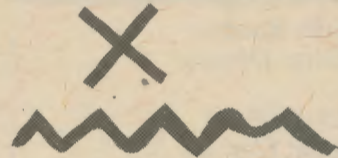




AIDS MEDICINE & MIRACLES



Our Newsletter To Family & Friends

P.O. Box 20650 • 311 Mapleton • Boulder, Colorado 80308-3650 • 303 447-8777 • FAX 303 447-3902 • Toll Free 1-800-875-8770

From Skinny Chicago Kid to National Celebrity and Hero

By Sam Gallegos



Phill Wilson, Board Member

If there is such a thing as an AIDS celebrity, Phill Wilson is most likely that person.

Not that he seeks out such visibility. Rather, Phill seeks to make sure that everyone is included in the resources to battle AIDS because, as he well knows, AIDS includes everyone and does not discriminate.

"When you look at much of the ... information directed at gay men, much of the language and imagery is focused on white men," he told reporter David Blanton in Los Angeles. "My own experience as a black gay man is that if I'm not explicitly included then I'm tacitly excluded. African-Americans and people of color in general simply do not have the same access to information and services."

Using the savvy and wit of a veteran grassroots organizer and the charm and style of a powerful preacher, Wilson has been able to get his message — indeed, the message of all people with AIDS — out to the masses, some of whom were not ready to hear him. He notes ironically that one area where he has encountered the most difficulty has been in the African American communities, where many still see AIDS as a problem of gay men or drug users. "People are starting to realize that the virus won't be ignored," he told Blanton.

Wilson recently retired as Director of Public Policy at AIDS Project Los Angeles, whose office interacts with national, state and local governments as well as drafts legislation to increase public funding for AIDS education, research and support services. He is the former AIDS coordinator for the City of Los Angeles and a former co-chair of the Los Angeles County HIV Planning Council. He has also served with the California LIFE Lobby and been an advisor to the Los Angeles County AIDS Commission. He has co-founded Black Living with AIDS and HIV Disease, the AIDS Prevention Team and the Gay Men of Color HIV Consortium. As if that weren't enough, he was an official U.S. delegate to the 1994 Paris AIDS Summit and has worked with Russia, England, Mexico, Canada and the Netherlands — and hosted a monthly cable show.

All his efforts have earned him many honors, including Man of the Year from Christopher Street West and the Gay and Lesbian Services Center, and the Public Official of the Year award by the Stonewall Democratic Club. Yet he just might trade everything if he could reverse one major event seven years ago.

Wilson lost his partner of nine years, Chris Brownlie, to AIDS in November 1989 and told his story to Renee Tawa of the Daily News.

Brownlie was 39, and his death left such a lasting impact on Wilson that he co-founded the Chris Brownlie Hospice, the largest of its kind in the U.S. He then pulled his address book from his pocket and showed how at least one name on every page was for someone who has died of complications due to HIV. Stopping at one page, he found five names of people who have passed.

"Right now, I'm doing what I'm doing and living my life as I see it," he told Blanton. Part of that living includes finishing a book about his life for Doubleday.

Not bad for someone who still sees himself as a skinny black kid from Chicago. ■

Living Every Moment and Loving It

By Sam Gallegos



Mary Wilson Blanton, Board Member

The last time Mary Wilson Blanton was pregnant, HIV was the last thing on her mind.

Both she and her husband Greg had just left employment with Club Med and moved to Colorado, where Greg's family lives. Mary was pregnant so, naturally, they were in need of insurance to cover the expense of having a child. As with almost every individual policy offered these days, a blood test

continued on page 3

In this issue...

Letter from the Executive Director ...	2
AIDS Walk Colorado	3
Upcoming Conferences	3
Call for Proposals	4
CFC Funding	4

Staff

Charles Robbins
Executive Director

Jo Ann Elliott
Program Director

Michael Zucker
Thomas Hardie
Noah Simons
Interns

Board of Directors

Steven Abbott, San Francisco, CA
Mary Blanton, Denver, CO
A. Cornelius Baker, Washington, DC
Richard Elion, MD, Washington, DC
Sharon Lund, Ivins-Kayenta, UT
Augustus Nasmith, Jr., Washington, DC
Bryan Russell, LCSW, Boulder, CO
Rev. Ken South, Washington, DC
David Stokes, Boston, MA
Torkin Wakefield, MPH, Boulder, CO
Phill Wilson, Los Angeles, CA

