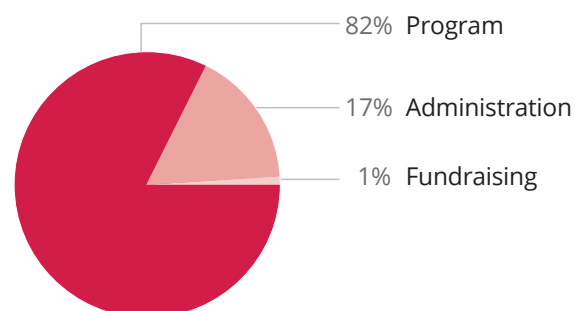
Pascual presenting Paz with Kate Farms nutritional drinks at the Siempre Unidos holiday celebration.

FINANCIALS

INCOME



EXPENSES



In 2018, Siempre Unidos' cash-basis income totaled \$393,467. Expenses totaled \$393,467.