

achieve better health outcomes  
increase public knowledge  
make testing routine  
reduce stigma & fear  
promote an open dialogue  
link to primary care



# Annual Report

## FY 2013



*Top Left: Volunteer, Grace, poses for a picture at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Take Charge. Get Tested Event in observance of National HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.*

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ACHIEVING BETTER HEALTH  
OUTCOMES:

**ONE** CLIENT AT A TIME

**1,104**

TOTAL VISITS

**908**

RISK REDUCTION COUNSELING  
SESSIONS

**858**

CLIENTS TESTED FOR HIV

**835**

CHLAMYDIA, GONORRHEA,  
HERPES, HEPATITIS C AND  
SYPHILIS TESTS WERE  
ADMINISTERED

**30**

CLIENTS WERE DISTRIBUTED  
ONSITE TREATMENT

**1200**

HIV+ CLIENTS WERE PROVIDED  
PRIMARY CARE LINKAGES




# Dear Friends,

Empowerment Resource Center's (ERC) Comprehensive Intervention initiatives operate with the clear understanding that everyone, regardless of insurance status, ability to pay or life situation deserves to be treated with dignity and respect – and to be afforded access to quality resources and care.

Looking back on 2013, ERC has served some of the city's most marginalized and disenfranchised individuals. We have broadened our repertoire of clinical services to include trichomonas, bacterial vaginosis and yeast infection testing services, as well as launch our ERC on the M.O.V.E. (Mobile Outreach Vehicle) community outreach program. Generous donations have enabled us to expand mobile testing and risk-reduction services for underserved and various We provided free HIV testing and other health-related resources to over 1,000 participants during the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Take Charge. Get Tested.<sup>TM</sup> Event thanks to a hardworking, dedicated group of staff and volunteers. We appreciate your hard work and dedication to our cause.

ERC's financial position remained strong in 2013 thanks to the continued confidence of our funders and donors, to whom we offer our resounding thanks. More details about our financial position and sources of funding, as well as a full picture of our programs and accomplishments can be found in this annual report.

In the past year, ERC has addressed health disparities by enhancing community capacity and health literacy and have expanded our comprehensive continuum of care for clients by better leveraging our resources. We look forward to the challenges and successes of 2014, and we will keep fighting until our mission is fulfilled.



Jacqueline Brown, MBA MSPH  
Executive Director

## Our Mission

ERC is a comprehensive HIV and STI community-based organization that offers HIV and STI prevention education, risk reduction counseling, testing, referral and treatment services, client advocacy and navigation services, and primary care linkages. Our mission is to directly deliver health-related programs and services and generate solutions to community issues that impact the transmission HIV and other STIs.

## Our Model

It can be very difficult to access and navigate the health care system. We provide programs and services on-site at our Comprehensive Intervention Clinic, at satellite locations, and through the ERC on the M.O.V.E. community outreach program. ERC focuses on a broader array of services, assisting both individuals infected and affected by HIV and other STIs.

## Our Clients

In 2013, we served over 1,000 clients and reached approximately 83% of our clients through the ERC on the M.O.V.E. We serve some of the city's most marginalized and disenfranchised individuals. 44.3% have a history of incarceration, 62.6% have a history of substance abuse, 23.6% present with mental health challenges, and 90.4% report having sexual activities with someone of unknown status. See the included graphs for our client population.

# HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Empowerment Resource Center is appreciative to its partners and contributors, whose support throughout fiscal year 2013 has been integral to its success in fulfilling its mission. Over the last year, we are pleased to report the following accomplishments:

- During this past fiscal year, Empowerment Resource Center provided over 2,000 clinic services to 1,104 unique clients.
- With funds from the Department of Public Health and Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness, ERC developed a new opt-out HIV testing policy which incorporates HIV screening into each visit.
- Based on client needs, ERC incorporated Hepatitis B, Trichomonas, Bacterial Vaginosis & Yeast Infection and additional swab testing for Chlamydia & Gonorrhea into our repertoire of services.
- Through ERC on the M.O.V.E, ERC reached over 2,350 contacts through outreach and education efforts to provide health information and increased access to affordable care.

