



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A Note of Thanks

Thank you for your partnership! Of the 32 years I have served as Executive Director of the Montrose Center, this year stands out as one of the most memorable. As difficult as it has been, we have persevered, and I daresay triumphed, because of your continued support. Your generosity has kept us open and thriving throughout the pandemic, and I can't thank you enough.

At the Montrose Center, we are committed to meeting our community's evolving needs, and I am proud of how we accomplished that this year. We are distributing \$1.5 million in direct financial assistance and support to those struggling in the face of COVID-19. At the onset of the pandemic, we made a complete transition to tele-services in order to keep our community safe. Therapy and addiction recovery services became teletherapy, allowing us to expand our reach and serve clients throughout Texas. LGBTQ seniors were unable to gather for congregate meals, so we began making weekly food deliveries directly to their homes. The number of clients served by our domestic violence program increased by 87%, and in order to serve more homeless youth, we added a third case manager to provide rapid rehousing services. Fundraising events had to be cancelled, so we launched online campaigns, and you, our amazing supporters, exceeded our expectations every step of the way.

Through it all, we continued construction on the South's 1st LGBTQ-affirming affordable senior living center. The program is a dream late Clinical Director Chris Kerr and I shared for 15 years. Because of your support, the Law Harrington Senior Living Center will open in March 2021. It will be a home for 150 LGBTQ and low-income seniors.

We are proud to be one of the top three <u>largest</u> and <u>most comprehensive</u> <u>LGBTQ centers</u> in the nation. Throughout the pandemic, we continued services uninterrupted, avoided layoffs and offered raises to our dedicated staff.

Thank you for being a part of tonight's event, as we honor **Dalton DeHart** for decades of tireless service. His photography has been invaluable in celebrating LGBTQ Houston and preserving its history.

Sincerely, Ann J. Robison, PhD Executive Director

2020 LGBTQ COMMUNITY VISION AWARD RECIPIENT



Dalton DeHart

Having taken more than a million photos of LGBTQ Houston, Dalton DeHart has been celebrating our community, and capturing our history, for over 30 years.

Dalton's career began in United States Army where he reached the rank of Captain during his years of service. He spent the majority of his career in the classroom, first as a high school English teacher and later at San Jacinto College after receiving a doctorate in education. Before his retirement in 2006, he was awarded the prestigious Minnie Stevens Professor Award for his achievements and dedication to teaching.

Upon his retirement, he dedicated himself full-time to his community. He often works several events in a single day and photographs 450 community events a year. He has photographed parties, fundraisers, happy hours, candlelight vigils, political events, and everything in between. The organizations who have benefited from this work include: Miss Camp America, Omega House, Houston Pride Band, Hollyfield Foundation, Lambda Legal, Gay Men's Chorus, Bayou City Boys Club, Four Seasons, the Houston GLBT Political Caucus, Cloverdale Foundation, AIDS Foundation Houston, QFest, the LGBTQ Victory Fund, Crossroads Bookstore, OUT at TUTS, the Montrose Center, and several others.

He is currently a staff photographer for OutSmart Magazine. Over the years, he has won several awards, including Pride Houston Grand Marshall 2008, Kindred Spirits Community Treasure Award 2014, The Diana Foundation Award 2015, Houston Transgender Unity Committee's Transgender Archive Award 2015, and several OutSmart Gayest & Greatest Favorite Male Community Photographer awards voted on by his peers in our community.

When he works an event, Dalton's aim is to interact with every person there, from the honoree and hosts on stage to the staff and volunteers working behind-the-scenes. His positivity, humor, humility, and seemingly endless energy make him truly one of a kind.

"I enjoy taking photos because it allows me to elevate people and encourage them to be the best that they can be...My greatest desire is that people be able to see, through my pictures, the passion with which I take them."

We are honored to present the LGBTQ Community Vision Award to Dalton for his dedication, talent, and tireless work on behalf of us all.



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The Montrose Society was established to celebrate, recognize, and thank the community leaders whose generous support makes our work possible. Thank you to each of our members!

For more information, please visit bit.ly/montrosesociety



TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

WELCOME

Deborah Duncan EMCEE

Austin Davis Ruiz STAFF

Jason & Julia Wang EVENT CHAIRS

FOCUS ON SENIORS AND INVITATION OF SUPPORT

Tara M. Kelly BOARD PRESIDENT

> Jack Berger EVENT CHAIR

David Ramirez
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PRESENTATION TO OUR HONOREE

Annise Parker FORMER MAYOR & 2017 HONOREE

Dalton DeHart 2020 LGBTQ COMMUNITY VISION AWARD HONOREE

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT





87%

increase in people served through Anti-Violence Program



\$1.5 M

disbursed in financial assistance and COVID support



463

families served through our COVID Recovery efforts

"We really needed this support, and we are so grateful to the Center."



