



**AFRICAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2018**



MISSION

AFRICAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

is a non-profit **human rights** organization dedicated to improving the health and self-sufficiency of the African community. African Services Committee provides **health, housing, legal, educational,** and social services to thousands of newcomers each year in **New York City**. African Services Committee also works on the frontlines of the global **AIDS epidemic**; operating five grassroots clinics in **Ethiopia**, and through **advocacy and policy work** in the U.S. and abroad.



JUNE 1979

I left Ethiopia in 1977 during the so-called Red Terror campaign where hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians were executed as a result of the political upheaval. I walked from Ethiopia to the Sudan and was fortunate enough to be given an opportunity to come to this country as a political refugee. That was in 1979, June, when I arrived here [United States of America] there was literally no organization, whatsoever, that voices, advocates on behalf of African refugees - that is how it [African Services Committee] started. I said 'I am here now, the opportunity in front of me, I need to do something and initiate a program and be a positive member of society.'

— African Services Committee's Founder and Co-executive Director **Asfaha Hadera** during a televised interview on African American Legends hosted by **Dr. Roscoe C. Brown**, CUNY University Professor.

GRAPHIC DESIGN BY MACKENZIE CRONE

NOV 1982

We open our first office at the Community Church of New York

JULY 1987

Our refugee resettlement program begins in NYC

MARCH 1991

We launch our HIV prevention outreach program for African immigrants



DEAR FRIENDS

*Give me your
tired, your poor,
Your huddled
masses yearning
to breathe free.*

These are the words inscribed on the statue of liberty. What hope they provide for the millions of people who docked on the shores of America.

That was then. Look at what is happening today on the southern borders of the United States of America. We see thousands of children ripped from the arms of their parents seeking asylum. We see thousands of families torn apart with little hope of justice. The numerous volunteers and non-government groups who are trying to help is met with disdain and obstruction by our current administration.

The African Services Committee (ASC), in Harlem, New York City grew out of a need to help Ethiopian people seeking refuge in the early 1980's. The organization today helps immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers from all over the world. African Services Committee's programs are robust.

Immigrants to our wonderful city are assisted with housing, health care, education. ASC boasts a thriving Immigrant Community Law Center to assist immigrants living in absolute fear in this city as threats of rounding up immigrants abounds the news outlets.

The work of African Services does not apply to New York alone. This was among the first organizations in Africa to address the devastation of HIV. The Ethiopian programs are run by dedicated local professionals, providing services to more than 20,000 people each year in three health and community development centers. The programs include both screening and treatment of communicable diseases, income generating support, and nutrition services.

This not-for-profit human rights organization works diligently with local and government organization as advocates and policy makers. As with any organization, it is as strong as its people. The Founders/Co-Directors, Asfaha Hadera and Kim Nichols along with the board members give selflessly of their time to provide the best and most comprehensive services for their clientele. Special partners contribute needed financial support. You are invited to visit our headquarters in Harlem to learn how you too can become part of this great organization right here in New York City.

Mary Moran | Board Member

DEC 1994

Our name changes to
African Services Committee

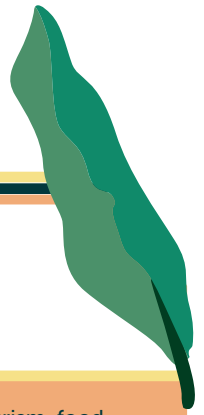
MARCH 1998

We begin HIV legal services &
case management for immigrants
and their families

JULY 1998

The UN Economic and Social Council
approves African Services special
consultative status to the United Nations

SPOTLIGHT



Entrepreneurship and Innovation from Africa and the Diaspora

African Services Committee showcased three trailblazers in entrepreneurship, food, culture, and hospitality from the Continent and the Diaspora with brilliant “Purveyor of international cool”, Claude Grunitzky of True Africa moderating the lively panel discussion, which took place at Troutman Sanders LLP. Panelists Master Chef Pierre Thiam of Yolele Foods and Teranga, Hawa Hassan, founder and CEO of Basbaas, and Founder of Anoko Shimite Obialo shared their insight and experiences with a captive audience.



