

THE RAIN BOW



2003 MAY MUSIC FEST TO SPOTLIGHT REGIONAL BLUES/JAZZ TALENT

RAIN Oklahoma

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The Second Annual Music Fest has been scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd at 7:00 p.m. This year's event will be held at the historic Farmer's Market, located just south of downtown Oklahoma City.

Sharing the hosting duties with RAIN is CarePoint, a consortium of AIDS Services for persons living in the 405 & 580 area codes. CarePoint's services include case management, homeless outreach, medication management, testing & counseling and peer support.

This year, our nationally acclaimed Music Fest performers will include Wendy Woo and Big G. With a mixture of jazz and blues, these bands are guaranteed to take the crowd through a variety of emotions, from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows. We are incredibly fortunate to have such talent at such an historic event.

Wendy Woo and the Woo band are from Boulder, CO. Woo has released four CDs, displaying a wide variety of styles, from mellow jazz to funk, blues, rock and folk-inspired ballads.

Woo has won several awards among them: Best Musician (*The Boulder Weekly*), Best Singer/Songwriter, Best Nationally Undiscovered Artist, and Best Acoustic Artist (*Denver's Westword*).

Wendy shared the stage with Sarah McLachlan & The Indigo Girls at the 1999 Lilith Fair in Denver and has opened for many national acts including Sheryl Crow, Loudon Wainwright III, Karla Bonoff & the Counting Crows.

Our second act is the local blues prodigy known as Garrett "Big G" Jacobson. Now age 19, he released his first CD "Rhythm Attack" in December 1998 at age 15. G has been featured with Joe Louis Walker at the Grand Emporium and with Smokey Wilson at B.B. King's



Wendy Woo, left, and Garrett "Big G" Jacobson will perform at the Music Fest.

Blues Club in Hollywood. He has opened for established national acts such as Lenny Williams and The Great Divide.

G performs regularly throughout the OKC metro area. His CD's are currently receiving airplay on a variety of stations including OKC's top rated morning show - 98.9 KYIS FM (Jack & Ron Show), where he is regularly featured as their "house band."

Angela Buckelew, KWTW Channel 9's award-winning journalist will again be host for the Music Fest. An Advisory Board Member of RAIN for the second year, Angela is a committed volunteer to HIV/AIDS causes, recently serving as the chair for the 2002 AIDS Walk in Oklahoma City.

The May Music Fest will be held in Oklahoma City's Farmer's Market, a building which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Recently brought under new ownership, the owners are re-opening the second floor concert hall after extensive remodeling and refurbishing. The May Music Fest 2003 will be the inaugural event for the venue, which has been closed to performances for three decades.

The cost for tickets are \$10 each in advance and \$15 on the day of the show. Various sponsorship levels are also available. Proceeds from this event will go to benefit RAIN and CarePoint. For more information, please call the OKC RAIN office at 947-3434 or 800-324-RAIN.

TULSA TRAINING CREATES NEW VOLUNTEERS



Drivers,
movers,
caregivers
and
friends

are the results of two RAIN volunteer training sessions held in the Eastern Oklahoma region recently. St. Jerome Parish and the Unity Church of Christianity played host to 24 potential volunteers in a new 6-hour RAIN training format. Participants were pleased with its fast paced design and many stated that the new condensed version of the training is what encouraged them to take part because it fit more easily into their busy schedules.

All in attendance made the decision to become volunteers in one or more types of RAIN Teams. The ever growing Transportation Team gained 5 members. With over 80 ride requests made to the Tulsa office each month, the additional drivers will help tremendously as the Tulsa Transportation Team strives to meet the needs of its 52 clients.

Most new volunteers were interested in Tulsa's new On-Call & Social Activity Teams. Both of these programs provide an excellent way for someone with limited time to be of service to those living with HIV/AIDS. Both teams continue to grow as RAIN moves in a new and exciting direction of service.

Of course, there is still a need for volunteers for our original model of service, the Traditional Team. These teams are so important in the lives of our clients..

If you'd like more information about training to be a RAIN Volunteer in Tulsa, please call Kris Ryan or Andrew Carter at 495-4195 or toll free at 855-726-RAIN.

RAIN JOINS WITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOR HIV/AIDS OUTREACH IN SOUTH AFRICA

In December, Marcy Gardenhire, RAIN's Western Oklahoma Regional Coordinator, participated in an outreach effort in South Africa with mission directors from the Oklahoma United Methodist Church Conference. The goal of the trip was to form an alliance between the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, the Oklahoma United Methodist Church's "Volunteers in Mission" and RAIN Oklahoma to respond to the AIDS epidemic.