## Other Noteworthy Accomplishments

- Hired a Community Outreach Health Educator to overcome cultural and socio-economic barriers that affect the majority of our clients.
- Hosted **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hats Off to Women** in observance of National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.
- Provided free HIV and Syphilis screening services and other health-related resources to **over 1,000 participants** during the ERC 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Take Charge. Get Tested. Event.
- Successfully implemented expanded outreach through the purchase of a **Mobile Outreach Testing Unit** to provide HIV testing and STD screening for high-risk individuals.

**Congratulations**  
to our new staff members:

*Edwin  
Worthington-Blount  
&  
Dorothy Bota*



# Board of Directors

FY2013



ERC has a strong fiscally responsible Board of Directors which promotes quality of our programs and services and ensures alignment with our mission and vision.

## Executive Committee

### **Celeste B. Williams Ph.D**

#### **Board Chair**

*Sr. Research Scientist  
Medtronic, Inc*

### **Jacqueline Brown, MBA, MSPH**

#### **Vice Chair (non-voting)**

*Executive Director  
Empowerment Resource Center*

### **Lisa Johnson, MA. Ed.S**

#### **Secretary**

*Professional School Counselor  
Fulton County Board of Education*

### **Paul D. Donnan, MD, FACP**

#### **Treasurer**

*Doctor of Internal Medicine  
Piedmont Physicians Group*

### **Marilyn Davis**

#### **Financial Secretary**

*Vice President  
Wells Fargo Bank*

### **Yaslyn Moore, BA**

#### **Fundraising Chair**

*Benefits Administrator  
Kaiser Permanente*

### **Travan Jasper, MD**

#### **Policy Committee Chair**

*Medical Director  
Sheridan Healthcorp, Inc*

## Board Members

### **Rana Chakraborty, MD**

*Medical Director,  
Emory University Ponce Clinic/Grady IDP*

### **Robert Bedingfield**

*Technical Analyst  
State Farm Insurance*



# Clinic Expands STI Screening Services

Empowerment Resource Center's Comprehensive Intervention Clinic has added Trichomonas, Yeast Infection, and Bacterial Vaginosis, as well as additional swabbing options for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea to our repertoire of services. Our clients have identified these services as one of their top unaddressed health concerns, and we are thrilled to provide these much-needed service.

The clients we serve – 51% percent of whom are uninsured or underinsured – are individuals who may be vulnerable, hard to reach, and susceptible to health disparities. Uninsured and underinsured individuals, who are already battered by the current economic climate, living in shelters, and struggling with more pressing life issues, tend to forgo vital medical treatment due to poor health literacy and mistrust of public healthcare.

**“Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) can be an effective tool in slowing the progression of HIV.”**

In 2013, ERC administered unduplicated client testing services as follows: 858 HIV, 346 Chlamydia & Gonorrhea, 480 Syphilis, 19 Hepatitis C, 1 Hepatitis B, 16 Herpes and 14 Trichomonas, Yeast Infection and Bacterial Vaginosis. Of the total clients, 100% received safer sex kits, including male and female condoms, lubricants, a local resource and referral listing, literature, and a risk reduction plan.

A total of 84 clients tested positive for one or more infections (8 Gonorrhea, 25 Chlamydia, 21 Syphilis, 6 HIV, 1 Hepatitis C, 1 Trichomonas, 10 Bacterial Vaginosis, 1 Yeast Infection, and 11 Herpes). Of that total, 35% of clients with an STI returned for test results and treatment; and 100% adhered to their prescribed course of treatment. The rest of the clients were referred to local health departments.