Honorary Board

Scott Allen
Ram Dass
Martin Delaney
Larry Dossey, MD
Sally Fisher
Robert Gass, Ed.D
Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, MD
Stephen Levine
George Melton
Sallie Perryman
Adan Rios, MD
Rev. Julian Rush
Robert Schooley, MD
Bernie Siegel, MD
Rep. David Skaggs
Paul Volberding, MD
Marianne Williamson
Tim Wirth

Newsletter

Sam Gallegos, Contributing Writer
Char Campbell, Graphics and Design

AIDS, Medicine and Miracles is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization based in Boulder, Colorado, which strives to educate, nurture and empower all people confronting AIDS. In a supportive retreat setting, our national conferences explore medical and complementary therapies, as well as psychosocial and spiritual opportunities. We serve individuals living with HIV/AIDS, their loved ones and caregivers, creating dialogue promoting health, growth and social action.

Significant and Secure: AM&M on the National Scene

by Charles Robbins

There are many things for people living and working with HIV to be optimistic about: recent advances in Western medicine have provided for better drug therapies; clinical studies on alternative treatments are currently underway at Bastyr University in Seattle; a wealth of books and periodicals on HIV can be found in your local bookstore; the internet has exploded with HIV specific newsgroups and websites; and, (in my humble and biased opinion) AIDS, Medicine & Miracles continues to make a significant difference in the lives of those infected and affected by HIV.

In our last newsletter, I specifically outlined two goals to make AM&M more accessible: 1) subsidizing the cost of conference tuition, and 2) providing more programming in underserved locations. I'm pleased to report that since January of this year, we have coordinated three national conference retreats serving over 675 individuals from 23 states and have awarded over \$40,000 in tuition scholarships. Over 2/3 of the HIV+ participants attending our conferences received partial tuition assistance... and we are only half way through the year!

The amount of national exposure for AM&M is at an all time high. I would like to give special thanks for our friends at POZ magazine, Art & Understanding and OUT as well as all of the AIDS Service Organizations throughout the country who have distributed our registration brochures to their clients. Thank you.

Optimism is crucial for both individuals and organizations in the ongoing struggle to fight HIV and AIDS. Surviving and thriving takes effort, encouragement, and cannot be done alone.

Three Conferences, Six Months, Two Staff

"How do they do it?" Inquiring minds want to know! Both Charles and Jo Ann have worked tremendously hard to coordinate three programs within the first six months. In prior years, only two or three conferences were held annually.

"First, we upgraded our computer system", stated Charles. "Most of the technical aspects of the office involve correspondence and data management. Additionally, we hired an intern, Michael Zucker, from the University of Colorado in Boulder. Michael designed our new database program for mailing and conference registration. More importantly, we involve others. Jo Ann has done a tremendous job in recruiting volunteers to help in the office and at each conference. We are always looking for help."

The Seattle, Washington conference attracted 175 individuals, including several folks from Vancouver, Canada and Portland, Oregon. Conference support included promotional help from Chicken Soup Brigade and Northwest AIDS Foundation. Highlights included music by Stephen Jacob, a "Positive Loving" workshop by Malcolm McKay and the highly popular plenary by Dr. Lark Lands.

In Denver, Colorado conference support included promotional help from Project Angel Heart and the Colorado AIDS Project. Gregg Cassin and Dr. Lark Lands got the conference off to a fabulous start with their one-day institute: *Positively Well*. Shelley Cohen and Darilynn Carroll offered a workshop for caregivers and over 30 vendors were on site to offer information on products and services. Another highlight occurred when all 250 participants joined in a 10 minute "chant" at the conclusion of the lecture by author Marianne Williamson.

In Rhinebeck, New York, the beauty of the Omega Institute attracted a capacity crowd of 250. It was hard to get consensus on what was the favorite highlight: some reveled in the natural beauty of the countryside, some enjoyed boat rides on the lake, others were rolling on the ground with



continued on page 3

AIDS Walk Colorado

AM&M is a beneficiary organization of AIDS Walk Colorado to be held Sunday, September 8th. If you are interested in walking as part of our team, please call Charles Robbins. Also, we will gladly accept any pledge made payable to AIDS Walk Colorado. All monies raised by our walk team will directly benefit AM&M!

