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SPOTLIGHT

People & Developments at AIDS Research Alliance

Spring, 2000



PHOTO BY BERLINER STUDIO

8th Photography Art Auction focuses on success

The 8th Focus on AIDS Photography Art Auction Benefit was held on November 19th, 1999 at Barneys New York in Beverly Hills. The event featured photographs



by such famed photographers as Richard Avedon, Margaret Bourke-White, Greg Gorman, George Hurrell, Andre Kertesz, Annie Leibovitz, Francesco Scavullo,

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Change at the Top

AIDS Research Alliance is pleased to announce the appointment of Irl S. Barefield, a seasoned HIV/AIDS clinical trials director long involved in community research, as the organization's Executive Director. Mr. Barefield's most recent appointment was as Director of HIVCare and Clinical Research, a community-based clinical trials program for HIV/AIDS and oncology affiliated with Saint Francis Memorial Hospital in San Francisco, California.

He replaces Gregory S. Britt, who served



PHOTO BY SILVATORE IACOPELLI

as ARA's Chief Executive Officer for six and a half years until this past December. Gregg left ARA to become Senior Director of Operations at Protocare Trials, a Santa Monica-based corporation (*see box on page 3 for further information*).

As Director of HIVCare and Clinical Research, Mr. Barefield increased the number of HIV/AIDS clinical trials, including a number of protocols designed by HIVCare for salvage regimens and complementary therapies, while expanding recruitment and

continued on page 3

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SPOTLIGHT

PEOPLE & DEVELOPMENTS AT
AIDS RESEARCH ALLIANCE

ARA envisions a future in which HIV and its effects are eliminated from infected individuals, and a vaccine preventing new cases eradicates the virus.

ARA's mission is to find and accelerate the development of effective treatments for HIV and its complications. We do this by conducting cutting-edge research and clinical trials in order to improve the longevity and quality of life for all people with immune deficiency.

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Karen J. Wellenkamp

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Message from the Executive Director *Let's get this over with...*

It's about time we end this thing, don't you think? We are now in the *twentieth* year of watching HIV attack friend after friend, person after person, population after population, and country after country. Politically unthinkable only a few years ago, the "AIDS problem" is now so dangerous to world stability that the President's National Security Council has just officially designated HIV as a severe threat to national security. Yet we are still playing "catch up" due to early years of government inaction combined with the deviousness of a virus that at times seems smarter than any of us.

Fortunately we have learned. The political winds that kept even the word "AIDS" out of much public discourse have given way to a government and a public more sensitive to the needs of basic research, prevention, and the treatment of HIV-disease. On the other hand, important clinical research that not only *advances research* but also has the potential to *serve those who participate in it* remains both critically needed and radically underfunded.

I am privileged to serve as Executive Director of AIDS Research Alliance, and to work with its clients, staff and board members through such research toward our ambitious mission of curing HIV-disease. AIDS Research Alliance differs from most other clinical research centers in several important ways. But perhaps the primary difference is that we are "community-based", a term thrown around too lightly these days. So what does being community-based mean for ARA and for our clients and stakeholders?

It means that while we work hard to fulfill our mission, we remain client-centered. It means that we receive referrals to our trials from all physicians, as well as self-referrals from clients who want to take a meaningful part in their own care. It means that we don't limit participation in trials to those in a particular healthplan or managed care HMO, nor for that matter do we aim our services at any particular demographic group. It means that clients will not be charged for participation in our research.

We will continue to participate in traditional drug approval trials that are important in adding new therapies to our current anti-HIV arsenal. But because we are community-based, we will also listen to the needs and experiences of our clients and their treating physicians *as they happen*. That means that we will keep our goals timely and relevant by moving quickly to design and participate in "disease management" and "salvage" trials, often unfunded by industry, that address the needs of those whose current therapies are failing them due to viral resistance, complicated drug regimens, and other factors.