## Who we are

Since 2003, the Empowerment Resource Center's priority has been to serve individuals who are underserved and high-risk. We strive to create a safe, welcoming environment where our clients can access sexual health services. We value and adhere to our mission to deliver health-related programs and services and generate solutions to community issues that impact the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STI).

## Staff

**Jacqueline Brown**  
Executive Director

**Latasha Garrison**  
Program Manager

**Dorothy Bota**  
Program Manager

**Jessica Herrera**  
Program Coordinator/Health Educator

**Edwin Worthington-Blount**  
Health Educator

## Medical team

**Dr. Paul D. Donnan, M.D., FACP**  
Medical Director

**Antonina G. Foster, NP, MSN, MPH**  
Nurse Practitioner

**Mary K. Kouba, BS, BSN, RN**  
Registered Nurse

**Antonio Robinson**  
Phlebotomist/Health Educator

# ERC is on the M.O.V.E!

## Mobile Outreach Vehicle Program

Thanks to generous donations, Empowerment Resource Center was blessed with the opportunity to purchase a Goshen Coach Bus to enhance our ERC on the M.O.V.E. (Mobile Outreach Vehicle) Program.

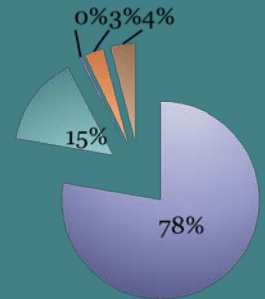
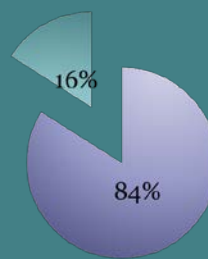
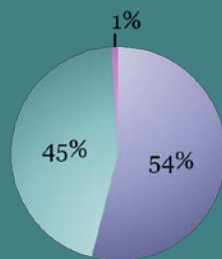
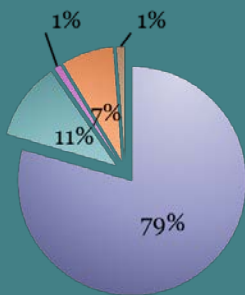
ERC's Mobile Testing Unit provides co-morbidity testing services including rapid HIV testing, Hepatitis B, C & STI screenings, and risk reduction counseling. ERC will also provide HIV and STI prevention education. This addition will enable us to expand mobile testing and risk-reduction services for more vulnerable, underserved, and hard-to-reach clients. The purchase of the Goshen Coach added another vehicle to the growing ERC fleet.



The presence of Empowerment Resource Center in the community continues to increase through the M.O.V.E Program. Uninsured and underinsured individuals who are already battered by the current economic climate, living in shelters, and struggling with more pressing life issues, tend to forgo these vitals screenings. Our staff and volunteers have been extremely helpful in supporting and engaging the community that we serve.

## Who We Serve

We provide services to men and women ages 13 and older who live in the southeast region of the United States. Our clients come from all walks of life; in 2013, 84% were screened in an outreach setting, 32% were homeless, 51% reported having no insurance, and 58.8% have had an STI at some point.



- African-American
- White/Caucasian
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic
- Other

- Males
- Female
- Transgender

- Outreach
- Clinic

- Fulton
- DeKalb
- Cobb
- Clayton
- Gwinnett

## *Nonprofit Leadership Alliance*

The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance chose Empowerment Resource Center to be a host site for its 2013 Alliance Management / Leadership Institute. We hosted a case study conference for undergraduate and graduate students who are championing change in their organizations and communities. The case study that was presented was ***The Ethical Implications of PREP***. These students were incredibly passionate and insightful and brought “fresh eyes” on this issue.

## *2nd Annual Hats Off To Women Symposium*

March 10<sup>th</sup> was **National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day**. In honor of this day, the Empowerment Resource Center hosted the Hats Off to Women Symposium to increase the awareness of the specific impact of HIV and AIDS on women and girls. The symposium consisted of a panel of courageous women who are advocating for and educating people about HIV/AIDS.