Le Spiderman Honored at African Services Committee

African Services Committee joined Soninkara in America, The Council of African Imams, and community leaders in honoring Mamoudou Gassama, also known as “Le Spiderman”. Mamoudou Gassama reached international acclaim for his heroism after climbing four stories on the outside of a block of flats in Paris, in 30 seconds, to save a four-year-old boy who was hanging from a balcony.



ASC Hosts Shape Up NYC Exercise Classes

ASC’s Harlem office was filled with fitness throughout 2018 through an ongoing partnership with Shape Up NYC, which is a free, drop-in fitness program with locations across the five boroughs. Each week, fitness instructors led ASC clients, staff and the community through aerobics, yoga, Pilates, Zumba, and more.

JUNE 1999

Our HIV Housing Program begins

APRIL 2000

African Services moves to Harlem

JUNE 2001

We play a key role in the first UN General Assembly Special Session on AIDS

At Least 1,900 Immigrants Were Rejected Because of Mail Problems



ICLC Helps Expose DACA Mail Delays in New York Times Report

Behind the scenes and on the record with the New York Times, ASC Immigrant Community Law Center Staff Attorney Mauricio Noroña contributed to breaking coverage of the errors committed by both the U.S. Postal Service and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services where hundreds of DACA renewal applicants were adversely affected. The reporting by New York Times journalist Liz Robbins in the piece "At Least 1,900 Immigrants Were Rejected Because of Mail Problems" exposed the issue nationality and applied the necessary pressure to remedy the situation.



ASC's Queer Black Immigration Project's Inaugural Pride Celebration

ASC's Queer Black Immigration Project, or QBIP, hosted a Pride Celebration story circle and open mic featuring MC Ayodeji, thanks to NYC Pride's Pride Gives Back grant funding. ASC's LGBTQ services in NYC provide pro-bono legal representation to create a path for LGBT African and Caribbean immigrants to assert asylum claims.



Asylum Granted! ASC Launches Pro Bono Legal Program

African Services Committee's Pro Bono Legal Program launched in 2018 to help boost ASC's capacity to represent the surge of immigrants coming to our doors seeking immigration legal services. Private pro bono partners contributed 1800 hours and 15 volunteer attorneys volunteered 4,100 hours of time in 2018 — handling several asylum and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) cases. "It is an amazing and substantial amount of work and everyone benefits from the program: Young associates get to go to the asylum office and develop their trial and litigation skills, our clients benefit from being represented, and ASC benefits by being able to serve more people," says ASC Senior Immigration Attorney and Pro Bono Coordinator Aminat Sabak.

"My day to day differs [at the firm I work at], but the motivation is very different: The motivation to work with clients where the case is a matter of life and death rather than a matter of hundreds of millions of dollars," says pro bono attorney, Debbie (pictured here with Pro Bono colleague Patrick, both from Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher LLP) who was part of a pro bono legal team under the newly launched pro bono legal program at ASC.

APRIL 2002

African Services joins the NGO communities' delegation to the board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria

JAN 2003

African Services becomes the North American representative to the UNAIDS Coordinating Board

JULY 2003

African Services Ethiopia is established, launching our first testing center in Addis Ababa



LEGAL PROGRAM



Blanca at African Services Committee in Harlem. Image by Mariam Carrasquero/ The New York Times

“The threats from her boyfriend came daily, fear having no respite, Blanca said. If she were to leave him, he told her from his jail cell, he would torture her, cut her into pieces and leave her to die. He was a member of the 18th Street gang in Honduras, and they did these sorts of things. She tried to resist. Then he threw her against a wall when she visited him in jail, the police nowhere to be found. When his fellow gang member later raped and impregnated her, and then another threatened to kill her, she finally fled to the United States in 2013.”

AS REPORTED BY LIZ ROBBINS IN
THE NEW YORK TIMES ON JUNE 12, 2018.

“This administration is conducting a systemic attack on immigrants. This is not directed solely at illegal or undocumented immigration. It is really directed at immigration in general. It goes against the law. It goes against stated principles of this country and we see it everyday,” says ASC and ICLC Supervising Attorney Mauricio Noroña. “This attack against immigrants has come in different ways. It feels like it used to be maybe a monthly occurrence, then it became weekly, and now it almost feels like every day there is something new.”

