

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.

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
Karen A. Legato
Executive Director



Dominic P. Madigan
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Board Chair



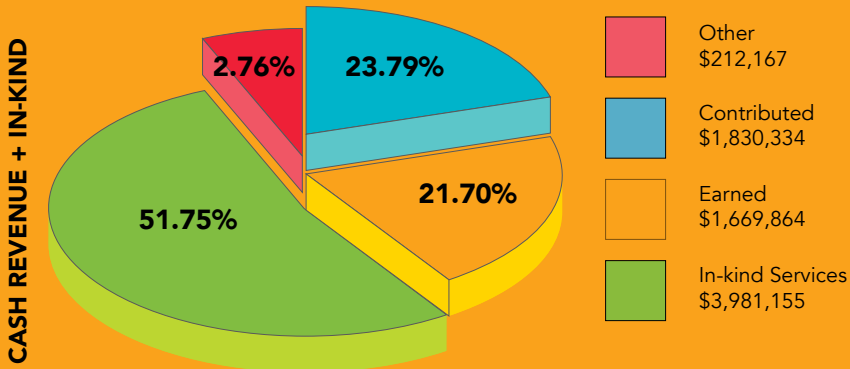
2022 Volunteer Dedicated Service Award Winners
(L to R) Carl Erickson, RN; Jo Lynne Robins, NP, PHD; Sarah Ghose; Zainab Haider



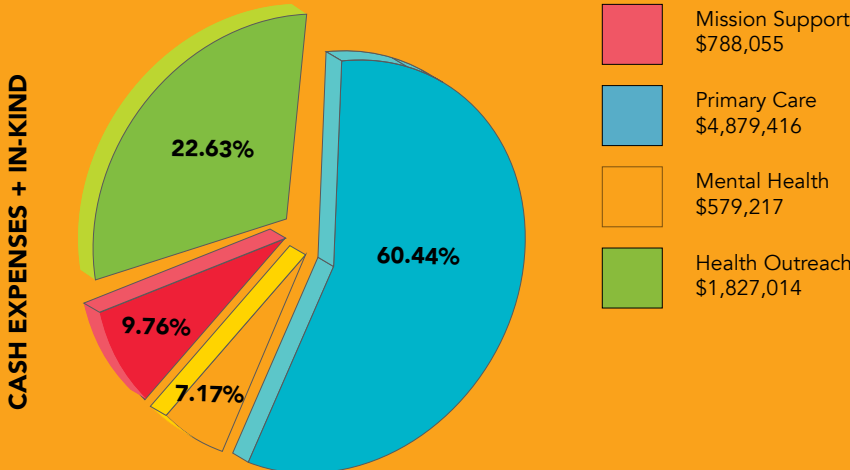
All volunteers: 15,788 hours donated at a value of \$534,633

Financial Snapshot

July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022

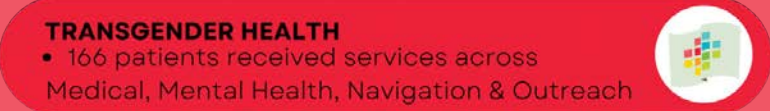
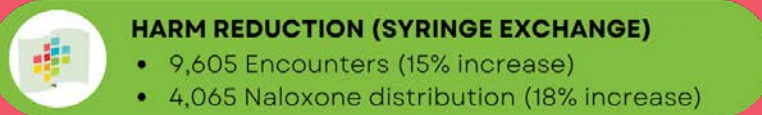


Total Cash Revenue + In-kind: \$7,693,520 - \$3,981,155 = **\$3,712,365**



Total Cash Expenses + In-kind: \$8,073,702 - \$3,981,155 = **\$4,092,547**

Key Performance Statistics



REPORT
IMPACT
2022



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 Cover

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

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



1010 N. Thompson Street / Richmond, Virginia 23230
804-358-6343 / healthbrigade.org



Primary Medical Care

Health Brigade (HB)—with the assistance of our nurse practitioners, volunteer providers and clinical staff—offers many primary medical services:

- General medicine including care of diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma and chronic heart disease
- Behavioral health counseling
- Coordination of care
- Gynecology, contraception including IUDs, pregnancy testing, Pap smears, routine cancer screening, breast/chest health & mammograms
- Nutrition services
- Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)
- Preventive care such as vaccines & TB testing
- Referrals to specialists through Access Now
- Sexually-transmitted infections (STI/ HIV) testing and treatment
- Social Work
- Trans Health Services
- Medication Assistance Program

One very significant way we serve our medical patients and mental health clients is through our Medication Assistance Program. The Virginia Health Care Foundation provides funding for us to access free medications through its RxRelief Virginia program and subsidizes the salary of our Medication Coordinator.

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 brand medications are provided to vulnerable Virginians at a cost of \$3 per prescription.