According to Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS, there are 29 million adults and children living with HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa. Africa, as a continent, has 10% of the world's population and 70% of the global HIV/AIDS cases. In South Africa alone, a country less than twice the size of Texas, it is estimated that 4.2 million men, women and children are infected with HIV. As Gardenhire observed, "The impact of HIV/AIDS on this country is so overwhelming. Still, I believe there is hope for change as the heart of our nation becomes more aware of their plight."

The door has been opened for RAIN, along with the Oklahoma United Methodist Church, to make a positive response to the people of South Africa who are living with HIV/AIDS. While the program is in the developmental stage at this time, the ultimate goal will be to recruit and train mission teams to go to South Africa and work beside the folks who are engaged in HIV prevention, care, and education projects. According to Gardenhire, "We are hopeful we will be able to send a trained volunteer team back this year."

"We see our outreach to Africa as a very natural next step in our work at RAIN," says RAIN's Executive Director, Jean Ann Van Krevelen. "I am pleased that President Bush recognizes the severity of the problem in Africa and applaud his recommendations to increase funding in that area. However, I caution everyone to remember there are still people in need of treatment and support right here in our own country."

FAITH IN ACTION GRANT AWARDED TO RAIN



A Neighbor's
Independence
Depends On You

FAITH
IN ACTION

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation recently awarded a *Faith in Action* grant to the Western Oklahoma RAIN office in Oklahoma City. The \$35,000 grant was awarded as a part of the Foundation's commitment to expand its national interfaith volunteer care giving program. Currently, the *Faith in Action* network consists of more than 1,100 programs nationwide.

Marcy Gardenhire, project director for the grant said, "As a recipient of the *Faith in Action* grant, RAIN is proud to partner with the growing number of not for profit organiza-

tions whose mission is expressed through a call to live out the teachings of our faith heritage in service to others. We are honored to participate with this initiative that supports the important work of faith-based programs."

Monies from this grant will support the work of the current traditional RAIN teams and provide funding for expansion of the care team model of service through recruitment and training of new volunteers. All Western Oklahoma region traditional teams have added the phrase "*Faith in Action*" to their name.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care. The *Faith in Action* initiative supports local groups like RAIN, which represent many faiths who volunteer to work together to care for people with long-term illnesses or disabilities.

Faith in Action National Director, Dr. Burton Reifer, MD, MPH, stressed the importance of neighbor helping neighbor, "As our nation struggles to support those with long-term health conditions, interfaith efforts have never been more important. The strength of our nation rests in our diversity. People of all races, colors, and religions need to be encouraged to bond together to make a better life for friends and neighbors in need..." His remarks clearly reflect the similar mission shared by RAIN and the *Faith in Action* initiative. The culturally diverse and interfaith nature of the RAIN clientele and volunteer base gives RAIN strong connection to this special program.

RAIN's Executive Director, Jean Ann Van Krevelen, is in the process of applying for a similar grant for the Eastern Oklahoma RAIN office.

Donations from RAIN's End of Year Appeal for 2002 Thank you for your generosity!

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How your financial support helps RAIN!

As of January 31, 2003, **RAIN** has **Forty-two Volunteer Teams** (17 Western OK Traditional-Faith in Action Teams, 16 Eastern OK Traditional Teams, 1 Oklahoma City Transportation, 2 Tulsa Transportation, 2 Oklahoma City Facility, 1 Tulsa On-Call Team, 1 Oklahoma City On-Call Team, 1 Tulsa Social Activities Team & 1 Oklahoma City Social Activities Team) operating in Oklahoma. These RAIN Teams consists of approximately **302** people of all faiths and walks of life.

Since 1990, RAIN has provided much needed services to **799** HIV-infected individuals, their families, and care givers. **One hundred forty-eight** clients are being served currently.

RAIN Volunteers logged **368** hours in **January 2003**.
 RAIN Board Members logged **106** hours in **January 2003**.
 RAIN Volunteers drove **671** miles in **January 2003**.

Donations to RAIN from October 5, 2002 to February 10, 2003
Thank you for your support of RAIN's mission of service and education!

Individual Donors

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 Oklahoma Conference of the United Methodist Church
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Fundraisers

OK Classic Bowling Assoc. Strike Pot Tuesdays- OKC
 Precure Nursery Poinsettias & Christmas Tree Sale-OKC
 Sooner State Rodeo Assoc-Tulsa
 Stories of Love Book-Signing-OKC
 SWOSU Mr. RAIN Fundraiser-Weatherford
 Wild Oats Nickel Days-Tulsa
 Winter House Interiors Holiday Open House Sale-OKC

Many Thanks to the following businesses which Sold RAIN's 2002 Ornaments

<u>Oklahoma City</u>	<u>Tulsa</u>
The French Cowgirl	Mary Murray's Flowers
Precure Nursery & Garden Center	Ken's Flowers
Garden Gate Antiques	Toni's Flowers
Winter House Interiors	Art by Nature
Edward James Provence	Aaron's Flowers
	Noveau Hair Salon

NEW ON-CALL TEAMS FORM

A new type of service team has recently been formed at RAIN in both OKC & Tulsa to respond to the immediate needs that arise within our community—an On-Call RAIN Team.