Being a community-based clinical research center in 2000 means that we at AIDS Research Alliance must understand that curing AIDS is as much about helping those with HIV disease continue to live in wellness as it is about our ultimate goal of ending the epidemic. We continue to fight as hard as we know how to contribute to the eradication of HIV from this earth. At the same time, we will recognize the needs of those now living with HIV, but running out of options, by initiating appropriate research designed to learn how to keep these friends alive and well. In doing so, we can honor those no longer with us, affirm the dignity and value of those who are very much here and in urgent need of new therapies, and help, we hope, to create a world free of HIV for those who follow us.

It would not be right to aim for less.

With respect,

Irl Barefield,
Executive Director

Change at the Top

cover story continued

service outreach to women and minorities. He lead a financial turnaround of the organization, running HIVCare as a revenue producing cost-center for the first time in its existence, while expanding the breadth of its services.

In addition to his duties as HIVCare's Director, Irl served from 1996-1998 as Chair of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) *Community-Based Clinical Trials Network* Operations Committee. At Saint Francis, he was Chair of their *Patient Rights Task Force* and a member of the hospital's *Leadership Counsel* and their *Bioethics Committee*.

He is a deeply committed HIV/AIDS healthcare activist, serving as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the San Francisco-based Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center, which provides HIV/AIDS-related "wrap-around services" (including prevention, health promotion, case management and treatment advocacy). With a yearly budget of \$2.8 million, the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center is the nation's largest organization addressing the needs of Asians and Pacific Islanders at risk for and living with HIV/AIDS. He is also an active member of the Coalition for Salvage Therapy.

He was awarded his undergraduate degree *summa cum laude* from Kenyon College in Ohio and went on to earn an M.A. in Philosophy at the University of Chicago. Irl comes from a family committed to public service and civil rights; following this family tradition, he made the decision to take his law degree and focus his efforts on civil rights and public welfare.

After receiving his J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California/Berkeley, Irl worked as an associate attorney for Cooley Godward Castro Huddleson & Tatum, representing clients living with HIV/AIDS, the Sierra Legal Defense Fund and the Greater Yellowstone Coalition. He moved on to the law firm of Morrison & Foerster, LLP, acting as lead litigator in a case defending the rights of the mentally ill. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Bar Association of San Francisco and the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom.

His increasing involvement with community-based AIDS service organizations and his representation of clients with HIV-disease as a volunteer attorney for the AIDS Legal Referral Panel made the transition into working with HIVCare, a community-based research site, a natural one. Irl said recently, "I've never regretted the change for one minute. This work is too important and too rewarding."

He continued, "I'm excited at the opportunity to help expand the scope of HIV research conducted at ARA and continue its tradition of service to all HIV-affected communities. The board and staff of ARA demonstrate tremendous dedication and a growing capacity to confront the changing face of HIV disease. I look forward to working closely with them, in partnership with other community resources, to move us closer to our common goal of ending the epidemic."



PHOTO BY JOEL MARK

GREGG BRITT MOVES ON

When Gregg Britt was appointed Chief Executive Officer of AIDS Research Alliance in May of 1993, the organization had six staff members, a budget of \$400,000 and three clinical studies. When he left in December, 1999 to work for Protocare Trials, ARA had a staff of 17, a \$2 million budget and was conducting and/or developing fourteen clinical trials and working in partnership with virtually every major company involved in AIDS drug development.

Gregg came to ARA from Valley Community Clinic, where he was Director of HIV Services and Health Education. He was instrumental in the formation of the San Fernando Valley HIV Consortium and served as its Chair for one and a half years. During that time, he oversaw the creation of the Valley HIV/AIDS Center, the only dedicated HIV center in the San Fernando Valley at that time.

During his tenure at ARA, Gregg spearheaded the transformation of the foundation from a small, maverick research group to a leading non-profit research organization conducting both independently funded research projects as well as clinical trials in partnership with major pharmaceutical companies. It is these partnerships with industry that have largely helped to fuel the growth of the organization and ensure that virtually all private donations directly fund independent research programs.

