

# Services

## Case Management

The purpose of the Case Management Program is to help people living with HIV/AIDS maintain an optimal level of health by focusing on individual client needs. Case Managers link clients with appropriate health and support services and also serve as their advocate. Case Managers work with clients and their families to access services through Piedmont Care or other community organizations. Case Managers determine each client's eligibility for Piedmont Care services, which may include:

- Financial assistance for approved
  - Outpatient medical care
  - Medications
  - Insurance assistance
  - Dental care
  - Transportation
- Short-term rent and utility assistance
- Nutritional Supplements
- Prevention and health education
- Referrals to other community resources

Clients are empowered to be responsible for their own health and wellness. Each client is assigned a Case Manager to contact for assistance. In the absence of the assigned Case Manager, another will be available. To help ensure situations are addressed appropriately, clients should contact their Case Manager as quickly as possible. As with all Piedmont Care staff, Case Managers follow strict rules for confidentiality and are expected to treat all clients with dignity and respect.

## HIV Testing & Counseling

HIV testing and counseling at Piedmont Care is easy and confidential. Walk-ins welcome. Appointments encouraged. A photo ID is required. HIV testing includes pre-test and post-test counseling, risk assessment, and linkages to services.

## Referral and Intakes

Referrals come from those who administer HIV tests, such as family doctors, hospitals, and health departments. However, if you or someone you know is living with HIV/AIDS and is in need of help or more information, please call our office at (864) 582-7773 or toll free at 1-866-454-7773. An intake appointment can be scheduled with a Case Manager.

## Prevention & Health Education

The Health Education Program is designed to provide education and tools which help reduce the spread of HIV. The Health Educator assists clients and their support network understand how their lives are impacted by HIV/AIDS. Activities and interventions address individual client needs in a safe, nonjudgmental manner. The Health Educator is required to maintain strict rules of confidentiality.

## Short Term Rent & Utility Assistance

Despite taking the necessary steps to budget your monthly income, emergencies may occur. To help prevent homelessness, Piedmont Care can assist with rent/mortgage payments or utility expenses, depending on the client's needs and eligibility. Case Managers may also help clients apply for other housing assistance programs. It is the intent of Piedmont Care to provide clients the tools to maintain safe and affordable housing.

## Medication Assistance

HIV positive people are generally prescribed several medications that can be very expensive. Case Managers can help clients access drug assistance programs to cover all or most of the cost of their medications, based on eligibility requirements.

## Insurance Assistance

People with health insurance have more health care options than those who don't. Unfortunately, the cost of premiums and copayments can be unbearable. Piedmont Care strives to help clients maintain their health insurance coverage. Eligible clients may receive financial assistance with payment of insurance premiums, COBRA premiums, and/or medication copays and deductibles.

## Transportation

Attending medical appointments is extremely important to maintaining good health; especially for people living with HIV/AIDS. But often times, getting transportation to the appointment can be a challenge. Transportation to the doctor's office and other approved appointments, such as Social Security or Vocational Rehabilitation, may be available.

## Nutritional Supplements

Nutritional supplements can help HIV positive people maintain a healthy weight. In addition, nutritional supplements may help people tolerate powerful HIV medications. Piedmont Care may provide nutritional supplements for clients as recommended by a physician or other medical provider.

## Mental Health Counseling

Mental health services help clients cope with an HIV diagnosis, deal with long-term care issues, and encourage adherence to complex medical regimens. Individual counseling appointments with a mental health professional are available.

## Emergency Financial Assistance

In the event that an emergency arises and the client is not eligible for assistance from other agencies, Piedmont Care may be able to assist. Situations are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

## Language Services

Piedmont Care recognizes that HIV can infect men, women, and children of any age, race or ethnicity. By accessing translation and interpretation services in the community, Piedmont Care is prepared to serve all clients.

## Outpatient Medical Care

Piedmont Care is committed to helping clients access appropriate medical care. Through our partnership with the Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System Infectious Disease Clinic, comprehensive care is more readily available.

- **Specialty Care:** Infectious Disease Physicians and a Physician Assistant are available to provide HIV care during clinic hours.
- **Primary Care:** A Physician Assistant is available for appointments and walk-ins.
- **Mental Health Counseling:** Individual appointments and group sessions are available with a Mental Health Professional.
- **Nutrition Education:** A nutritionist is available to address questions and concerns. Nutritional supplements are available at the clinic.

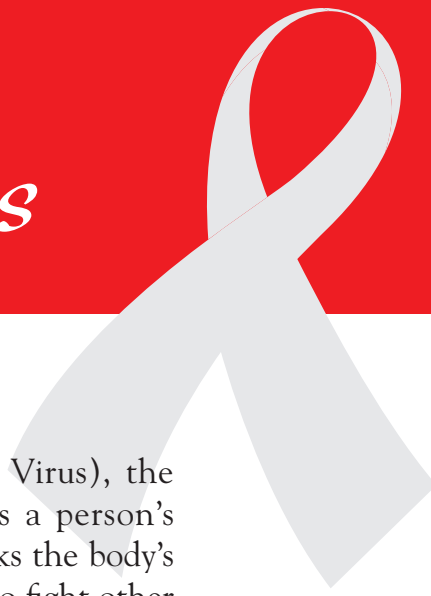
## Community Awareness & Education

Awareness and Education are essential to preventing the spread of HIV. The staff of Piedmont Care is available to provide community education sessions focusing on HIV/AIDS and the services we provide. If you are interested in scheduling a free educational session, please contact us.


  
**Piedmont Care** INC.

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# The Facts



## WHAT IS HIV?

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), the virus that causes AIDS, weakens a person's ability to fight disease. HIV attacks the body's defense system so that it is unable to fight other illnesses. People with HIV can develop diseases or infections that usually are not harmful for people with healthy immune systems.

## HOW IS HIV SPREAD?

- By having unprotected sex (anal, vaginal, or oral) with an HIV-infected person;
- Sharing needles with an HIV-infected person to inject drugs, medicine, steroids, or vitamins, or for body piercing or tattoos;
- An HIV-infected mother to her baby.

## HIV IS NOT SPREAD BY:

- Giving blood;
- Casual contact like sharing office space, utensils, bathrooms, handshakes or telephones with an HIV-infected person;
- Animal or bug bites, including mosquitoes.

## HIV KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES

HIV can infect men, women, and children of any age, race or ethnicity. With the development of new medications, and increased knowledge, more HIV-infected individuals will live longer and fuller lives. If you or someone you know is living with HIV/AIDS and is in need of help or more information, please call us. All information is strictly confidential.

## HIV TESTING & COUNSELING

Early testing is the key to staying healthy, so don't wait until you get sick to get tested for HIV. The Center for Disease Control estimates that one-fourth of people living with HIV in the United States are unaware that they are HIV positive.



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*Fighting HIV and AIDS through care, prevention, and advocacy.*

CASE MANAGEMENT • PREVENTION EDUCATION • MEDICAL CARE • TRANSPORTATION • MEDICATION • LANGUAGE SERVICES • AWARENESS



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prevention, and advocacy.*

## *Mission Statement*

The mission of Piedmont Care, Inc., an educational and advocacy organization, is to coordinate and provide medical, social, and psychological services for individuals and families affected by or at risk for HIV.

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