

## The Director's Desk



**P**eople think that unless they can devote themselves like Mother Teresa, they will not make a difference; but that is not true. One person reaching out to one person can make a difference, both in the life of the one being touched, and those that he touches." - Alfonso Watt.

Each Sunday, my minister asks the congregation "What good thing has happened to you this week?" It has taken us a while to get accustomed to the question and longer still becoming comfortable saying out loud the good things that happen to us. It is usually easier to think and talk about our problems than our blessing.

But good things do happen; people reach out to others; we are creating a better world in spite of those who predict doom. I was reminded of this recently when I read a letter from a RAIN client who wrote:



*"My new RAIN Team has made the difference that has allowed me to stay in my home. I had been considering selling it and moving closer to my mother, but I was not looking forward to living in an apartment, being a burden to my family, while my mother had her own home and responsibilities. The team has helped me tremendously. They have inspired and supported me more than anyone could have imagined. They are a blessing to count always."*

Thank you, Nick, for sharing how much your team means to you. The neatest thing is that your team members feel just as blessed by knowing you!

Pamela S. Cross  
Executive Director

### RAIN OKC Moves Again

The RAIN Oklahoma City offices are relocating effective October 1. Our new address and phone numbers will be:

1601 N. Drexel Blvd  
Okla. City OK 73107  
(405) 947-3434  
FAX (405) 947-6868

"Moving should take care of the growing pains we have been experiencing," stated Pam Cross, Executive Director. "Volunteers who want to help with moving, cleaning, painting or decorating are welcome to call".

Pamela S. Cross, MPH  
Executive Director

#### Oklahoma City Office:

Joan R. Foreman  
W OK Coordinator  
Wesley T. Wise  
Executive Assistant  
Jean Felix  
Secretary

Rev. Kathy McCallie  
Jeni Markham Clewell  
Volunteer Coordinators  
1200 N. Walker  
Suite 505

Okla. City OK 73103-3743  
405.232.4372 fax 405.235.RAIN  
Outside the Metro area:  
1.800.324.RAIN (7246)

#### Eastern OK Office:

Kathleen R. Bird  
Eastern OK Coordinator  
Stephen Davis  
Administrative Assistant  
Cora Westman  
Volunteer Coordinator  
HIV Resource Consortium  
4154 S Harvard, STE H-1  
Tulsa OK 74135-2602  
918.749.4195  
fax 918.749.4213

#### Southwest OK Office:

Sandra Powell  
SW OK Associate Coordinator  
Centenary  
United Methodist Church  
704 SW "D" Avenue  
Lawton OK 73501  
405.351.AIDS

#### Community Education Office:

Dannette Russell Geren  
Education Coordinator  
Loeffler-Allen Building  
221 E. Dewey  
Sapulpa OK 74067  
918.224.4433

e-mail: rainokla@ionet.net

RAIN Oklahoma is a Member of:  
AIDS National Interfaith Network  
(ANIN)

National Minority AIDS Council  
(NMAC)

Wesley T. Wise, Editor

### RAIN Facts

Since 1990, RAIN volunteers have given over 126,056 hours of service. That equates to one person working 40 hours per week for over 60 years! At \$10.00 per hour, it also equates to 1.26 million dollars!

# News from Around the State



## West

Alisa Hankins, former RAIN NW Assoc. Coordinator, and husband, Jim, are the proud parents of a new baby boy named James Lee, born on July 12th at 5:09 pm. Both Alisa and "Jamie" are doing well. Joan is working with the RAIN Teams and clients that Alisa super-vised in Enid and Stillwater.

Many thanks go to Linda Herndon and other members of OKC Village UMC RAIN Team, hosts of the "First Annual RAIN Talent Show" and pot-luck dinner in June. Entertainment was provided by talented individuals.

Traveling monthly Team Rep Meetings are now scheduled through January, 1998! We want to thank the RAIN Teams at OKC Epworth UMC, Edmond First UMC and Edmond Southern Hills Christian Church for hosting our June, July and August meetings (respectively). Sheryl Mapes, Director of Community Outreach for Community Hospice, gave an in-service on "Stress Management" at the July meeting and will present "Communicating With The Client in Crisis" at our October meeting at Lighthouse MCC.