"Every 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 eliminates barriers to access that we sometimes encounter in acquiring medications through the pharmaceutical companies. We look forward to reducing the impact of chronic disease and keeping our community healthy, happy and productive," says HB Medical Director Rachel R. Waller, 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 Yarcich.

"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.



Medication Coordinator Sasha Poggi prepares for a patient medication pickup.

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

Photo: Kim Lee

Mental Health & Wellness

Health Brigade (HB) offers extensive mental health & wellness services:

- Specialty mental health services
- Psychiatric evaluation and medication
- Ryan White Part B mental health and substance use counseling services
- Behavioral health services including Smoking Cessation, Insomnia Treatment, Medication Adherence

One significant way we serve our mental health clients is by reaching them where they are via telehealth sessions.

Since 2020, the Virginia Health Care Foundation has provided funding to focus care for the Latine community through a tri-lingual mental health therapist position.

Paula Laoch, LPC, CGP, CCTP speaks English, Spanish and Portuguese. She has conducted approximately 400 mental health sessions in FY '22.

Paula says it is her job to "give people the opportunity to be heard" so that they know they are not alone. "I give them a hand to hold."

"For the Latine community [our sessions] are the first time they have access to this kind of care since coming to the US."



"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 work, Paula says.

According to Paula, much of the stress for Latine comes from all the responsibilities of raising children without the cultural norm of extended family in places where language is a barrier.

"People arrive to the US with university degrees and previous work experience that is not respected in the US and they often 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 so much more self-aware," Paula says. When asked what she is most proud of working at Health Brigade, Paula said, "We provide service to people who historically find barriers to care."

Photo: Kyle LaFerriere



Of the 2,867 mental telehealth sessions conducted in FY'22, those provided in Spanish/Portuguese topped off at:

400

Photo: Shaun Aigner-Lee



The number of participant-reported overdose reversals by using Narcan distributed by CHR in FY'22:

486

Photo: Jay Paul/RichmondMagazine

CHR Team L to R: Dziko Singleton, Jeanette Hall, Edward Peters, Colin King, Art Ware

Health Outreach

Health Brigade is committed to cultural sensitivity and welcoming of populations often marginalized and overlooked, through its Health Outreach program, by offering:

- HIV/STI/HCV Testing Resources including appointments, questions and information, referrals for medical care and medications or other services for persons diagnosed with HIV
- Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Resources and Linkages for Individuals Experiencing Incarceration (CHARLII) program, including HIV testing, education and case management for those who are incarcerated or recently released
- Comprehensive Harm Reduction/ Needle Exchange
- Ryan White Part B Services (RWB)
- Transgender Health Services and LGBTQ+ Support & Advocacy

Highlights from HO include...The testing resources team established a robust navigation program in the HIV and HCV testing programs. HIV Testing & Prevention Program Manager Darius Prior advocated for a test counselor position to increase capacity for linkage to needed confirmatory testing and medical care. This has required a lot of planning across programs and departments. The testing team also fully

