Dear Friends & Supporters ~

In the darkest days of the AIDS crisis, the idea of creating a living memorial to honor ALL lives touched by AIDS, both those lost and those living, was first envisioned. For the last thirty years the core values - HEALING - HOPE - REMEMBRANCE - have been a steady beacon guiding the National AIDS Memorial mission: to honor the past, inform the present, and enlighten the future. This annual report provides an opportunity to review the last year and ensure we are staying true to the founding ideals.

2018 was another significant and eventful year.

Our core programs continued to thrive and expand their reach nationally, delivering profoundly moving outcomes to all those touched. The Community Volunteer Workday program surpassed 225,000 volunteer hours. Our workdays call forth a diversity of individuals who together continue to transform an environment and deepen an understanding of community engagement. The Pedro Zamora Young Leaders Scholarship program supported ten of the brightest lights of today's youth who are working in the field of HIV/AIDS and dedicated to creating a better tomorrow. The Surviving Voices Project highlighted the unique and multi-cultural journeys of the Asian & Pacific Islander communities, and continued the memorial's commitment to capturing and preserving the stories of the epidemic and leveraging them as education tools. The World AIDS Day National Observance was a deeply touching and heart-centered experience. Al & Jane Nakatani were honored for their love and compassion and channeling their grief to helping others after losing their three sons. The Recollectors were honored in a powerful and moving recognition for their national work connecting children who lost a parent to AIDS. In addition, the Artists Portal with the aid of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus was officially dedicated, forever memorializing those lost within the creative communities.

In 2018 we finalized the merger of The HIV Story Project. This augments our remembrance portfolio with over 1,500 video narratives and gives us the expertise to ensure the stories of the epidemic are recorded and preserved.

As we look to the future, it is with an unwavering commitment to ensure that every story is told. We embrace this responsibility in earnest as the nation’s federally-designated memorial to AIDS. In a future of zero new infections, our history will be more important than ever.

Thank you for your abiding support and interest in your National AIDS Memorial.

Tom Raffin  
Board Chair  

John Cunningham  
Executive Director
National AIDS Memorial Programs

National AIDS Memorial Story Project: Surviving Voices
Surviving Voices is an ongoing AIDS oral history project intended to ensure that stories and lessons of the epidemic are captured, curated, and retained for future generations. Although steeped in tragedy, the story of AIDS is rich in relentless determination and powerful in its success; a story with abundant lessons for current and future generations as they confront their own social justice challenges. Each year, we connect with partners (individuals, leaders, and organizations) from within a selected community and identify a list of activists and/or long-term survivors who represent a diverse cross-section of that demographic. We interview those individuals about the impact AIDS has had on their community, and how their community has shaped the response to AIDS in high-production value, multi-camera recording sessions.

Pedro Zamora Young Leaders Scholarship
We award scholarships to undergraduate students committed to fighting HIV/AIDS who intend to continue that fight through careers and post education public service. The Scholarship provides incentive and support to emerging young leaders to stay engaged in HIV prevention, treatment, advocacy, and other efforts. These individuals will be at the helm of the very systems, practices, interventions, research, and advocacy efforts that ultimately bring about the end of AIDS, and it is critical that they remain committed to that end. To date, we have awarded a total of $250,000 in scholarships to 68 young leaders from all corners of the US, representing a wide cross-section of gender, race, socioeconomic standing, sexual orientation, and HIV status. We receive an average of 350 applications each year.

World AIDS Day National Observance
World AIDS Day is observed globally in December each year for people to unite and recommit to the fight against HIV. The National AIDS Memorial’s World AIDS Day observance is our nation’s preeminent World AIDS Day event, and is a core program of the organization. Open to the public free of charge, it is a time to remember those who have died; acknowledge national leaders and unsung heroes; increase awareness about the ongoing impact of HIV/AIDS; and acknowledge emerging young leaders in the fight to end it. Recent National Leadership Recognition honorees have included Phill Wilson, founder, president and CEO of the Black AIDS Institute; Paul Kawata, executive director of the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC); and President Bill Clinton.

Community Volunteer Workdays
1,700 people participate in Community Volunteer Workdays each year, providing the 4,500 hours of (annual) volunteer labor necessary to maintain the 10-acre site. Today nearly 50% of our volunteers range from high school to college age, demonstrating a growing interest in volunteerism in younger generations. Numerous corporate and community groups, groups of faith, universities, high schools, and other youth groups participate on a regular basis. Since 1991, volunteers have donated more than 225,000 volunteer hours of labor worth more than $4 million. They have removed countless tons of brush and debris, and planted over 10,000 new trees, plants, and shrubs. They regularly scrub the Memorial’s numerous engraved hardscape features, and have resurfaced the roads and pathways that lead through it.
Financial results for the National AIDS Memorial are presented here and were compiled from data provided by our fiscal sponsor, The Tides Foundation. Tides is a 501(c)3 organization and manages all incoming and outgoing funds for NAM and processes all financial transactions on behalf of NAM. Tides provides a financial orientation that covers budgeting, coding expenses, monitoring expenses, the Tides chart of accounts, and reading and utilizing the monthly financial statements prepared by Tides.

NAM’s investments are made through Tides Foundation funds, which are managed by Walden Asset Management. Walden uses proactive shareholder engagement to challenge the largest corporations on human rights, executive compensation, climate change and diversity. Walden provides quarterly updates and annual impact reports highlighting the influence achieved by Walden’s engagements on a range of environmental, social and governance topics.

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