AIDS WALK COLORADO SEPTEMBER 8

Wish List

- 100 Pentium Processor/
IBM Compatible Computer
- IBM Compatible Scanner
- Donated Airline Certificates/Tickets
- Portable Massage Chairs w/ Case
- Printing Services

Significant... (cont'd)

the humor of Karen Williams, while most were having out of body experiences from the Joy Breath workshop! Participants came from up and down the east coast including Baltimore, Washington, Harlem, New York City, Chicago, and Philadelphia. Over 40 HIV+ women attended the one-day Women's Institute. Special thanks to the People With AIDS Coalition of New York and God's Love We Deliver for their pre-conference support.

Upcoming Conferences

July 12

Official Satellite Symposium
of the XI International
Conference on AIDS
Wall Centre Hotel,
Ballroom D
Vancouver, Canada
(800) 875-8770



XI International Conference
on AIDS Vancouver
July 7-12, 1996

Official Satellite Symposium

October 10

National Skills Building
Conference
Hilton Hotel
Washington, DC
(202) 483-1124

November 7-10

AM&M Conference Retreat
Stouffer Renaissance Hotel
Houston, TX
(800) 875-8770

Mary Wilson Blanton (cont'd)

was required.

Both Mary and Greg thought nothing of it. "We were heterosexual," recalls Mary. "[In] that category in our little bubble world, we never thought that [HIV] would happen."

That's maybe why things seemed so surreal for Mary after learning that her husband had been denied in 1990 because he had HIV. Shortly after her husband discovered he was positive, Mary took the next logical step that she too—and possibly the child she was carrying—was positive.

"I kept looking at my watch thinking, I should be dead any minute now. I thought I had AIDS, but I didn't I didn't know."

As if all her trauma wasn't enough, Mary also was told by her obstetrician that because of her HIV, she would most likely die if she carried her child to term.

"I was so far along in the pregnancy, I only had one week to decide [to abort]." Dying in the delivery room, however, didn't bother her as much as having a child who would never know its mother, she recalls. Being pro-choice, she exercised her option to get an abortion, although she did it with much pain. "I tell people that I've lost a child because of AIDS." A few years after that, she also lost her husband Greg in 1993.

The Arlington, Va., native is glad to have one child—son Casey who is eight years old—and to have survived for as

long as she has. ("I feel like I'm a long term survivor.") All the while, she's been able to see a very bright side.

"I have never ever been angry at this disease," she says. "My friends are amazed that I've never been angry [but] I'd do it all over again to have my husband back ... My personality is just to live every moment and it's always been that way.

"I wouldn't say [AIDS is] a gift because you can return a gift. I can't return this sucker." She smirks when people who don't have HIV express their sympathy by saying that they too could die soon if they were hit by a bus. "I've already been hit by a bus. Sometimes it's like a cloud over my head, but I've discovered that I can live, I can have sex [and] have a creative love life."

Sex and a love life?

"I had just resigned myself to the fact that I wasn't going to have sex," she recalls. "Who would want me?"

In 1994, she met a man at the Museum of Natural History, agreed to have coffee with him and found, fearfully at first, that she liked him.

"It got to the point where he wanted a first kiss." Torn between being truthful and giving her feelings a fair shake, she decided to tell him that she has HIV, to which he responded, "So what's that mean?" according to Mary.

Mary was blown away but what seemed to be a serious lack of knowledge by this man whom she found enchanted. But rather than overreact, she explained that if they were safe, there should be no problem. Things worked better than she had hoped. Two years later, she is still with this man from the Museum.

"You don't need to tell someone your diagnosis right away. You've got to get to know someone; there's no reason not to. Just because someone has heart disease doesn't mean they can't date."

With such an upbeat attitude, it was only a matter of time before she found AIDS, Medicine and Miracles, she says. After attending the AM&M conference in Boulder in 1992, she became involved. Last year, she was asked to be on the board of directors.

"[Living with HIV] is about hope, it's about us... It's just good to be around other people with the virus who think positively, who have hope, who heal one another."

Mary currently is asymptomatic but is not as active with all the organizations that used to consume her days a few years ago. She takes time to do things like get a massage every week, play the piano (she can't read music; she "just play(s) from my heart"), to create art works from water colors or acrylic, to work in her garden, to train her dogs or whatever is nurturing for her.

All her efforts, however, still focus on prevention through education. "I do public speaking, telling my story, [which is like] AIDS 101," she says. Her motivation? There is no cure, but there is a lot of life to live.