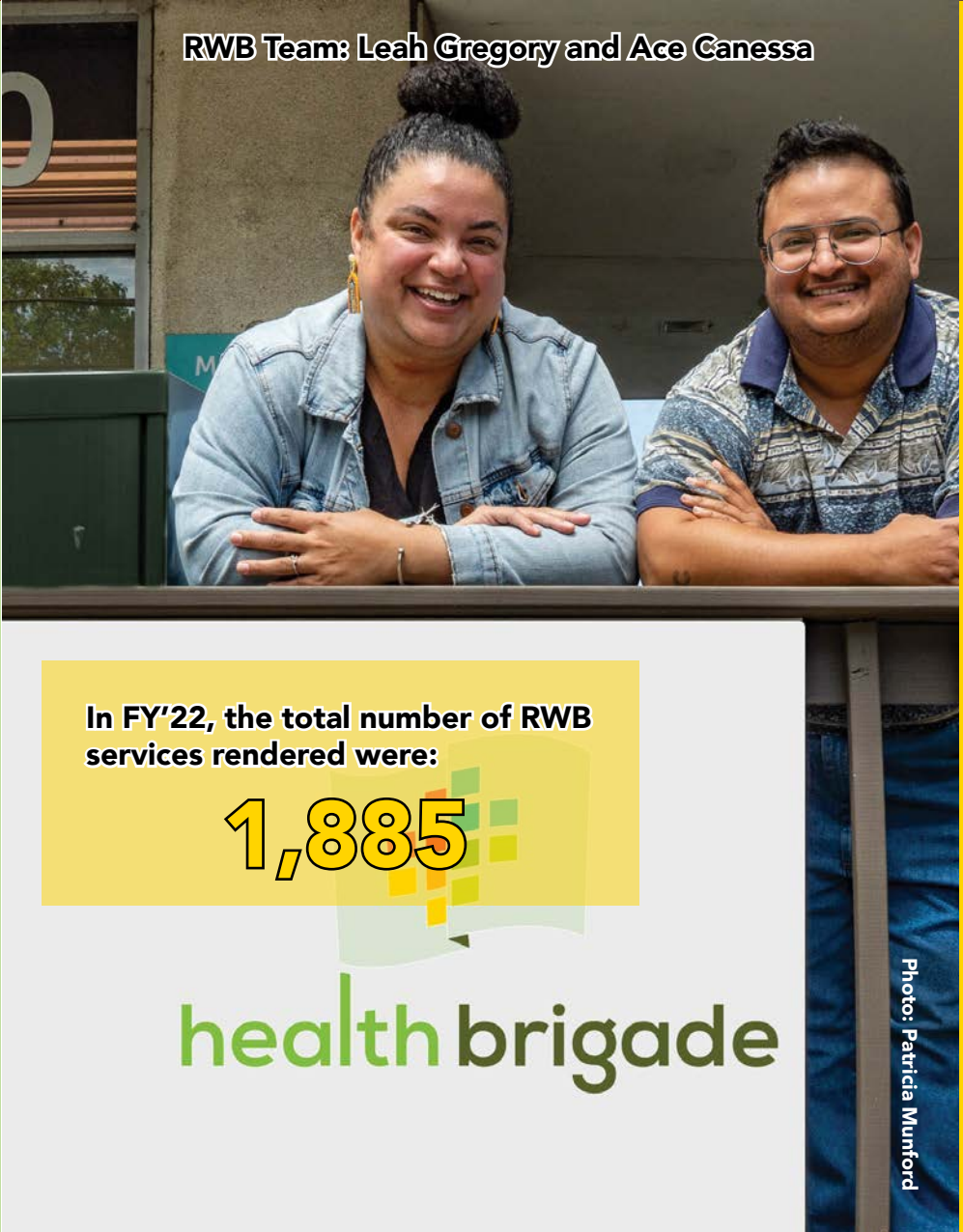
returned out in the field to provide HIV/ HCV testing services, surpassing the pre-pandemic number of field testing sites.

From the Comprehensive Harm Reduction (CHR)/Needle Exchange program: "We continue to make this program more holistic and comprehensive," said Colin King and Dziko Singleton, co-coordinators of CHR.

During FY'22, CHR ramped up HIV and Hep C testing in Richmond communities, built a robust peer and volunteer program, provided COVID vaccines at all program locations, and continued to prioritize bringing safe use supplies and Narcan for overdose reversal directly into areas of Richmond that need it the most.

"We have done a lot of strategic planning on implementing a Hep C and substance use treatment program at the medical clinic and look forward to that in the coming years."

From the CHARLII program: "FY'22 was a high-performance year for the CHARLII program at Health Brigade," said Jihad Abdulmumit, Community Case Manager. The year started with the hire of Isaac Brown who, with his case management skills, enhanced the program exponentially by enabling more focused quality attention, support and direct services to dozens of HIV positive individuals released from jails and prisons. Health Brigade also successfully advocated and had changed



RWB Team: Leah Gregory and Ace Canessa

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

1,885

health brigade

Photo: Patricia Munford

Health Outreach continued

the acronym CHARLI (Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Resources and Linkages for Innates) to CHARLII (Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Resources and Linkages for Individuals experiencing Incarceration, to avoid characterizing anyone based on their situation.

Health Brigade hosted the annual CHARLII Gathering where all five CHARLII sister agencies in Virginia, along with Contract Monitor Susan Carr from the Virginia Department of Health, converged to refuel, share information, knowledge, and experiences, and receive related trainings. Despite the lingering impact of COVID, CHARLII continued to build and establish community resources and collaborations for food, clothing, and housing.

From the RWB program: "I would say this past year felt as if things were opening back up but at the same time, our clients still had the same needs. It really goes to show that a pandemic or crisis exposes issues in societal structures and affects those already struggling the hardest," said Leah Gregory, MPH, MSW, Ryan White Part B Program Manager.

"This year felt like rebuilding after a hurricane. I am from Florida originally, and after a huge storm, you go outside in the morning and assess the damage and check in with your neighbors," said Ace Canessa, Ryan White Case Manager.

"You see who is in the most immediate

need and start there. That's what 2021-2022 felt like to 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, food and housing. Now, they were asking for the feeling of community and togetherness. We also craved 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/ game afternoon."

"We are currently gearing up for our first LGBTQ+ Positive support group and Client Advisory Board as our queer and trans clients are still feeling isolated and crave sharing with their peers. We have assessed the damage and continue to rebuild and reframe with our community. I look forward to remaining flexible and resistant, regardless of what the next storm throws at us."

To persons living with HIV, the RWB Program provides:

- Medical Transportation
- Food Bank and Home Delivered Meals
- MH/Substance Use Counseling
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Outpatient Services
- Medical Nutrition Therapy
- Non medical case management
- Medical case management