



2020 annual report



from our
board chair
MELINDA RAMAGE

Dear Friends,

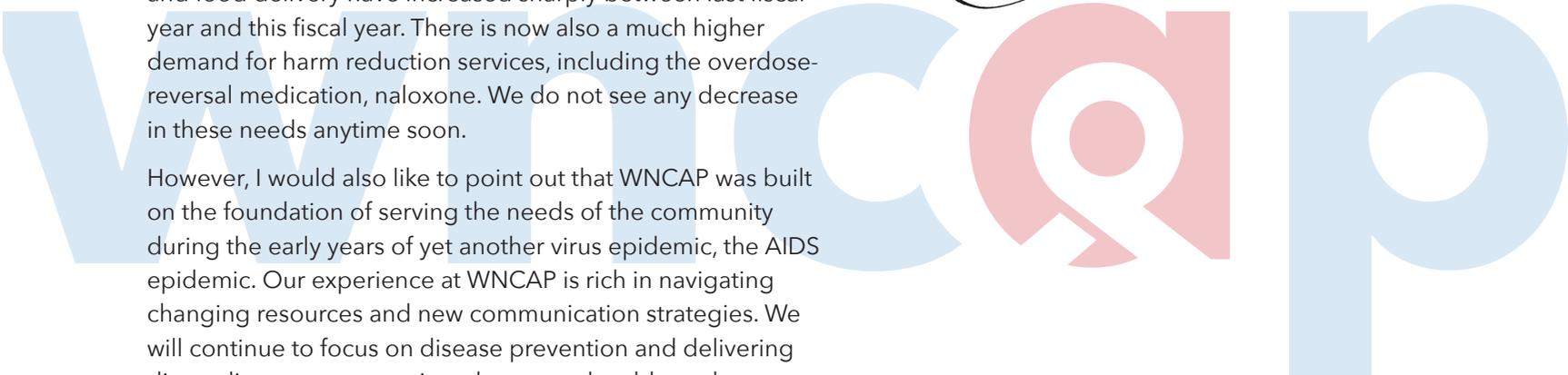
First and foremost, I extend my gratitude to all of you. I am well aware that you are taking the time to read this report in the midst of navigating new (and technology heavy) work and school environments, taking a deep look at all of our roles and responsibilities in social justice, while at the same time, performing daily tasks to decrease the spread of COVID-19. Thank you for spending your moment here.

COVID-19 has directly impacted the people we serve as well as how the staff is able to serve our clients. As you will see on the following pages, requests for case management services and food delivery have increased sharply between last fiscal year and this fiscal year. There is now also a much higher demand for harm reduction services, including the overdose-reversal medication, naloxone. We do not see any decrease in these needs anytime soon.

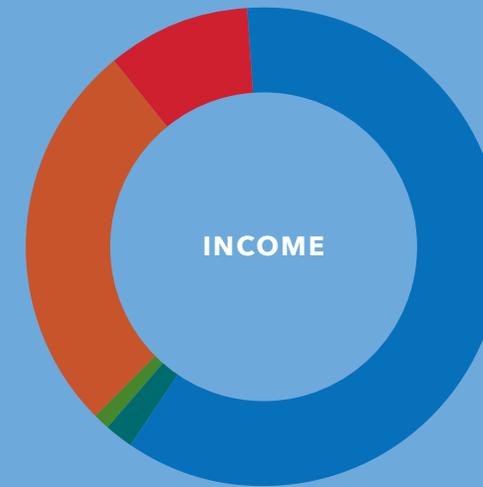
However, I would also like to point out that WNCAP was built on the foundation of serving the needs of the community during the early years of yet another virus epidemic, the AIDS epidemic. Our experience at WNCAP is rich in navigating changing resources and new communication strategies. We will continue to focus on disease prevention and delivering direct client support services that not only address those most basic needs but also promote client autonomy for those living with HIV.

I have 100% confidence that with the leadership of our Executive Director, Antonio Del Toro, the members of the board, the dedicated, hard-working WNCAP staff, and the hundreds of volunteers that dedicate their time and resources to the WNCAP mission, we will continue to succeed.