According to Gregg, "It was difficult to leave such a wonderful team at ARA, especially after 6 1/2 years of

growth and development for the organization. Working with the HIV/AIDS community to identify and develop more effective HIV therapeutics has been an incredibly rewarding experience. This new opportunity with Protocare presents a different and unique challenge in developing promising new therapeutics in virtually every major disease area."

In December he was appointed Senior Director of Operations of Protocare Trials, a division of Protocare, Inc., and one of the largest networks of wholly-owned clinical research centers in the U.S. In addition to overseeing operations of all Protocare Trials centers in the western half of the U.S., Gregg is busy with the creation of a new "start-up" center in San Jose in conjunction with the San Jose Medical Group.

Our deepest appreciation and best wishes go with Gregg, who oversaw ARA through a demanding and unique period in HIV/AIDS medical advancement, and served the organization and the HIV/AIDS community with passion and commitment.

SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

Focus on AIDS Focus on AIDS Focus on AIDS

(Cover story continued)

Eduard Steichen, Andy Warhol, and William Wegman, as well as celebrity photographers Jeff Bridges, Yul Brynner, David Byrne, Richard Gere and Michael Stipe. The auction was attended by collectors, gallery owners and art enthusiasts, as well as well-known entertainment figures such as Michael Badalucco, k.d. lang and Kate Moss.

The event was a resounding success, raising over \$220,000 to benefit AIDS Research Alliance, Caring for Babies with AIDS and the Focus on Aids Foundation. We would like to thank the many hundreds of people listed below who made this event such a success—and we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to staff members and numerous volunteer participants who helped make this event possible.

Focus on AIDS 8



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"DAVID HODNET" BY FRANCESCO SCHIULLO

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(Note: List does not include Focus on AIDS 8 event donors.)

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Barneys New York and STILA Cosmetics have donated over \$6,800 to ARA, which represents 100% of the proceeds from their "Hope Shines" cause-related marketing campaign.

The specially-designed STILA lip gloss was available in Barneys New York stores throughout the country from December, 1999 until the end of February, 2000.

Our appreciation goes to Maree Lavo and Phil Johnson at Barneys New York and Ken



PHOTO BY ANDRÉ BIGASARIAN

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GRANTS

The Estate of Steven Alexander

We received a bequest of \$115,000 from the Estate of Steven Alexander, longtime supporter and friend to AIDS Research Alliance. Our appreciation goes to the many people involved in settling this estate and securing this significant donation for our foundation: Barbara J. Bailey, Esq. of Freeman, Freeman & Smiley, Katherine Gunther, former ARA Controller, Arnie Kassoy, Atty., Vice-Chair of ARAA's Board of Directors, and Roger Tanfey, Executive Director of Aid for AIDS. Finally, our heartfelt thanks go to the late Mr. Alexander for remembering us so generously.

Joseph Drown Foundation

The Joseph Drown Foundation has awarded ARA a \$25,000 grant to help underwrite the costs involved in producing *Searchlight* and *Spotlight*. This is their fourth donation to us since 1996, and our thanks go to Norman C. Obrow and Wendy Schein at the Foundation, as well as ARA's Chairman of the Board of Directors Cam Davis for facilitating this contribution.





The Estate of Matthew Rushton

We received an additional \$32,953 in funds from the Estate of Matthew Rushton, one of AIDS Research Alliance's founders and former Chairman of the Board of Directors. This brings the total amount received from this bequest up to over \$209,953.





Matthew was the Executive Producer of the blockbuster movie *Mrs. Doubtfire*, and passed away from complications arising from AIDS in 1995. Our appreciation goes to William Zimmerman, trustee of Mr. Rushton's estate and former ARA Board member, for facilitating these disbursements. We also extend our thanks and good wishes to Matthew's parents Marjorie and Arthur for their continued support of our work.



AIDS Research Alliance conducts its human clinical trials at its clinical research facility in Los Angeles, California. Clinical trials are conducted to study promising new HIV therapies and vaccines to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. Each study has its own inclusion/exclusion criteria, and they are primarily for people infected with the HIV/AIDS virus. The VaxGen AIDSVAX™ B/B vaccine, listed below, is one study in which a large number of HIV-negative participants are enrolled.