## *6th Annual Take Charge. Get Tested.™ Health Event*

On June 27, 2013, ERC held a free HIV testing campaign and is expected to reach more than 500 Atlantans! This open fair and festival was held at Hurt Park, located at 100 Edgewood Avenue, SE in Atlanta GA. This community outreach campaign provided free HIV and counseling and testing services, primary care linkages, and other health-related programs to approximately 1,500 individuals.

## *Health Literacy & Social Media Workshop*

Empowerment Resource Center hosted the ***Enhancing Health Literacy Through Social Media*** through ERC's Capacity Building Series. This workshop increased the understanding of key aspects of community health literacy and using social media platforms in order to improve these community health literacy outcomes.

## *Worlds AIDS Day*

Empowerment Resource Center celebrated World AIDS Day on December 1<sup>st</sup> by observing the E.R.C Moment of Silence. We made a pledge to Empower those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, Remember those who have transitioned on, and Commit to doing our part in circumventing this epidemic. ERC also offered free HIV testing within the Fulton County Department of Corrections, Georgia State University and our Comprehensive Intervention Clinic.

# 2013 Special Events





# Financial Statement

## Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013

Each year, ERC commissions an audit of our finances by an independent accounting firm. This summary represents the finding for FY2013. ERC is driven by its mission to provide the best care to every client through clinical practice, health-related education and advocacy.

Current Assets	2011	2012	2013
Cash and Cash Equivalents .....	\$ 44,085	\$ 962	\$ 63,283
Grants Receivables .....	\$ 4,260	\$27,234	\$10,373
Other Assets .....	\$ 4,679	\$ 3,496	\$ 3,496
<b>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable .....	\$ 1,504	\$ 5,025	\$ 2,238
Demand Loan .....	\$ --	\$ 12,000	\$ --
Accrued Liabilities .....	\$ 858	\$ 1,128	\$ 17,022
<b>Total Liabilities .....</b>	<b>\$ 2,362</b>	<b>\$ 18,153</b>	<b>\$ 19,260</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Unrestricted .....	\$ 24,476	\$ 31,215	\$ 73,407
Temporarily restricted .....	\$ 36,186	\$ --	\$ --
<b>Total Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$ 60,662</b>	<b>\$ 31,215</b>	<b>\$ 73,407</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS .....</b>	<b>\$ 63,024</b>	<b>\$ 49,368</b>	<b>\$ 92,667</b>

### Statement of Financial Activities

Government Grants.....	\$ 144,997	\$ 174,339	\$ 308,149
Contributions .....	\$ 20,444	\$ 32,236	\$ 63,656
Donations In-Kind .....	\$ 120,325	\$ 106,119	\$ 108,355
Released Restrictions .....	\$ --	\$ 36,186	\$ 2,388
<b>TOTAL REVENUE &amp; SUPPORT .....</b>	<b>\$ 285,766</b>	<b>\$ 348,880</b>	<b>\$ 482,549</b>
Program Services .....	\$ 198,052	\$ 253,576	\$ 330,698
Fundraising .....	\$ 37,709	\$ 48,320	\$ 61,309
Administration/General .....	\$ 29,969	\$ 40,245	\$ 48,350
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>\$ 265,730</b>	<b>\$ 342,141</b>	<b>\$ 440,356</b>

# *A Special Thank You to Our Interns / Volunteers*

Our interns and volunteers go the extra mile every day to offer care to our clients that is respectful, culturally inclusive, and responsive to each woman's unique needs. We believe this is what all health care should look like. That's why we're helping to train the health care workforce of the future.

Each year, over 100 community volunteers donate over 10,000 hours of time to provide approximately 50% of our services. This is health care by the community, for the community, and ensures our providers reflect the gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and life experiences of the diverse clientele they serve. Our volunteer workforce also helps us stay operationally efficient and leverage every dollar we raise to provide excellent care. Meanwhile, they gain invaluable hands-on experience and training in health care that is client-centered and responsive to the needs of a community.