St. Monica's Catholic Church in Edmond was a beautiful setting for the July RAIN Training. We were welcomed by Fr. Anthony Taylor and church members Ethel Schraad, Pam Burnside and others who prepared delicious muffins in the morning and lunches at noon. Six RAIN Team Reps shared their experiences as RAIN volunteers and answered trainees' questions at the July training. A new RAIN Team will be sponsored by the OKC Church of the Open Arms.

We are pleased to be holding RAIN Training at Our Lady's Cathedral of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City on September 20th and 27th.

RAIN welcomes student Jolynda Hennigh who is doing a 75-hour practicum under Joan's supervision. Jolynda is a Chemical Dependency major at UCO in Edmond.  
-Joan Foreman

## Southwest

Due to valued input from SW RAIN volunteers, our monthly RAIN Team Rep meeting has become a traveling quarterly event!. The next meeting is scheduled for

Monday, September 15, 7:00-9:00 pm at Centenary UMC, 704 SW "D" Avenue in Lawton. We will share a covered dish dinner. All RAIN Team members are invited to come learn and share with each other.

Lawton's AIDS Walk is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 5 - please call Sandra at 405.351.2437 for more information.

It never ceases to amaze me how overwhelming each new client intake can be. One would think that after a few clients the stories would begin to seem alike that even the "Quilt" can't begin to touch them all. Certain eyes, smiles, tone of voice, shrug of the shoulders; humor in spite of the pain, hurt and disappointments; the long look, a brief glimmer of hope in the eyes that are, at last, trusting a small group of people into her life. Those who were once strangers are now a part of her daily life; a hug, a smile, a shared hour of fellowship. Hope for tomorrow and the day after.

I'm proud of my RAIN Team members and volunteers!  
-Sandra Powell

## East

Transition seems to be the only constant on this side of the state. After a year with RAIN, Jeffrey Knox has had to resign as Volunteer Coordinator. Cora Westman has accepted this quarter-time position. She has also been accepted as a National AIDS Fund AmeriCorps participant for the coming school year. Cora will lead the AmeriCorps team as well as work with RAIN to develop a "Summer RAIN" pilot program to train Tulsa area teens to be RAIN volunteers.

Work is exciting and exhausting these days in the HIV/AIDS field. With the media focusing on the new medicines available, many misconceptions abound that we have a cure - I wish this were true. It is true we have clients getting better, but people continue to die. The journey continues.  
-Kathy Bird



## Calendar

### August

29th - Sapulpa Dinner & Auction

### September

03 - HIV/AIDS Community Update, Drs. Beal & Peake, Tulsa

05 - Club Kaos fundraiser, OKC

15 - Quarterly SW OK Rep meeting, Centenary UMC, Lawton

12 - Audra Sommers at Silver Star fundraiser, Tulsa

20 & 27 - Western OK RAIN Team training, Our Lady's Cathedral Mercy Center, OKC

22 - Team Rep meetings, OKC, Tulsa

### October

05 - Lawton Area AIDS Walk

7-11 - AIDS Awareness Series at Boston Ave UMC School of Continuing Education, Tulsa

17-19 - NAMES Quilt Display, Tulsa

25 - SE OK RAIN Update, HIV Meds & Resistance

27 - Team Rep meeting, OKC, Tulsa

### November

7, 8 & 9 - Care Team Conference, Atlanta, GA

24 - Team Rep meeting, United Methodist Church of the Servant Care Center, OKC

### December

22 - Team Rep meeting, Southern Hills Baptist Church Building Annex 14, OKC

### January

26 - Team Rep meeting, Our Lady's Cathedral Mercy Center, OKC

### RAIN Appreciates Your Support

Individual, church and corporate gifts are essential to RAIN continuing to recruit, train, link, and support RAIN teams with RAIN clients. Please consider making a gift to RAIN today to honor or memorialize a loved one.



## DONATIONS

### INDIVIDUAL DONORS

(In alphabetical order)

Brent Barnes ♦ Ann Bartlett Burke ♦ Jackie & Barbara Cooper ♦ Stephanie Grubbs ♦ Karen S. Harris ♦ Kent A. Mauk ♦ Dennis Parker ♦ Emily Alexander Shurley.

### MONTHLY CONTRIBUTORS

Roy & Aline Brown ♦ Dolores & Robert Browning ♦ Jeffrey Gaughan ♦ Billie Hurst Gasaway ♦ Terry Knapp ♦ Warren & Margaret May ♦ Mary Catherine & Skip Smothermon ♦ Carol Woods.

