

THE FRONTLINE

**PRC AT
20 YEARS
IT'S A
MATTER OF
TIME**

It is impossible to think about the concept of time without putting it in some defining context. Time heals all wounds; time flies when you're having fun; it was the best of times and the worst of times; the times are a changing; time is on my side. We use these phrases and so many others to define and help make sense of the world around us.



BRETT ANDREWS

Often, when I think of the passage of time, I reflect back to February of 2003 when I had the honor of stepping into the role of Executive Director. Back then I thought I had a pretty clear understanding of the significance of Positive Resource Center's services. But still, almost four years later, I continue to learn the profound impact our benefits counseling and employment services have on the community.

In 1987, PRC formed under the name AIDS Benefits Counselors. At the time, the mood in the city reflected the devastating impact AIDS was having across the nation. Like many organizations responding to the disease, PRC had a noble and humble beginning. A few committed individuals, who experienced friends dying without the opportunity to gain life-saving disability benefits, came together and volunteered their time and talents to advocate on behalf of those too sick to care for themselves. Over the next nine years, PRC would emerge as the leading service provider of benefits counseling in the Bay Area.

Over the next ten years, we watched the government slowly respond while agencies like PRC looked for new and innovative ways to serve the growing HIV/AIDS population. For many, the mid-nineties represented a time of hope and promise. People started living longer and healthier lives due to advanced treatments. AIDS Benefits Counselors again responded to the evolution of the disease by merging with Positive Resource, an employment service program for people living with HIV, and became Positive Resource Center.

**POSITIVE
RESOURCE
CENTER**

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phone 415.777.0333 fax 415.777.1770
www.positiveresource.org

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Danny Castelov, Senior Service Coordinator
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As we rapidly approach 2007, PRC will commemorate twenty years of providing extraordinary services to individuals who have been affected by HIV/AIDS. We have launched new initiatives, such as benefits counseling for mental health clients who are at risk for HIV, and programs for specific HIV+ populations, including women and older workers who wish to re-enter the workforce. Presently, PRC serves 2,200 clients each year and, as always, our work is provided to clients without a fee.

All of us at PRC are proud of our achievements over these past twenty years. The volume of work has been enormous, and the skill, dedication and tenacity of those involved with fulfilling our mission have been equal to the challenge. Positive Resource Center is firmly committed to undertaking the significant work that still lies before us, as we honor our past and look toward the future.

As for me, I am keenly aware that each day has the potential of presenting its own unique set of challenges. Yet, as an eternal optimist, I know that we will successfully face these challenges and someday claim victory over HIV/AIDS and other diseases that negatively impact the lives of so many—it's only a matter of time.

BRETT ANDREWS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DOMINIC SCUTTI: A LASTING LEGACY

Positive Resource Center was touched to learn that Dominic Scutti (1937 – 2005), a longtime friend of PRC, named the agency as a beneficiary in his living trust. This unprecedented gift of **\$353,333** serves as a testament to the work that we have done for our clients over the years and will be used to secure the future of the agency. **Startling Statistic:** Bequests in the United States outpaced corporations in charitable giving by over 4 billion dollars in 2005. If you would like to remember Positive Resource Center in your estate planning, please contact John Cunningham, Development Director at (415) 972-0872 or johnc@positiveresource.org.

PRC AND CITY CREATE A WIN-WIN-WIN

Recognizing Positive Resource Center's outstanding service to clients with mental health disabilities, the Department of Public Health has more than doubled our contract to provide Social Security representation for this population. This significant increase will not only allow PRC to expand its capacity to serve mental health clients by 100%, it will also result in a significant gain for the City. A recent study conducted by the Department of Public Health showed that every dollar invested in our Benefits Counseling program results in a five-dollar return to the city. The real winner in this partnership is our clients who gain life-saving disability income and access to healthcare.