Throughout the pandemic, the Montrose Center has remained open, providing essential services to LGBTQ Houston, including: food to LGBTQ seniors, housing to homeless youth, and anti-violence services, teletherapy, substance use recovery, HIV prevention and support, case management, and much more.

At the onset of the pandemic, we launched our LGBTQ+ COVID-19 Recovery Fund. After all is said and done, we will have distributed \$1.5 million in direct financial assistance and COVID support to those struggling due to the pandemic. In March we also made a complete transition to telehealth services, and the online format allowed us to expand our reach, serving LGBTQ individuals throughout Texas.









free meals for LGBTQ seniors & caregivers



620

seniors served through SPRY programming



330

senior educational and social activities



608

youth served through Hatch Youth services



366

youth served through drop-in services



57

interventions with at-risk & homeless youth

LGBTQ seniors are more than twice as likely to live alone, and more than half of our senior participants live on less than \$1,250 a month. SPRY services ensure that LGBTQ seniors—heroes that paved the way and fought for the rights we now enjoy—stay healthy, connected, and active in their retirement.

Before the pandemic, activities included free lunches, exercise classes, haircuts, morning coffee, puzzles, and educational speakers. Since March, we have been making weekly food deliveries directly to our seniors' homes. Counseling services are provided by tele-therapy.

When the Law Harrington Senior Living Center opens in March 2021, it will be a home for 150 seniors to retire in community. No one will pay more than 30% of their monthly income on rent.



"I wouldn't be exaggerating to say the Center saved my life."



Hatch Youth started as a small meeting of LGBTQ youth in the basement of a church in 1987. Today, we serve over 600 youth each year, and services have expanded far beyond the drop-in services that have always been at the heart of Hatch.

We now lead a city-wide collaborative with 60 other agencies to end LGBTQ youth homelessness. We also provide rapid rehousing services. Since the program began, we have set up 72 youth in their own apartments, with staff providing guidance and support

to help them enter adulthood with independence and success.

We also provide weekly in-school support on local campuses through a collaboration with Communities in School. Annual Hatch celebrations include LGBTQ Youth Prom and participation in the Pride Parade.

"They make me feel like someone really cares about me."

MENTAL HEALTH



HIV



1,742

people received individual counseling



185

violence survivors received support & advocacy



92

clients served in substance use recovery



48,127

condom packs distributed



12,155

people educated about HIV and AIDS



4,137

clients received case management



Everyone deserves a safe place to explore behavioral and emotional issues, problems, and conditions without the fear of encountering prejudice, fear, ignorance, homophobia, transphobia, or heterosexism.

We focus on integrated care, offering a whole health approach to wellness and recovery and emphasizing screening and preventative care at affordable rates. In addition to traditional counseling, we are proud to offer a specialized substance use recovery program, as well as the only same-sex domestic violence shelter in Texas.

"My counselor has been incredibly helpful, and has absolutely been lifesaving for me."

"I now have great hope for my future."

We incorporate HIV prevention education throughout all our counseling and support services, as well as host educational events and community forums addressing a wide range of HIV-related topics. In addition, outreach workers empower those engaged in high-risk behavior to make healthier decisions, and educators provide thousands with knowledge about the disease and how to reduce risk of infection.



People living with HIV work with experienced clinical and medical case managers who provide access to a variety of services, including on-site primary medical care, crisis intervention, long-term planning, housing and job assistance, and much more. The Center also offers counseling and substance use recovery treatment dedicated to the specific needs of the HIV community.





\$17,625

in supplemental grocery assistance distributed to LGBTQ women in need



11,708

self-identified women received mental health & case management



750

individuals celebrated at women-centered community events

Volunteer care teams provide support to LGBTQ women living with chronic illness to help them live as independently as possible. They assist with work around the house, pet care, errands, and provide supplemental grocery assistance and transportation vouchers to help clients get to and from doctor appointments.

We work to eliminate barriers to healthcare and promote health and wellness for LGBTQ women. Our services are focused on queer, POC, and trans individuals and include political advocacy for awareness of LGBTQ health disparities.



"I've never felt more accepted. It's like a gift."

THANK YOU

COMMUNITY VISION AWARD RECIPIENTS

2020 **Dalton DeHart**

Tommie Ross 2019

District Attorney Kim Ogg

2017 **Representative Garnet Coleman**

Former Mayor Annise Parker

Judge Phillis Frye 2016

2015 Marion E. Coleman

2015 Ray Hill

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LEADERSHIP MATCH

Chris Robertson Tara M. Kelly Karen Carlson **Bryan Cotton Tina Burgos Nancy Sims**

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