Dear Friends,

We hope this report finds you and your loved ones re-grounding into our new reality of life as we enter the third year of a global pandemic.

Like most of the world, Health Brigade is carving a path forward every day in unpredictable times to ensure we meet the growing health needs of marginalized and vulnerable people in our service communities. From COVID to Monkeypox virus (MPV), the resurgence of flu and the multiple respiratory illnesses now straining our health care resources, HB experiences the impact and yet perseveres. While we can’t readily anticipate the next curve in community health, we remain as nimble and responsive as possible to provide care for our patients and clients, no matter the difficulties ahead.

Our confidence in meeting the challenges rests on the trust and investment that YOU and all our supporters place in us. Your generosity fuels the work of our amazing staff, volunteers and service collaborations that deliver high impact health services to our community.

As you read through this report you will glean the breadth of services, including some of our new community collaborations, and the expansion of some of our programs upon which our patients and clients rely. The complexity of our work grows every day to ensure access and ease of connection to our services.

Karen A. Legato
Executive Director

We are proud to reintroduce you to some of the services that make up our integrated health care to the community. Beyond the highlights of our programs, we are also working diligently behind the scenes on our business operations, including an expanded finance office, Medicaid implementation and a new electronic health record system. Investments in our back office Mission Support Services have been needed for a long time, and we are slowly making those upgrades. Again, we cannot do any of this without YOU.

We remain deeply humbled and grateful for your support to ensure that quality healthcare is available to all.

With gratitude,

Karen A. Legato
Executive Director

Doric P. Madigan
Board Chair

2022 Volunteer Dedicated Service Award Winners
(L to R) Carl Erickson, RN; Jo Lynne Robins, NP, PHD; Sarah Ghose; Zainab Haider

All volunteers: 15,788 hours donated at a value of $534,633

Financial Snapshot
July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022

Key Performance Statistics

Service Encounters Across All Programs

- 32,466 (50% increase)

Clinical Visits (Medical, Mental Health, Testing/Vaccinations)
- 11,716 visits

Harm Reduction (Syringe Exchange)
- 9,815 encounters (15% increase)
- 4,065 needle exchange distribution (9% increase)

Care Management & Navigation
- 4,260 sessions across all programs

Latine Community Health Worker Program
- Reached 1,492 patients/clients
- Provided 402 referrals for additional resources

Transgender Health
- 500 patients received services across Medical, Mental Health, Navigation & Outreach

Volunteer Services Value Donated
- Increased 17% over last year

HIV Testing
- Increased 7% over last year

Our Mission
The mission of Health Brigade is to provide exceptional health services to those least served in a caring and non-judgmental environment.

Our Values
Welcoming • Trusted • Inclusive
Integrated • Impactful • Responsive

Our Lists
The following lists can be found on our website at www.healthbrigade.org/2022AnnualReport
- Board of Directors List
- Annual Fund Donor List
- Staff List
- Volunteer List

Our Cover
Our front cover features HB Mental Health Counselor Paula Laoch conducting a mental health appointment virtually. Photo by Shaun Aigner-Lee

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Mental Health & Wellness

RxRelief Virginia program and subsidizes us to access free medications through its Assistance Program. The Virginia Health Trans Health Services

One very significant way we serve our partners like the Health Brigade,” says Rachel R. Waller, MD, MACP.

In February 2022, Health Brigade joined forces with RxPartnership (RxP), another source of medication support. Through RxP’s Access to Medication program (AMP), critically needed generic and branded medications are provided to vulnerable Virginians at a cost of $3 per prescription.

“Each dollar saved means more resources that can be put toward better nutrition, housing, and transportation so our clients have an improved overall quality of life. The AMP Program also allows barriers to access that we sometimes encounter in acquiring medications through the pharmaceutical companies. We look forward to reducing the relapse rate and reducing the likelihood of chronic disease and keeping our community healthy, happy and productive,” says RR Medical Director Rachel R. Wall, MD, MACP.

“RxPartnership is dedicated to improving medication access, but our work wouldn’t be possible without great partners like the Health Brigade,” says RxP Executive Director Amy Vardis.

“Health Brigade staff make a point of speaking to patients in a manner and language they understand to ensure that medication is taken consistently and correctly, and the patient’s health improves as a result,” says Amy.

In FY'22, Health Brigade’s total medication program provided our patients and clients free/low cost medication that would retail for:

$3,279,167

“One thing COVID taught us is that we can reach people virtually.”

For the majority of clients, the virtual sessions free them up from time and transportation issues. They can sit in their cars during a meal break and have the privacy they need without leaving home, says Paula.

According to Paula, many of the clients we serve are coming from all the responsibilities of raising children without the cultural norm of extended family in places where language is a barrier.

“One thing COVID taught us is that we can reach people virtually.”

People arrive to the US with university degrees and previous work experience that is not respected in the US and they end up with labor jobs that are physically and mentally jarring.”

“I think everyone should have access to therapy. It isn’t a magic wand, but you will become,” Paula says. When asked what she is most proud of working at Health Brigade, Paula says, “We provide service to people who historically find barriers to care.”

In FY'22, the total number of RWB services rendered were:

1,885

of the 3,279,167 mental health sessions conducted in FY'22 were conducted in English/Portuguese and Spanish/Portuguese.

RWB Team: Leah Gregory and Ace Canessa

In FY'22, HealthCare’s total medication program provided our patients and clients free/low cost medication that would retail for:

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In FY'22, 486

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1,885

health brigade

The acronym CHARLII (Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Resources and Linkages for Individuals who are physically and mentally jarring)”

“We are currently gearing up for our first LGBQT+ Positive support group and Client Advisory Board as our quest and trans clients are still feeling isolated and crave sharing with their peers. We have assessed the damage and continue to rebuild and refresh with our community. I look forward to remaining flexible and resilient, regardless of whatever the next storm throws at us.”

To persons living with HIV, the RWB Program provides:

• Medical Transportation
• Food Bank and Home Delivered Meals
• HIV Substance Use Counseling
• Emergency Financial Assistance
• Outpatient Services
• Medical Substance Use Therapy
• Non medical case management
• Medical case management

need and start there. That’s what 2021-2023 felt like for me. We returned full-time back to the office and began seeing clients in person daily, checking in with them on what they needed most. We had armored them with vaccines and masks, and food and housing. Now, we are asking for the feeling of community and togetherness. We also stressed that “Our team prioritized time to celebrate making it out the other side and to share some joy and food with each other. We hosted our first annual Spring Fling where 25 RWB and CHARLII clients joined the full HO team in a cookout/ garden afternoon.”

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