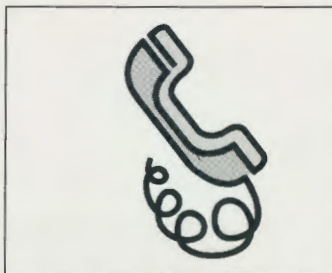
The On-Call Team is a group of RAIN volunteers who respond to special one-time &/or short-term needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. These requests can be from current RAIN clients, new RAIN clients awaiting assignment to a traditional team, clients from other HIV/AIDS case management agencies or people living with HIV/AIDS that are not receiving any agency services.

Often, requests for the On-Call Team are immediate and short term, such as help with moving or a special home repair project. Some of the duties the On-Call Team may include, but are not limited to, help with errands, household chores and clean-

ing, some home maintenance and repair work, relocation, yard work and assistance with meals.

Members of the On-Call Teams include volunteers who are currently serving on a RAIN team who are willing to be contacted when requests come into the RAIN office, as well as new volunteers who choose to serve exclusively on the On-Call Team. With a large, and growing pool of volunteers, no one RAIN Team or individual will be overburdened with requests.

The On-Call Teams have already been actively working to help meet those special needs. Members helped deliver gifts for the Angel Tree recipients, assisted a client with moving, delivered food baskets and have been house cleaning and even dog walking. "There is definitely a need for this type of service in our community, and no other agency has the resources to respond to these one-time



The On-Call Team is just a phone call away!

needs of clients," says Marcy Gardenhire, Western Oklahoma Coordinator.

The On-Call teams have had a successful start and there has already been positive feedback about the volunteer services that have been provided. If you are interested in becoming a part of the On-Call Team or have a short-term need that this team could help meet, please contact Morgan or Marcy at the OKC RAIN office at 947-3434 or Andrew or Kris at the Tulsa Office at 334-4195

RAIN'S SOCIAL ACTIVITY TEAMS TAKE OFF



RAIN's Social Activity Teams in Tulsa and Oklahoma City have been very busy these days.

The Tulsa Social Activity Team recently participated in "Movie Night" at the Movies 8 Cinema. Volunteers and clients had their pick of the eight movies showing that evening, giving everyone the opportunity to be with other RAIN friends and getting to see a first run movie at the same time. Because it was so popular, Andrew Carter, Special Teams Coordinator at the Tulsa office plans on making

"Movie Night" a regular part of RAIN's Social Activities in Tulsa.

This month, through the generosity of the American Theater Company, the Tulsa RAIN office has been treated to a limited number of tickets to the new dance-musical production, *Roofless*, directed by

Tulsa's own award winning actor and director Tyrone Wilkerson. This energetic show combines a variety of dance styles and music, creating a production that will have something for everyone.

In Oklahoma City, twenty three RAIN clients and volunteers attended a special performance by master storyteller/musician/"tradition bearer" Derek Burrows. Derek was one of the storytellers featured at this year's OKC Winter Tales Festival at the Arts Center. Everyone was entertained and moved by his stories and fables. This event was the first endeavor of OKC's Special Activities Team, and all agreed that they're off to a successful start!

Everyone at RAIN is excited about the Social Activity Teams and the fun events they're having. If you'd like to be part of RAIN's new model of service, please contact the RAIN office in your area.

RAIN's Board of Directors

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at
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Compassion Creates Community

Would you like to be a part of RAIN's Compassionate Community?

RAIN is always looking for caring, non-judgmental individuals to join our teams of volunteers. Please contact the RAIN Office in your area for information on how to become a RAIN Volunteer.

Western Oklahoma: 1601 N. Drexel Blvd.
Oklahoma City OK 73107
Phone: 405-947-3434 or 800-324-RAIN
Email: rainokla@swbell.net



Eastern Oklahoma: 221 S. Nogales Ave.
Tulsa OK 74127
Phone: 918-834-4195 or 855-726-RAIN
Email: raintulsa@aol.com

How Can I Help? I am interested in becoming a RAIN volunteer. I am interested in joining the RAIN Board Please remove me from your mailing list.

Enclosed is my gift to RAIN* Please keep my donation anonymous.

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