

MCAVHN

Providing service and comfort to people affected by HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C

MENDOCINO COUNTY AIDS / VIRAL HEPATITIS NETWORK

SPRING 2016

Event of the Heart, Then and Now

The fall edition of this newsletter honored the founding of MCAVHN 29 years ago. Much has changed since those early days of AIDS. An HIV positive diagnosis is no longer a death sentence.

We recently Celebrated the 29th Annual Event of the Heart, our major fundraiser of the year. From year one the Event has been known as an evening of "great food, great wine, great entertainment and a great gift, the gift of love" (per Carole Hester of the Ukiah Daily Journal, February 6, 1991).



*First Annual Event of the Heart, February 13, 1988
photo courtesy of the Ukiah Daily Journal*

The very first Event was held at the Saturday Afternoon Club on February 13, 1988. The Ukiah Daily Journal was instrumental in raising awareness of AIDS and in generating interest in that first big fundraiser. They ran a series of articles about the local response to the crisis, highlighting the founding of MCAVN (Mendocino County AIDS Volunteer Network, as we were known back then). Another article reported the alarming rate of suicide among AIDS patients.

Individuals and businesses from all over the county came forward to meet the challenge. The thank you lists were as long as the ones we are printing in this edition of our newsletter.

72 guests attended that first Event. Local chefs Richard DiGiulio, Liz Perkins and the legendary Dana Krumb Kaldveer came together to prepare the feast and Lov'in Spoonful Catering was born. Nineteen local wineries offered libations, and Allen Cherry, sommelier, paired wine with food for each course. Tickets for dinner and dance were \$35 per person,

but dancing to Tambo, a local African beat band, was also open to those who paid \$5 admission. The Event raised \$4000.

AIDS back then not only meant a painful death, but also often resulted in social isolation, being shunned or feared by others afraid of becoming infected themselves. When announcing the first Event of the Heart executive director Deborah Mead was quoted as saying "People that are really afraid of AIDS especially should support this because we are willing to provide the volunteer services that may cost the community."

Those services remain the core of what MCAVHN is about, but new needs have emerged as AIDS has become a manageable disease. As the agency began delivering outreach services for prevention and harm reduction to the extremely high-risk injection drug users within Mendocino County they were found to have a very high rate of Hepatitis C as well as multiple chronic health conditions. The services that have evolved are listed on page 3.



*Dinner, dancing and a rare opportunity to dress to the nines
at the 29th Annual Event of the Heart*

The Event of the Heart continues to be our major fundraiser. The venue has changed from the Saturday Afternoon Club to Carl Purdy Hall to the Ukiah Valley Conference Center. We now seat up to 250 for dinner. The ticket price has more than doubled. The list of caterers, musicians, speakers, donors, and sponsors from over the years evokes memories of friends and institutions that have come and gone and could fill another newsletter, so stay tuned.

HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS, DONORS AND RENT ANGELS

Alan Swanson	Donald & Lynda Coursey	Just Give	O'Haru
Alfred Winter	Doug Ott	Katrina Frey	Organic Attire
Alley Grill	Dragon's Lair	Keith Faulder	Orr Hot Springs
Allyne and J. David Brown	Dripworks	Kerry Talbot	Park Falls Dental
Anderson Valley Brewing	Eddie's Cocina	Kit Elliot	Patrick & Linda Nagel
Angela Ferrari	Edith Lucas	Dr. Lawrence Goldyn	Patrona Restaurant & Lounge
Anthony Morris	Edward Fox	Leila Kazimi & Neal Mettler	Price Waterman
Best in Show	El Azteca Restaurant	Lillian's Medical Spa	Rivino Winery
Bill Daniel	Elaine Boults	Little River Inn	Romi's Brew and BBQ
Bob Dress	Enoteca	Liz Popowski	Safeway
Bona Marketplace	Eric Banks	Majide! Machiko & Paul	Salon 309
Boutique 120	Esther Faber	MaryJane	Sanhedrin Nursery
Boys & Girls Club of Ukiah	First Nails	Mason & Morrison	Saucy
Brenda Hoek	Friedman's	Massages by Chao	Seebass Family Wines
California Balsamic	Gamestop	Matt Harris	Sharon Govern
Carmen Harris	George & Estela Rau	Melissa Wuoltee	Shoe Fly and Sox
Carol Gottfried	Ginerva Chandler	Mendo Bistro	Skunk Train
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Char Jacobs	Spa	Mendocino Barkery	Starbucks Airport Park
Charlie Seltzer	Habitat	Mendocino Book Company	Sword and Board
Chris Hall	Haiku Designs	Mendocino Bounty	Sysan Hofberg
Christine Miller Chiropractic	Handley Cellars	Mendocino Brewing Company	Taqueria Michoacan
Club Calpella	Heidi's Yarn Haven	Michelle Murray	Tony's Barber Shop
Craft Distillers Spirits	Honey Fluff	Mike Kobel	Ukiah Garden Café
Craig McMillan	Husch Vineyards	Mz. White	Ukiah Nail and Spa
Crush	James and Patti Williams	Naughty Boy Vineyards	Ukiah Players Theater
Curry's Furniture	Jane Eller	Navarro Vineyards	Ukiah Valley Rentals
David and Linda Koppel	Jane Gardiner	Nomad's World	Villa Del Mar
Dennis Hall & Don Edwards	Jim Crelan	Norm & Susan McLean	Walter Café
Diana Van Der Byl	Joanne Koppel	North Coast Brewing	Whispering Winds Nursery
Diane Daubeneck	Josh Koppel	Oco Time	William Richards



OUR HARD WORKING VOLUNTEERS

Deborah McLearn, Karen Lee, Yoli Rose, Gudrun Allenstein, Lillian Cohn, Vicki Bitonti-Brown, Betty Davis, Liz Popowski, Liz Elmore, Linda Koppel, David Koppel, Rosalie Anchodoguy, Seth Delaney, Steve Prochter, Frank McGarvey, Susan Era, Dan Jenkins, Alese Jenkins, Gabe Prochter, Amy Wolitzer, Josh Koppel, Joanne Koppel, Miriam McNamara, Casey McNamara, Victoria Harris, Sondra Madson, Matt Harris, Mike Kobel, Mike Newark, Cara Korhummel, Henry Shebbitz, Robin Sagen, Maria Ruiz, Paul Murguia, Michael Miller, Ray Padilla, Mike Wiles, Mr&Mrs Orozco, Mr & Mrs Chicago Billy, Jewels, Fernando Velazquez, Steve Cook

MCAVHN SERVICES

Care Management/Advocacy
Including Specialty Mental Health

Food Resources

Behavioral Health Court

Transportation Assistance

Client Social Events

Drop-in Center

Consumer Education

Support Groups

Hep C and HIV Treatment Support

Syringe Exchange/Overdose Prevention

Educational Presentations

Community Health Outreach

ROSOC Case Management*

Training for Interns

Community Service Hours

*ROSOC - Recovery Oriented Systems of Care,
Helping individuals reduce harmful practices
and meet their life goals.



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The People Who Made It Happen

Event Chair Judy Popowski
Auction & Wall Decor Claudia Prochter
Floral Design Wil Gonzalez & Crew
MC Terri Boudreaux
Speaker Anthony Cellini
Auctioneer Sheriff Tom Allman
Bar April Cipriano-Haines
Display Maker Don Popowski
Reception Terri Boudreaux
Publicity & Photos Susan McLean
Ellery Clark Catering
Majide! Machiko & Paul
Double Standryd



*Curious about the controversy around our
community's response to homelessness?
Google "housing first".*



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MANY THANKS TO EVENT OF THE HEART SPONSORS, DONORS AND RENT ANGELS

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Medical Center*



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**Wil Gonzalez
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Tony Berno

MacCallum House Inn

Lula Cellars

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Potter Valley Soapworks
Heidi Dunham

Howie Hawkes and Maryann Landis



*Sheriff Tom Allman
Auction Donor &
Auctioneer Extraordinaire*

MCAVHN's Mission: To provide services & comfort to persons & families affected by HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C & the co-occurring disorders of mental illness & substance abuse.