STUDY	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
Tipranavir™	Pharmacia & Upjohn	A study comparing combination therapy (tipranavir and ritonavir vs. saquinavir and ritonavir) used with two nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors in single protease inhibitor-experienced HIV-1 patients. <i>(Antiviral therapy)</i>	Currently enrolling
Remune™	Agouron Pharmaceuticals 	A study to compare the virologic and immunologic effect of Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) plus REMUNE™ versus HAART plus Incomplete Freund's Adjuvant (IFA) on antiretroviral-naïve patients infected with HIV-1. <i>(Antiviral & immunologic therapy)</i>	Currently enrolling
Zerit® (Stavudine, d4T)	Bristol-Myers Squibb 	A study to evaluate and compare the safety and efficacy of extended-release stavudine compared with standard stavudine for antiviral activity. <i>(Antiviral drug/improved dosing)</i>	Enrollment complete, study ongoing
Anticort™	Steroidogenesis Inhibitors, Inc. 	A pharmacokinetic and safety study of Anticort™ (an oral procaine formulation) in HIV-infected patients. <i>(Anti-inflammatory drug)</i>	Currently enrolling
Hydroxy-chloroquine <i>(in combination with hydroxyurea and didanosine)</i>	AIDS Research Alliance 	A study of the safety and antiviral efficacy of hydroxychloroquine in combination with hydroxyurea and Videx® (ddI or didanosine) in HIV-1 infected patients. <i>(Antiviral therapy)</i>	Currently enrolling

For information about enrolling in any of our studies, contact Corie Castro at 310/358.2429. Transportation to our clinical research facility is available on request. For priority notification of new/enrolling clinical trials, sign up for our Priority Notification Program. Para información en español, llame 310/360.3876.

STUDY	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
PMPA Prodrug	Gilead Sciences, Inc. 	A study of the safety and antiviral activity of the addition of PMPA Prodrug to combination antiretroviral regimens in treatment-experienced HIV-infected patients. <i>(Antiviral therapy)</i>	Enrollment complete, study ongoing
AIDSVAX™ B/B	VaxGen, Inc. 	A trial to evaluate the efficacy of the AIDSVAX™ B/B vaccine in adults at risk of sexually transmitted HIV-1 infection. <i>(Preventative HIV vaccine)</i>	Enrollment complete, study ongoing
Ziagen™ (abacavir) combination	Glaxo Wellcome 	A study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of 3TC/AZT/Ziagen™ vs. 3TC/AZT/Crixivan in HIV-infected antiretroviral-naïve subjects. <i>(Antiviral therapy)</i>	Enrollment complete, study ongoing
Viracept™ (nelfinavir)	Agouron Pharmaceuticals 	A study of nelfinavir in combination with AZT+3TC versus AZT+3TC alone. <i>(Antiviral therapy)</i>	Long-term extension phase continuing

SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

Focus on AIDS 8

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(continued on next page)



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Focus on AIDS 8

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Research works.

Laboratory research and clinical trials are responsible for all of the medications available for HIV/AIDS treatment today. People are living longer and better as a result of research **done in the past**.

Many advances have been made, yet HIV+ individuals undergoing treatment with existing medications are still grappling with unacceptable side effects, complicated regimens and increasing viral resistance. Many individuals lack the resources to obtain existing treatments.

We need to aggressively pursue more effective, better-tolerated and widely available treatments.

We need a breakthrough.

**And we need *your* help
to find it.**



Please mail your donation to the address noted below
attn: Karen J. Wellenkamp or call 310/358.2423.

Call to inquire about donating appreciated securities
(stock transfers) and planned giving.

AIDS Research Alliance, 621-A N. San Vicente Blvd., W. Hollywood, CA 90069
310/358.2423 (Admin.) 310/358.2429 (Clinic)