



## Caring Together Program Supports Community Members Living with HIV

### 2024 Outcomes

**646** medical patients  
served: **69** new

**31** people newly  
diagnosed as compared  
to **26** in 2023

**\$259,913** spent on  
financial assistance and  
supportive services

**80.9%** of patients  
retained in medical care  
(*national benchmark*  
80%)

**89.8%** of patients virally  
suppressed (*national*  
*benchmark 90%*)

In 1991, Family First Health began receiving Ryan White federal funding to provide HIV care. Ten years later, in 2001, Caring Together (CT) was formed to create a seamless system of high quality services and support for our patients. This included the start of a partnership with the WellSpan Community Health Center to provide additional medical care.

In addition to offering comprehensive medical care, we also offer CT consumers case management services at four office locations: York (*FFH George Street Center and WellSpan Community Health Center*), Hanover, and Gettysburg.

FFH is fortunate to have great staff to supporting this program. We have three medical providers caring for our patients: Dr. Asceline Go, Nicole Durham, CRNP, and Lisa DeWees, CRNP. All three are credentialed as HIV Specialists through the American Academy of HIV Medicine. There are four case managers and three clinical care coordinators to support our providers. We also have a clinical pharmacist, Dr. Natalie Crouse, PharmD, BCPS, AAHIVP., and a nutritionist Dr. Bailey Corbin-Marrah, RDN, LDN., on site.

Our services for this program are varied, and offer comprehensive support for our consumers. Here are just a few of the supports we offer:

- *Primary HIV medical care*
- *Clinical care coordination*
- *Nutritionist and pharmacist consultations*
- *Transportation, housing, and utility assistance*
- *Food, nutritional supplements, and prescription drug assistance*
- *Insurance applications, assistance with co-pays, deductibles, and premiums*
- *Risk reduction education and supplies*

# Making a Difference: A Proactive Approach with Caring Together

In addition to medical care and case management services, Caring Together takes a proactive approach to supporting community members by offering **free, confidential rapid HIV testing**. No appointment is necessary for our walk-in hours at the George Street Center (Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm) and at various events in the community. Last year the program completed **510** tests through this program, from which three people were confirmed positive.

Our Caring Together program averages **9 new enrollments** each month. This includes, but is not limited to, newly diagnosed individuals, self-referrals, and transfers. We work closely with the York City Bureau of Health, PA Department of Health, prisons, hospitals, and primary care offices to assure a smooth transition to our program.



*HIV Tapestry hanging in Caring Together*

In 1996, York City dedicated a **Garden of Serenity and Hope** as a memorial for those lost to AIDS and in honor of those living with HIV/AIDS. This beautiful garden is located in Albemarle Park in York City. Every year, we host recognition events at the garden in conjunction with **World AIDS Day** on December 1.



## Who is Ryan White?

FFH receives Ryan White funding to support the Caring Together Program and is named in honor of the teenage boy who contracted AIDS after receiving a blood transfusion in 1984. Ryan became a symbol of the AIDS epidemic, particularly for his courageous fight against discrimination and for his advocacy for better care and access for people living with HIV/AIDS. Ryan White Funding is available across the United States.

## What our Caring Together Consumers Have to Say:

- "I am thankful for the stability that the program provides me with my on-going rental assistance. Don't know what I would do without it."
- "I've always been treated with respect from day one. The service they provide is excellent, but that excellence is reflected in the administration and the assigned case managers. I've had several case managers over the years, but my current relationship with the office and case manager is very close and I'm here and stable because of them."
- "This program is amazing and my case manager goes above and beyond for my needs: she is my hero."