TAILS WAG FOR DOG DAY BAKERY

It was 1993 when John Rutherford first walked through the doors of AIDS Benefits Counselors looking for benefits assistance. Over the next 16 years, John continued working with PRC to get the support he needed to gain financial independence and security. On June 13th, 2006, John's dreams were realized when he registered his business, Dog Day Bakery, a microenterprise that combines his 10 years experience as a pastry chef with his vet tech skills and passion for animals.

John's success is due to his own "dogged" hard work in conjunction with PRC's self-employment programming and partnerships. The Department of Rehabilitation, who originally supported John in gaining certification as a Veterinary Technician, has continued to support his business goals. PRC's Next Step computer-training program, career coaching and professional resume writing gave him the technical skills and direction he needed. A PRC contract with the Mayor's Office of Community Development enabled John to attend Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center's 14-week Business Planning class.

John continues to support the community and the four-legged companions that are so important by participating in Castro Street Fair, PAWS – Dog Gone Fun Run, Rocket Dog Rescue and Hopalong Animal Rescue. His ultimate goal is to open a retail store. If you would like to learn more about Dog Day Bakery visit his website at www.dogdaybakery.com. As John says, "Positive Resource Center was like a light at the end of a tunnel and I wouldn't be doing what I am without the support of PRC."



John Rutherford was a loyal customer.

PARADISE FOUND

On Thursday, October 26th, 2006 Positive Resource Center hosted *Paradise Found*, its 9th Annual Gala. From the savory eats, to the friendly competition around the silent auction, to the energy on the dance floor, it all added up to a transcendent evening!

Paradise Found continues to be a shared celebration between PRC's most committed individual and institutional supporters, along with agency staff and board who work tirelessly on behalf of those most in need. To all, thanks again for your dedication to PRC and for helping to make the event simply sublime!



Representing Elaine Tajima of Tajima Creative, Brad Hennig accepts the Community Pillar Award for corporate philanthropic leadership from Brett Andrews, Executive Director of PRC.

Bill Matheson, PRC Board President presents Marcia Pope of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, LLP with the Keystone Award in recognition of providing the agency with over 10 years of pro bono legal services.



Joseph Ramirez-Forcier, Managing Director, Employment Services presents the Beacon Award to Gary Marshall, Small Business Administration for his longstanding commitment to providing self-employment resources to people with HIV/AIDS.



Birds of Paradise – Legal Eagles
David Lilienstein, Charlynn Hughes and Thornton Davidson

The staff of Clinica Esperanza receives the Iron Advocate Award from Jane Gelfand, Esq., Managing Legal Director, Benefits Counseling. Clinica Esperanza has tirelessly provided medical care and intensive case management to underserved communities since 1989.



HIGH ROLLERS, HIGH KICKS AND (DJ) HIGHTOP...

GALA HOSTS

Dominck Albano
 Robert M. Amparán & Associates
 Brett Andrews
 AT&T
 Al Baum & Robert Holgate
 Michael Bell
 Biotherm USA
 The Bob Ross Foundation
 Zoe Borkowski
 Collin Burry
 Sallyanne Campbell
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 Chemoil Corporation
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 Edward Pope
 Renaissance Entrepreneurship
 Center
 SST Insurance Brokers Inc.
 The San Francisco
 AIDS Foundation
 The Silva Watson Moonwalk Fund
 L. Julius M. Turman
 van Loben Sels/
 RembeRock Foundation

SPECIAL THANKS

Grey Goose Vodka
 Izze Beverage Company
 Sebastiani Vineyards & Winery
 Tajima Creative
 Peroni Beer
 Smartwater