And Mary is determined to live it. ■

**Miracle Makers • Gifts of \$1,000 or more
January 1 to June 1, 1996**

Anonymous
Foundation
Boulder Community
Hospital
Bristol-Myers Squibb

The Gill Foundation
Glaxo-Wellcome
Mead Johnson
MedExpress
Medical Escrow Society

NexStar
Pharmaceuticals
Pfizer, Inc.
Roche Laboratories
TLC Funding



**Combined Federal Campaign Provides
Impact Funding for AM&M**

Federal employees can now select AM&M as a recipient of workplace giving contributions. The impact of receiving monthly pledges has provided the opportunity to expand our programming. We extend our gratitude to all those who have made contributions to the Combined Federal Campaign on behalf of AM&M.

Please encourage all federal employees you may know to consider contributing to AM&M. We will gladly send folks a packet of information should they desire further materials on our work. ♦

*Our CFC designation
number is 0821.*



We're Online! Visit our Worldwide Web Page at: <http://www.csd.net/~amm/index.htm>
And email us at: amm@csd.net

Please note our NEW MAILING ADDRESS.

**Special Thanks
to the following for their
special event contributions:**

Al Lowman
John Lynch & Mark Pitman
Marianne Williamson
Patti Thomma
Mid-Hudson Craft Auction

**CALL FOR
WORKSHOP
PROPOSALS**

Would you like to share your work at an AM&M Conference? Proposals are now being solicited for our upcoming Houston conference. In 300 words or less, please indicate your teaching style/methods as well as content. All workshop leaders will be given free tuition. Submit your proposal and resume to Jo Ann Elliott, Program Director at our office address by September 5th.

**Address Correction
Requested**

HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES
2312 NW 39th
Oklahoma City, OK 73112



P.O. Box 20650 • 311 Mapleton
Boulder, CO 80308-3650

AM&M

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 391
Boulder, CO

Professional Audiotapes Recorded Live at

AIDS, Medicine & Miracles 1996

April 12 - 14, 1996 • Denver, Colorado



SOUNDS TRUE RECORDINGS

735 WALNUT ST. / BOULDER, CO 80302 / 303-449-6229

TO ORDER BY MAIL: Complete this form and mail to:
Sounds True Recordings, 735 Walnut Street, Boulder, CO 80302.

TO ORDER BY PHONE: Call toll-free (800) 333-9185.

TO ORDER BY FAX: Fax the completed order form to us. (303) 449-9226.

TO ORDER BY E-MAIL ADDRESS: SoundsTrue@aol.com

QTY	TAPE#	SPEAKER	TITLE OF PRESENTATION	PRICE
Friday, April 12, 1996				
	AMF-1	Lark Lands, PhD & Gregg Cassin	Positively Well (One Tape)	\$36
	AMF-2	Gregg Cassin	The Healing Power of Community (One Tape)	\$9
Saturday, April 13, 1996				
	AMF-3	Dr. Charles Steinberg	Wholism & Recent Medical Advances With Complementary Therapies (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-4	Sharon Lund	Empowerment From Within (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-5	Kaelan Shannon	Stress Mastery: Keys to Living With Stress Successfully (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-7	Darilyn Carroll & Shelly Cohen	Taking Care of Yourself: Care for the Caregiver (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-8	Bob Publicover	Don't Ever Give Up!: A Discussion for Long-term Survivors (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-10	John Young	Sex and 90's Dating (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-11	Dawn Carter & Tammy Stanley	Joy Breath Workshop (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-12	J-B Saint-Leger	Working With Your Inner Healer: Shamanic & Practical Tools (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-15	gil kudrin	Employment...A Treatment Option That Works (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-16	Barry Jay Glass	The River is Wide: Do You <i>Really</i> Know What I'm Feeling? (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-17	Marianne Williamson	AIDS as a Spiritual Renaissance (One Tape)	\$9
Sunday, April 14, 1996				
	AMF-18	Martin Delaney	1996 Treatment Update (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-19	Robert Gass	Living With Loss (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-20	Panel	Living With AIDS: Our Journey (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-21	Sharon Lund	Taking It Home (One Tape)	\$9
	AMF-23	Full Set of Conference Tapes (SAVE \$46!)		\$125

SPECIAL OFFER! Buy 5 tapes, get the 6th free or buy 10 tapes, get 2 free!

Receipt

Circle the tape numbers you ordered (match with your order above):

AMF- 1 2 3 4 5 7 8 10
11 12 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

Full Set of Conference Tapes: AMF-23

Print Your Name _____

Date _____

TOTAL
Include S & H

PAID

Questions? Write or call Sounds True Recordings, 735 Walnut St., Boulder, CO 80302 • Phone (303) 449-6229

Print Name & Address (Important!)