# Give Local York: Get Ready!

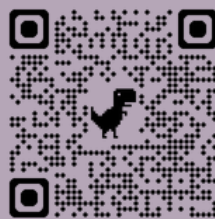
Give Local York, our biggest fundraising day of the year, is almost here: **Thursday, May 1 from 9:00 pm until Friday, May 2 at 9:00 pm.** Our goal is to engage **200 donors** to raise **\$25,000**, and you can help! There are many ways you can support Family First Health this year for this big celebration of philanthropy:

- **Make a donation** to support our school-based health centers at Hannah Penn K-8 and William Penn Senior High School in York. Did you know that we have health centers inside these schools that provide students with comprehensive primary health care and behavioral health support? Our teams at the schools provide care where students spend most of their time: in school, and help alleviate parental concerns about taking their children out of school for appointments or finding transportation to get to the doctor's office. **Your gift** helps us strengthen our programs to support the health and wellbeing of students through these essential **school-based health centers**. During Give Local York, you can make your donation here: <https://www.givelocalyork.org/organizations/family-first-health>
- Your gift goes further thanks to **challenges and matches** from generous local businesses! We are excited to have the support of GAVIN, Ream Printing, Bortner Brothers, Runwell Solutions and City Floors to help us unlock an additional **\$3,750** during Give Local York in support of our school-based health centers.
- Come join Brooke Lasher, PA-C, our provider at the Hannah Penn Center for **"Walk & Talk with a Doc"** on Friday, **May 2nd at noon!** We'll meet on the rail trail at the parking lot on the corner of Pershing Avenue and West Philadelphia Street in York. After a brief presentation on the importance of school-based health services, we'll take a walk on the rail trail. Enjoy this opportunity to learn about our programs, talk with Brooke, and get some exercise!
- Drop off **hygiene products** to support students in our school-based health centers. Items like shampoo, body wash, deodorant, and feminine hygiene products are always in high demand with students coming to our centers. You can **drop off new items** at The Glass Turtle Studio, 118 E. King Street, York. They are open Wednesday through Saturday noon to 6 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 pm. They will be open on Friday, May 2 for First Friday and Give Local York until 9 p.m.
- Catch us at **First Friday** on May 2nd! We'll have a table of fun, family-friendly activities and information about our school-based health center on N. Beaver Street during First Friday in downtown York. Come see us between 5:00 and 8:00 pm.
- Follow us on **social media**, and share our posts with your friends! Make your network aware of the good work we are doing in the schools to support health and wellness, and encourage them to give, too.



## Questions?

Contact Amy Amato, Senior Director of Development, at 717-801-4808 or [aamato@familyfirsthealth.org](mailto:aamato@familyfirsthealth.org)



Help us raise **\$25,000**  
for School-Based  
Health in York City.





## Calendar/Upcoming Events:

- **May 1 & 2:**

Give Local York. See page 3 for more details

- **May 12-15:**

Dine & Donate at Victor's Restaurant in York – May 12-15. Join us at 554 S. Ogontz Street in York to help raise funds for FFH through proceeds from your dining experience and gift card purchases. *Buon appetito!*



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York, PA 17401

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### *Our Mission*

#### WHAT WE DO

We improve lives; in **big ways** and **small ways**. From high quality health services and innovative partnerships to daily acts of compassion. In all ways, **we work together** to improve lives.

### *Our Vision*

#### WHY WE DO IT

*From healthcare to health for all*

**Closing** the gap  
**Paving** the way  
**Raising** the bar

### *Our Values*

#### WHAT GUIDES US

Patient Centered  
Collaborative  
Diverse  
Stewardship  
Evolving

**Columbia (Dental)**  
430 Walnut St., Ste. 101  
Columbia, PA 17512  
717.356.2233

**Columbia (Medical)**  
369 Locust St.  
Columbia, PA 17512  
717.342.2577

**George Street**  
116 S. George St.  
York, PA 17401  
717.845.8617

**Gettysburg**  
1275 York Rd., Ste. 17  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717.337.9400

**Hannah Penn**  
415 E. Boundary Ave.  
York, PA 17403  
717.843.5174

**Hanover**  
1230 High St.  
Hanover, PA 17331  
717.632.9052

**Lebanon**  
300 Willow St., Ent. B  
Lebanon, PA 17046  
717.356.2222

**Lewisberry**  
308 Market St.  
Lewisberry, PA 17339  
717.938.6695

**Springwood Road (Dental)**  
2003 Springwood Rd.  
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717.851.2655

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