African Services Committee’s Immigrant Community Law Center (ICLC) attorneys represented Blanca, whose pioneering, domestic violence and gang based claim for asylum was put in jeopardy because of the decision issued by Attorney General Sessions, stripping longstanding protections from those who need it most — asylum seekers. Throughout 2018, African Services Committee’s dedicated legal team provided legal services in a culturally-competent, safe, and multilingual environment, while advocating and educating the community, to dispel widespread uncertainty and fear created by the Administration’s ongoing attack against immigrants and families.

Made up of licensed attorneys and paralegals, ASC legal staff provide a range of free legal services, and low-fee immigration legal representation, through our Immigrant Community Law Center (ICLC), for clients who don’t qualify for our free services. Under the guidance of ASC’s Supervising Attorney and ASC’s Pro Bono Coordinator, ASC’s pro bono legal program began in 2018 to help serve the influx of newcomers in need of immigration legal services. ASC provided direct, pro-bono legal representation to create a path for LGBT African and Caribbean immigrants to assert asylum claims based on sexual orientation and/or HIV/AIDS status.

MARCH 2005

Our second clinic in Ethiopia opens, a public-private partnership to serve employees of BGI and greater Amhara Region

SEPT 2005

African Services Ethiopia marks an important milestone – 25,000 HIV tests provided

MAY 2006

We celebrate our 25th anniversary in NYC

ASC launched a two-year legal services initiative in 2018 aimed at increasing the number of African and Caribbean immigrant women in New York City who are empowered to seek relief as survivors of gender-based violence. "The experiences of immigrant women impacted by gender-based violence are often exacerbated by their vulnerable position as immigrants, such as difficulties obtaining employment and lack of access to information and legal representation," says ASC Equal Justice Works Fellow Samah Mcgona Sisay, who leads the program.

ASC also continued participation in the The New York Immigration Coalition's Black Immigrant Engagement Initiative (BIEI), which was designed to build collaboration between different black immigrant-led community groups to boost support and legal services to the black immigrant community.

ICLC's innovative, low-fee model was designed to address the current complexity and volume of this ever-changing climate. Before ICLC, immigrants often had two choices in immigration legal service providers: Free, restricted services with long wait times, or private representation that is largely unaffordable or predatory. ICLC was created to provide an innovative solution that fills a gap in services and offers immigrants a better option for legal representation.

"We give everything that we have and more to make sure our clients are competently and well-represented, and are aware of the risks that now exist that didn't exist before," says ASC/ ICLC attorney Jessica Greenberg.

From left; Associate at Cyrus D. Mehta & Partners PLLC (and 2016 ASC legal intern) Sophia, African Services Committee Staff Attorney Deirdre, ASC Immigrant Community Law Center attorney Jessica, and ASC's indispensable multilingual volunteer Lucia volunteered to assist asylum seekers detained at a remote ICE detention facility in Folkston, Georgia through a Southern Poverty Law Center program.

ASC LEGAL SERVICES IN ONE YEAR:

From Algeria to Jamaica to Zimbabwe ASC's Legal team **served** nearly **120 countries** across the globe **in 2018**

490 CASES

From asylum to removal defense, ASC's ICLC team helps nearly **500 immigrants** seeking legal services **each year**.

400 CASES CLOSED

ICLC's innovative, low-fee model **closes** roughly **400 cases each year**. Whether you are joining our Pro Bono Program, volunteering your language skills, or donating, with your support we will help many more newcomers find their footing in a new land.

1000+ 'KNOW YOUR RIGHTS' PRESENTATION ATTENDEES

Myths abound and are perpetuated in immigrant communities because of the complexity of ever-changing immigration law. ICLC wants to tackle and dispel these myths, as well as **fully inform** each immigrant **of his or her rights and options**. To accomplish this goal, ICLC works with immigrant associations, organizations, and schools where the ICLC attorneys speak at meetings or events. Topics of discussion have included: authorized service providers, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, overview of "paths to citizenship", and DAPA.