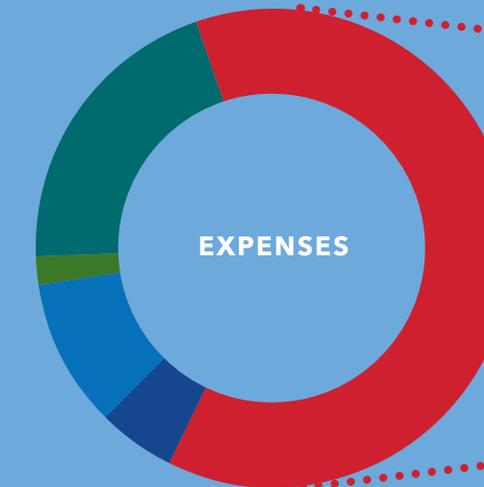
With much love,



JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020



INCOME		
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	\$ 529,962	27%
FOUNDATION GRANTS	\$ 190,823	10%
PHARMACY SERVICES	\$ 1,224,312	61%
FUNDRAISING EVENTS	\$ 30,775	2%
DONATIONS & MISC. INCOME	\$ 18,973	1%
Total	\$ 1,994,844	100%



EXPENSES		
OFFICE & GEN.	\$ 205,777	10%
FUNDRAISING	\$ 43,768	2%
PROGRAM & SERVICES	\$ 400,506	20%
SALARIES & PERSONNEL*	\$ 1,242,547	62%
OPERATING RESERVE	\$ 102,246	5%
Total	\$ 1,994,844	100%



*SALARIES & PERSONNEL		
MANAGEMENT/ADMIN.	\$ 196,804	16%
PROGRAMS & SERVICES	\$ 645,155	52%
FUNDRAISING	\$ 62,859	5%
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	\$ 337,730	27%
Total	\$1,242,547	100%




\$135,079
provided for rental, utility
and other emergency assistance

case management

HIV case management at WNCAP helps people living with HIV access the resources they need to stay engaged in care and thrive in their communities.

In the last fiscal year (July 2019-June 2020), WNCAP served **346** clients. Eight medical case managers and ten community navigators drove **106,789** miles to transport clients to medical appointments and other essential activities. WNCAP provided **102** clients a total of **\$135,079.08** in rental, utility, and other emergency assistance so they could remain housed and healthy.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been destructive for our whole community, but has had a disproportionate impact on people living with HIV. Our overall number of clients has increased **16%** from this time last year. The amount we have dispensed in emergency financial assistance has increased an incredible **51%**.

I would like to share that I love each and every one of you so much. Y'all have seriously been there for my partner and myself.

– WNCAP case management client

I don't know how I'd make it through the month without this food.

– WNCAP food delivery client



38.9 tons
food & personal care items
delivered to 169 people

food outreach

In collaboration with Loving Food Resources* (LFR), WNCAP delivers nutritious food to homebound individuals living with HIV across Western North Carolina.

Throughout fiscal year 2019-20, WNCAP volunteers drove **4,667** miles, delivering **38.9** tons of food and personal care items to **169** people living with HIV, including some of our most rural and isolated communities.

COVID-19 has drastically raised demand for food delivery services. WNCAP has seen a **62%** increase in the number of clients requiring food assistance. We are so grateful for the community support that allows us to provide a safety net for the most vulnerable people in our society.

* Loving Food Resources is a food pantry that provides food, health and personal care items to people in 18 counties of WNC who are living with HIV/AIDS or who are in Home Hospice care regardless of reason.



10,848
lifesaving overdose reversal
kits distributed

harm reduction

WNCAP's harm reduction program helps reduce the transmission of HIV and hepatitis C, prevent overdose deaths, connect clients to care, and promote safer drug use. Operating out of WNCAP offices in Asheville and Franklin, and now via a mobile unit throughout our far western counties, the harm reduction program is providing an essential service to people who often have nowhere else to turn.

The harm reduction community navigation program, launched this year, is a free, peer-based service available to interested syringe service participants. Community navigation offers clients support in accessing medical care, treatment, community resources, and a number of other vitally important services. The program empowers

individuals to address unmet needs on their own terms.

During the last fiscal year, WNCAP served **3,631** unique individuals and referred **294** people to care. A total of **10,848** overdose reversal kits were distributed and **1,357** overdose reversals were reported.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the opioid epidemic. Job loss and economic distress along with a critical lack of access to care for substance use disorder contribute to a rise in reported overdoses. This fiscal year, WNCAP has increased our naloxone distribution by a colossal **540%** to help save lives.



Thank you WNCAP! You guys are helping save lives and I cannot thank you enough!

– WNCAP harm reduction participant

Thank you so much for coming out to my job and helping us dispose of discarded syringes. I am deeply moved by how kind the volunteers were. It really meant a lot to be able to pick up the phone and call y'all.