PRINT NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____

Method of Payment:

Check Cash AMEX VISA MasterCard Discover

Card Number _____

Expires _____

Shipping

AMEX / VISA / MC / DISCOVER Holders Call (800) 333-9185

SHIPPING & HANDLING: Please add \$3 for first tape, and 50 cents for each additional tape. Maximum S & H charge is \$10 per order. Please double S & H for Canadian orders, triple for overseas and quadruple for Australia and Japan.

TOTAL AMOUNT

"What Holds Promise"

Sponsored by AIDS, Medicine & Miracles

Seattle, Washington ~ March 1-3, 1996

Tapes By Tree Farm Communications, Inc.



AUDIO CASSETTE ORDER FORM

- ___ AM63-010 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Empowerment From Within -Sharon Lund
- ___ AM63-020 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Positively Well -Lark Lands, PhD
- ___ AM63-030 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
The Sacred Heart: How We Heal Through Loss -Gregg Cassin
- ___ AM63-040 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
1996 Treatment Update -Martin Delaney
- ___ AM63-110 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Retreat for Long-term Survivors of ASO's
-Trudy James
- ___ AM63-120 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Staying Healthy with HIV: Nurturing the Immune, Nervous and Hormonal Systems
-June A. Egger, MA, ABS
- ___ AM63-140 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
A Psychoneuroimmunological Approach to HIV Disease -Lusijah Marx, PsyD & Debra Borgelt
- ___ AM63-150 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Healthy Sexuality -Graham Harriman, MA
- ___ AM63-160 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
The Connection: Spirit, Mind & Body
-Nick Christiana
- ___ AM63-210 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Journey to the Self -Stephen Jacob
- ___ AM63-221/222 (2 Tape Set = \$15.00)
Treatment Question & Answer Session
-Lark Lands, PhD, Dr. Barbara Brewitt, et..al.
- ___ AM63-230 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Your Inner Healer: Using Vital, Supportive Inner Guidance to Deal with HIV
-J. B. Saint-Leger

- ___ AM63-240 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Positively Loving: A Couples Approach to Living with HIV and AIDS
-Malcolm McKay
- ___ AM63-250 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Poetry: Writing Yourself to Wellness
-Dan Martell
- ___ AM63-260 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Surviving & Thriving with HIV: A Panel Presentation
- ___ AM63-270 (Single Cassette = \$9.00)
Taking It Home

To Order, Mark The Numbers Of The Tapes You Want and Fill In Below. Bring To The Tape Sales Desk or See Below To Order By Mail, Phone, Fax, or E-Mail.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
TELEPHONE (_____) _____
FAX _____ E-Mail: _____

EACH CASSETTE = \$ 9.00
THE COMPLETE CONFERENCE ON
17 CASSETTES IN A STORAGE ALBUM:
\$ 125.00 (You Save \$42.00)

_____ Cassettes @ \$9.00: _____
_____ Tape Sets: _____
_____ Albums @ \$8.00: _____
Shipping & Insurance \$2 per Tape (\$8 Max): _____
SUB TOTAL: _____
Washington State 8.2% Sales Tax: _____
TOTAL AMOUNT: _____

CASH T H S
 CHECK ENCLOSED #: _____

To Bill Your: VISA ~ Mastercard ~ Discover ~ Bravo ~ American Express:

CARD NUMBER: _____

EXPIRES: _____ Telephone (_____) _____



MAIL OR FAX THIS COMPLETED FORM TO:
TREE FARM COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
23703 N.E. 4th STREET
REDMOND, WA 98053 U.S.A.
PHONE (800) 468-0464 or FAX (206) 868-2495
E-MAIL: 74117.720@compuserve.com

AIDS
MEDICINE
& MIRACLES



**Thank
You!**

Place stamp here

AIDS, Medicine & Miracles
P.O. Box 9130
Maxwell Building
311 Mapleton Ave.
Boulder, CO 80301-9130

Yes, I would like to support the educational services provided by AM&M. Please accept my gift

_____ \$15 _____ \$50 _____ \$150 _____ \$500 Other \$ _____
_____ \$25 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ \$1,000 Monthly Pledge \$ _____

Check MasterCard VISA

Card Number _____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

My gift is in memory of _____

My gift is a tribute to _____

Please notify:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Their relationship to the person honored _____

Please use my gift:

Where most needed.

Tuition Scholarship for HIV+ people currently on disability.

Community Development providing travel assistance for HIV+ individuals who live rural or impoverished areas.

I am interested in planned giving and employee matching, please call me.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____