We are super proud of their accomplishments, and excited to see them carry our philosophies of quality, community-based health care out into the world. Let a few of them tell you in their own words about their time at the clinic.

**“Interning at ERC has been one of the best job experiences I have ever had. What makes ERC different from everyone else is their desire to provide effective care and resources to underserved populations. ERC provided me with the opportunity to provide health services in the local community, jails, and substance abuse centers. ERC has had such an immense impact on the metro-Atlanta area and surrounding communities. Thanks ERC for all you do!!**

-- Monique Coley, Goal: MSN, BSN, Emory University, Atlanta, Nell Hodgson School of Nursing

**My experience with ERC was such an eye opener. Through assigned projects and outreach events, I was able to learn the needs of the clients and explore the resources available in the community. The staff at ERC are amazingly motivated and such an inspiration. They valued my opinion but most importantly, they wanted to make the best decision possible for each and every client. My goal is to provide care to marginalized populations and ERC has made me be a better social worker.**

-- Rosa Gutierrez, Goal: MSW, BSW, Emory University, Atlanta, Andrew young School of Policy Studies

# FISCAL YEAR 2013

## Sources of Revenue

### PUBLIC FUNDERS & PARTNERSHIPS

#### United States Government

340B Drug Pricing Program  
National Library of Medicine  
Office of Women's Health

#### Local Government

Georgia Department of Public Health  
Fulton County Department of Health and  
Wellness  
Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority

#### Community Partnerships

Women of Gilgal  
HOPE Atlanta – Travelers Aid  
Atlanta City Detention Center  
Fulton County Jail  
Marietta Regional Youth Detention Center  
Victory Outreach  
Café 458  
Atlanta Day Shelter for Women & Children  
City of Refuge

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc  
Tangu Counseling & Treatment Services  
Big Bethel A.M.E. Women's Missionary  
Society  
Georgia State University  
Atlanta City Detention Center  
Fulton City Jail  
Horizons Program

### CORPORATION & FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS

Anonymous  
Big Bethel A.M.E Church – 6<sup>th</sup> Episcopal  
District  
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company  
Gilead Science  
Janssen Therapeutics

Magic Johnson Foundation  
MERCK & Company  
National Minority AIDS Council  
United Way of Greater Atlanta  
Walgreens Community Pharmacy  
Wells Fargo Foundation

# Do Something Amazing Today !

ERC relies on voluntary donations from amazing people! Your donation is enabling simple solutions like health education and gifts of wellness to prevent infertility and cervical cancer.

\$25.00 – Provides one free HIV test so that mothers can learn their HIV status, which will result in fewer babies born HIV positive.

\$45.00 – Provides one gift of wellness scholarship to a young female to prevent cervical cancer. It will allow for the laboratory processing for an uninsured women to prevent future infertility.

\$60.00 – Makes it possible for a community nurse to attend the clinic and conduct risk-reduction counseling and treatment for one pregnant women infected with Syphilis to prevent infant blindness and death.

\$100.00 – provides linkage to care counseling for three people living with HIV; literature for one teen pregnancy prevention workshop; and one support group for HIV positive individuals.

## Your Generous Donation Provides :

- ♥ Routine Testing Services
- ♥ Low-cost Treatment
- ♥ Medical Supplies
- ♥ Clinic and Lab Supplies
- ♥ Safer Sex Kits
- ♥ Counseling and Risk Reduction Services
- ♥ Linkage to Care
- ♥ Support Groups
- ♥ Health Education Programs

Please mail this completed form with your check to: Empowerment Resource Center, Inc. 100 Edgewood Avenue, NE Atlanta Georgia, 30303 or make a donation online at: [www.erc-inc.org](http://www.erc-inc.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to Give Support through a tax-deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Generous Giving Begins with YOU