SILENT AUCTION SUPPORTERS

2223 Restaurant
 Fernando Aguayo-García
 Alice Waters/Chez Panisse
 Allan Wray
 Asia SF
 Bally's Total Fitness
 Beach Blanket Babylon
 Berkeley Repertory Theatre
 Best In Show
 Blowfish Sushi To Die For
 Blue Door Group
 Café Coton
 Calafia Cellars
 California Shakespeare Theater
 Chaps
 Clos Du Val
 Conundrum Wines
 Thornton Davidson
 Delfina Restaurant
 Distillery No. 209
 Dog Day Bakery
 Fior D'Italia
 Four Seasons Hotel San Francisco
 Fraenkel Gallery
 Gucci
 Hafner Vineyards
 Hilton San Francisco/Spa Fusion
 Hot House Entertainment
 Hotel Monaco
 Hotel Rex/Café Andre
 The King George Hotel
 Levi's
 Luna Park Restaurant
 Marco Polo Dinners
 Marin Theater Company
 Jacques Michaels
 Mike Roche
 Morton's
 Nomi Day Spa
 Orchard Garden Hotel
 Osmosis Enzyme Bath & Massage
 Peet's Coffee & Tea
 Phantom
 Restaurant Gary Danko
 Clark Sealy
 See's Candies
 SF Giants
 SF Museum of Modern Art
 Sparrow
 Tiffany & Co.
 Titan Media
 Tommy Toy's Cuisine Chinoise
 Tres Agaves Mexican Kitchen &
 Tequila Lounge
 Tito Vandermeiden
 Kenneth Wingard
 Yank Sing



PRC's Paula Wagner kicks it up with DJ "Hightop"



Strike a Pose - PRC Posse Plus 1



The Gang's all here! Chemoil crew

THE FRONT



Positive Resource Center is proud to be one of the beneficiaries of the 27th Annual Academy of Friends Oscar Night Gala to be held February 25, 2007. Acclaimed nationwide as one of the biggest and best formal attire Academy Award parties outside of Los Angeles, this glamorous evening celebrates life and empowers hope for individuals living with HIV/AIDS. PRC anticipates receiving \$30,000 from the event, but we need your help to meet our commitments. If you would like to participate as an event underwriter, purchase Oscar Night Gala tickets or Mercedes-Benz raffle tickets please visit the AOF website at www.academyoffriends.org, and designate PRC as your beneficiary agency. For further information or to volunteer at the event, please contact John B. Cunningham, Development Director at 415.972.0872, johnc@positiveresource.org.

Positive Resource Center relies upon the generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations to ensure that our professional benefits counseling and employment services are available to the most vulnerable members of our community.

We salute all of you for showing your financial support of our mission.



Girlstock's co-producers Lisa Hayle and Maei Thomas led the way in showcasing a festival of female and transgendered music and art to benefit PRC.



For the 11th year running, PRC was a beneficiary of Lazy Bear Weekend which raised a phenomenal \$143,000 in 2006. Pictured here Harry Lit of Lazy Bear Fund, Inc. presents Brett Andrews with a portion of the proceeds.



Technology Facelift—PRC clients have the opportunity to learn in a state-of-the-art computer lab thanks to grants totaling over \$30,000 from The Bothin Foundation and Macy's Passport Fund.



Help came in the form of a check in the amount of \$155,000 for 10 beneficiary agencies, including PRC, when The Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation distributed the proceeds from their 12th annual Help is on the Way Gala.