– Local business owner



\$93,770
provided for out-of-pocket
prescription medication expenses

pharmacy services

The WNCAP pharmacy services program helps reduce barriers to treatment for people living with HIV. Our program provides financial assistance towards out-of-pocket costs for eligible clients who are underinsured.

We also assist uninsured clients with enrolling in patient assistance programs, including the HIV Medication Assistance Program (HMAP, formerly known as ADAP). WNCAP pharmacy services are zero-cost and provide free home delivery for clients who are homebound or lack transportation.

The pharmacy services program assists people in need of hepatitis C treatment

or emergency post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP). We also remove financial barriers to PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis), a once-daily pill taken to prevent transmission of HIV.

In the last fiscal year, WNCAP provided **\$93,770** in financial assistance toward out-of-pocket prescription medication expenses to **114** clients. Pharmacy services provided **23** PrEP referrals, **4** PEP referrals, and **27** hepatitis C treatment referrals. Our team also enrolled **35** people in patient assistance programs, including HMAP.

I had hepatitis C for years. I never would have been treated if I didn't have your support.

– WNCAP pharmacy services client

I love PrEP! I've been able to take it for two years because of y'all.

– WNCAP pharmacy services client



1,796
free, confidential
STI tests administered
161,230
free condoms distributed

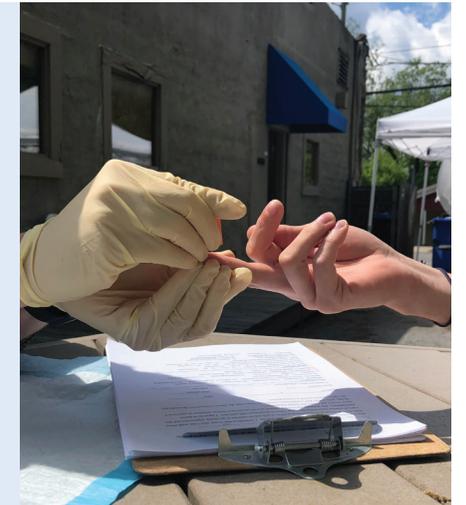
prevention

WNCAP envisions a world where everyone knows their HIV status and where there are no new HIV or viral hepatitis transmissions. In fiscal year 2019-20, WNCAP conducted **1,796** free, rapid, and confidential tests for HIV, hepatitis C, and STIs combined. We also distributed **161,230** free condoms at **48** community drop-sites.

We know that one of the best tools for HIV prevention is accurate and non-stigmatizing safer sex education. That's why we led **180** age-appropriate education sessions throughout our community.

Unfortunately, the mass shutdowns required by the COVID pandemic meant

that WNCAP could not go out into the community as much as we would like. Our number of HIV tests decreased **29%** from last year, and our prevention education sessions decreased **22%**. We hope that as certain institutions begin to re-open, we can continue our life-saving prevention work in a safe manner.



WNCAP is my favorite community support organization. The wonderful staff provides VaVaVoom with health & wellness products and literature to distribute free of charge. These items encourage and facilitate folks in making informed choices about their own lives, and in the lives of others. Thank you, WNCAP!

– Lisa Genevieve Ziemer,
President and Founder,
VaVaVoom



Statement of Purpose

The Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) provides HIV-related client support, prevention, education and advocacy activities guided by the belief that all people are entitled to equal access to health care.

2020 WNCAP Board of Directors

Melinda Ramage, *President*
 Harvey W. Jenkins, *Treasurer*
 Hope Bates
 David Guinn
 Eric Holt
 Kris Lang
 Bennett Lincoff
 Jacie Volkman
 Jamie Whitehouse
 Antonio Del Toro
Executive Director
 Iosvany Gispert
Associate Executive Director

I volunteer for WNCAP because someone was there when I was in need. Today I want to be that person for someone out there hurting and alone. I am a man living with HIV and living his best life! – WNCAP volunteer

I volunteer for WNCAP because I remember those lost in the 80s and 90s and want to help make a better future for people living with HIV/AIDS. – WNCAP volunteer

Asheville Office
 554 Fairview Road
 Asheville, NC 28803-2411
 (828) 252-7489

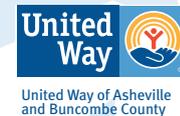
Macon County Office
 3257 Georgia Road
 Franklin, NC 28734
 (828) 349-0036

Cleveland County Office
 200 South Post Road
 Shelby, NC 28150
 (828) 367-8351

Harm Reduction Services
 (828) 301-2185

(828) 252-7489 wncap.org

WNCAP would like to gratefully acknowledge and thank the following foundations and funders for their support.



Thank you to our generous 2020 virtual event sponsors.