### MEMORIALS

Bill Allen by Tadaaki & Susan Hatta ♦ Brett Barlow by Sherril Spaar ♦ Damon Bosse by Terry Knapp ♦ Read Browning by Peggy Prucha & M.A. Thompson ♦ J.B. Chenoweth & Randy Hurst by Billie Hurst ♦ Milton Leroy "Wes" Fletcher on his 38th Birthday 6/23/97 by Mark & Pauline Fletcher ♦ John Hocking by Terry Knapp ♦ Bob Knott by Richard Wawro; Polly Houston; Miller's Floor Store ♦ Stephen May by Warren & Margaret May ♦ Michael May by Warren & Margaret May ♦ Ken Miller by Mary Stevens, Judy Morrison, John Jennings, Nancy Smith & Garline Wheatley; members of Edmond 1st Pres RAIN Team (Ken's former Team) ♦ Brian Pool by Richard & Mary Pool ♦ Those who've Died by JT Moore ♦ Brooks Tuttle by Polly Houston.



### A Special Thank You

Many thanks to Charles Faudree, the Hope Candlelight Home Tour Committee, home owners, and volunteers for a tremendously successful event that provided much-needed support for RAIN. *Merci beaucoup!*

### IN HONOR OF:

Those who Serve by JT Moore ♦ STAY by Barbara Belk ♦ Marriage of Clark Wiens & Michelle Marrs by All Souls RAIN Team B-Tulsa.

### ORGANIZATIONS and FOUNDATIONS

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Norman ♦ Oklahoma Conference of The United Methodist Church, OKC ♦ First Presbyterian Church, Edmond ♦ DIFFA, New York City ♦ Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of Oklahoma, OKC ♦ Tramps, OKC ♦ United Life Church, OKC.

### INKIND DONATIONS

Kodak Carousel Slide Projector by Larry Crosby ♦ SWB Calling Cards by Patsy Edwards. ♦ Royal 1803 ZMR Copier by Melvin L. Gilbertson, Sapulpa ♦ Panasonic Telephone Answering System with Fax by Kandyce Kahn, OKC ♦ Public Service Announcements by KCCU "Classic FM" radio, Cameron University, Lawton ♦ SWB Prepaid Calling Card by Kayla McClurg ♦ Office Supplies by Sandra Powell ♦ Desk for Tulsa Office by Rae Reynolds ♦ Walgreen PHONECARDPlus by Richard Wawro.

## Opera Benefits RAIN

Christ The King Opera Lighting the Darkness presented it fifth program of opera scenes August 16 with its program titled "Opera by the Slice...with Broadway on the Side". Proceeds from the event benefit St. Joseph Residence, "Our House", and RAIN.

### Fund Raisers Slated

Two exciting fund raisers have been sheduled during August and September.

Audra Sommers is holding her second annual fund raiser in Tulsa at the Silver Star, 1565 S. Sheridan, at 10:30 pm Friday, September 12. A lively evening of entertainment and an auction is planned. Cover charge is \$1.00 at the door.

Ernestine Dillard, internationally renowned vocalist and RAIN Board member, will perform in concert at 5 pm Sunday, Oct 19, at All Souls Unitarian Church, Tulsa. A love offering will be taken.

All proceeds from both events will go to RAIN to benefit PLWAs in the Tulsa area.

## Second Edition Ornament Arrives

RAIN 1997 Holiday Ornament



RAIN's second annual holiday ornament beautifully captures a symbol of peace, the white dove holding two long stemmed calla lilies. Intertwined with the dove is a red ribbon representing the international symbol of AIDS awareness.

This collector's edition ornament is crafted in solid brass with 24 kt. gold finish and brightly colored enamels.

Proceeds from ornament sales help RAIN Oklahoma continue its mission of education and service. The price is only \$15.00 (tax included). Quantities are limited. VISA & MasterCard accepted. To order, call 405.232.4372. Outside the OKC Metro area call 1.800.324.RAIN (7246).

### In Memoriam

Sand Springs St. Matthews Episcopal  
Victor

Tulsa PFLAG  
Steven

Tulsa All Souls Unitarian Team B  
Michael

Tulsa First Presbyterian  
Ken



RAIN Oklahoma®  
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