RUNNERS

- 440 Castro
The Academy of Friends
AIDS Walk San Francisco
Dominick Albano
Gaetano Amorosi
Robert Amparán
Paul Anderson
Ross Anderson &
Michael Westrick
Thorsten Anderson
Chuck Anthony & Pat Riley
Hooman Anvar
AT&T
Boyer August
Sibil Baffoe
Peter Baga
Bare Chest Calander
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Matching Gifts
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Benefits Rights Project
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John Doughty
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Boucheron USA
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.
Broadway Cares Equity
Fights AIDS
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Collin Burry
Thomas Caldarola
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James Campbell
Richard Campbell
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Capiraso Bing Consulting
James Carlson
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Michael Floyd
David Carver
Manuel Castany &
Donna Castany
The Castro Lions Club
Centers for Medicare and
Medicaid Services
Chemoil Corporation
Dion Coakley
Community Health Charities
of California
Community Technology
Foundation
Community Thrift Store
- Lucius Conrad &
Jeffrey Stone
William Corr &
Miguel Gomez
John Crapo
Carole Cullum
Carleton Cunningham
John Cunningham
D.A.C. Marketing, Inc.
Ken Danko
Peter Dobbin
Henry Doering
Daniel Dougan &
Bryan Harris
Rajat Dutta
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Martha Ehrenfeld
Janice Embrey
Kathy Ericksen
Erisa Law Group
Caroline Everts
Leyla Farah
Corrinne Farner
Glenn Finch
David Fink
Patrick Fitzgerald
Tom Fleming, Jr.
Flying Bear Media/
Energy 92.7 FM
Daniel Foley
Wayne Forester
Gap Foundation
GATX Corporation
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Richard Bolingbroke
Jane Gelfand
Ann Gelfand &
Martin Gelfand
Geller Sullivan Rentals
Kathleen Gilheany
David Gin
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Bryan Freedman
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Steven Holt & Rob Wiggins
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Mike Mohn
Jamie Moran, LCSW,
Psychotherapy
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Diane Nutting &
Charles Sands
The O'Shea Foundation
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Whitney O'Neill
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Richard Perez
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Pets are Wonderful Support
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Re-Elect Bevan
Renaissance
Entrepreneurship Center
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The Richmond/
Ermet AIDS Foundation
Fernando Robles
Mark Rogers &
Robert Rogers
Alix Rosenthal
Joseph Rosenthal
John Rosenzweig
Richard Sablatura
Donna Sachet
Alisa Salters
San Francisco AIDS
Foundation
The San Francisco
Department of
Public Health
The San Francisco
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The San Francisco Mayor's
Office of Community
Development
- Charles Sanderson
Ramon Santos
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SBC Management
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Michael Shriver
The Silva Watson Moonwalk Fund
Chris Sinton
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Indulgence, Inc.
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Alan Smith
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The State of California
Department of Rehabilitation
The State of California
Employment
Development Department
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United Way of the Bay Area
Until There's a Cure Foundation
Van Loben Sels/
RembeRock Foundation
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BeaJaye Whittaker
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Teddy Witherington
Peter Wong & Glenn Wiggins
World Incentive Nexus/
Incentives to Intrigue
Ieronimos Xenos
Thomas Yaussy
Anthony Young
Amy Zuckerman
(as of mid november 2006)
- Our sincerest apology for any misspellings or omissions.

WHAT CLIENTS ARE SAYING

I have been grateful for the help and boost I've needed to get back in the workforce. Many times I've thought I couldn't do it and the staff at PRC have given me the confidence that I can.

Everyone I have encountered at PRC has been incredibly helpful, courteous and professional—clearly the best in the business. PRC assisted me in entering an incredibly helpful Medi-Cal program, which has alleviated an enormous amount of stress from my life. It is in great part due to you that I am working and thriving today.

I am so grateful to PRC for being available and there for me. Applying for disability is a very emotional process and PRC was the best in making me feel cared for and important.

STAFF SHOWCASE

PRC welcomes these new members to our growing staff.



EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

David Weinberg, Employment Specialist
Joseph Ramirez-Forcier,
Managing Director, Employment Services
Julie Despaties, Employment Specialist



BENEFITS COUNSELING

Chris Punongbayan, Esq., Staff Attorney
Francisco Vera, Esq. Staff Attorney
Jen Roemer, Esq., Staff Attorney



ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY MANAGEMENT

Phillip Whitely, Front Office Coordinator
Katrina Kuzniuk, Finance Manager
John B. Cunningham, Development Director

BALiF BURNS BRIGHT FOR PRC

At the 2006 Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALiF) annual dinner celebration, PRC was proud to be honored with the Community Service Award. The award recognized PRC's unfailing efforts on behalf of those in the LGBT community affected by HIV/AIDS and mental health issues. It is a source of inspiration to receive a tribute from such an outstanding organization as BALiF, a minority bar association founded in 1980 to protect, defend and demand the rights and freedoms of the LGBT community.

