



The reality of HIV/AIDS is changing in Austin

As new treatment protocols have changed the prognosis for people living with HIV/AIDS, our services have expanded. Today, PT provides: residential hospice care, short-term recuperative care for people who are homeless, transitional and supportive housing, and ongoing case management services for every client.

We serve the most vulnerable: homeless people, people with underlying issues like addiction or trauma, people living in extreme poverty. PT is the only organization in Central Texas providing a compassionate and cost-effective alternative to hospitalization and homelessness for people living with HIV/AIDS. Of the 113 unduplicated clients we served in 2015:

- 92% live below the Federal Poverty Line
- 49% were homeless before entering a PT program
- 73% are non-white
- 20% are children younger than 18

We are asking you for your financial support for PT's Recuperative Care program, which provides essential medical care and medication management to homeless individuals who are either newly diagnosed with HIV or living with AIDS and in need of 24-hour care. Recuperative Care is a short-term (45-90 days) residential program intended to orient patients to their treatment plans and enable them to care for themselves after discharge.

Recuperative Care services are provided in our Doug's House facility, which houses our hospice program and has 24-hour staff on site. **Recuperative Care gives frail and ill people what they need most:** space and time to rest and regain strength, connection to other service and basic needs providers, and a community of support that includes socialization opportunities, pet therapy visits, and spiritual support. The standard discharge directives for anyone newly diagnosed with HIV are to rest, eat healthy food, and take prescribed medications. For homeless or low-income people, these instructions are virtually impossible to follow. Patients needing Recuperative Care have often been sick for some time before being diagnosed, with many other underlying conditions like pulmonary disease, addiction, and Hepatitis C.

Through their stay in Recuperative Care, patients learn what they need to do to manage their disease. Staff monitors and tailors their medication schedule to best fit their lifestyle, ensuring that they will continue to adhere to the schedule after discharge. **There is no other program in Central Texas that provides immediate medical care and case management to homeless or low-income people who are diagnosed with HIV.**

Recuperative Care patients receive medication management, medical and mental health care, clothing and hygiene products, specialist coordination, benefits eligibility support, and harm reduction care for addictions. Patients leaving Recuperative Care receive ongoing case management services, resources for housing through other providers, and health care management from partners and government agencies.

Recuperative Care patients are not covered by other sources of public funding. PT's per client daily cost of \$284 is significantly less than the \$12,219 a day in the hospital would cost (source: txpricepoint.org). Your gift would help build effective, tailored treatment plans for our Recuperative Care clients.

In 2015, we served 13 Recuperative Care patients for a total of 585 service days. In the first six months of 2016 we have provided Recuperative Care to 11 patients, all of whom were homeless upon admission to the program.

PT has a number of benchmarks and goals for our clients to ensure that the services we provide have a real impact on their health and well-being, including:

- 60% will obtain permanent stable housing and the means to sustain it
- 80% will report improved quality of life during the measurement year
- 90% will report satisfaction with PT services

We hope with your generous gift we will help continue to provide critical medical services to people living with a chronic disease.

My best,

Craig T. Thibodeau | Executive Director

PROJECT TRANSITIONS

P.O. Box 4826 Austin, TX 78765 | 7101-B Woodrow Ave., Austin, TX 78757

p 512.454.8646 x 101 | f 512.454.5039 | cthibodeau@projecttransitions.org

Our Mission Statement

Project Transitions is dedicated to serving people with HIV and AIDS by providing hospice and recuperative care support in a compassionate and caring environment.

Our History

Project Transitions (PT) was created in 1988 to provide residential hospice care for individuals in the final stages of AIDS. PT was born in a time when an AIDS diagnosis nearly always meant death. The success of the agency's original Top Drawer thrift store (opened in 1993) enabled PT to expand its services to provide supportive housing for low-income people living with HIV. Today PT owns and operates three locations providing transitional and supportive housing. The Doug's House facility provides hospice and recuperative services to those who need 24-hour care.