JULY 2007

Doors open at our third clinic in Mekele, Northern Ethiopia

MAY 2008

Pediatric HIV care is begun at all three clinics in Ethiopia

MAY 2009

African Services Co-executive Director joins UNITAID as NGO alternate board member



“The dream of the immigrants who came to Ellis Island, their dream, my dream, and the dream of the new immigrant is the same dream. Nothing has changed. We are all immigrants, have been immigrants or are descendants of immigrants. Everybody deserves the same chance to better their condition, to have opportunity for their children. The immigrant is in the pursuit of the American dream.”

ASC HOPWA HOUSING DIRECTOR, AIDA DIALLO-DIAGNE

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

ASC’s housing assistance team advocates and assists in the placement of new immigrants and finds rental assistance on a long-term basis for clients affected by HIV/ AIDS — a proven first step to better treatment and a healthier life. A typical new ASC client in need of housing assistance hails from Africa, the Caribbean, or Latin America and walks in to African Services Committee’s offices in Harlem with a suitcase and no where else to go. Often they were referred by another NYC-based agency, or by family or friend in their country of origin.

“I’ve had several clients who’d just come in from the airport with my business card, or copy of my business card, from Burkina Faso, or from Ivory Coast, for example, because someone referred them, saying: ‘If you come to African Services Committee, they will help you,’” says ASC HOPWA Housing Director, Aida Diallo-Diagne. “People trust African Services because we understand their culture, because we understand certain boundaries. And it doesn’t matter where you come from, someone at African Services Committee will speak your dialect or your language.”

In 2018, 125 families found homes with the help of African Services Committee’s Housing Placement Assistance program. The team also provided thousands of housing-related services to clients affected by HIV/AIDS — people who often face discrimination and rejection from family, friends and roommates and can suffer from a loss of income because they are too sick to work.

ASC’s Housing Department’s word is their bond — not only with clients — but when it comes to the rapport the team must develop with landlords and brokers, as most ASC Housing Assistance Program clients have no financial documents or a credit score — nothing that would allow them to go through the regular process of applying for an apartment and being approved for it. The team must also be keen navigators of New York City’s housing market, and multitask in the face of emergencies. Once a client is placed in a new home, the department helps furnish the apartment, makes referrals whenever further supportive services are needed, and monitors post-placement living conditions.

The program is supported by a number of sources, including HOPWA, which is administered by The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the MAC AIDS Fund.

CASE MANAGEMENT



Emily Bishop, ASC Health Education Officer offers tips to clients on how to manage stress.

Each year, thousands of individuals and families turn to the caring and multilingual case-management provided by African Services Committee's Individual Case Management and Family Case Management teams. These intensive programs were launched in 1994 to support immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers and their families affected by HIV/ AIDS.

ASC's Family Case Management staff, under the Supportive Counseling Program, served approximately 150 families in 2018 by helping them become their own advocate, within a stable, self-sustaining family unit.

"I'm a social worker at heart. I love helping clients. I love tackling difficult situations and resolving them because that is part of changing the world that we are in today. It is part of changing the status quo to a better society," says Supervising Family Case Manager, Aida Diallo, who heads the Family Case Management program, funded by the Ryan White Part A Program and also the NYSDOH AIDS Institute RW Part B Program. Many clients in this program fled persecution and violence in their country of origin and were diagnosed with a chronic medical condition shortly after arriving in the United States. The team conducts assessments to determine client's needs and offers counseling, linkage to care benefits, translation, advocacy and referral services, often

working in collaboration with ASC housing, legal and health education departments to best serve the client.

In 2018, ASC's Individual Case Management team guided 126 clients to care, provided interpretation and hospital navigation, gave HIV/AIDS treatment education and adherence support, as well as assisted in health insurance applications for ADAP and Medicaid.

"A big part of the content that I teach as a Health Educator is how to manage stress. Being an immigrant is very stressful. Being an HIV or AIDS patient is very stressful. Dealing with poverty is very stressful. Many of our clients are dealing with all three of these things and in the context of the current political climate, there is a lot of fear and confusion as news breaks on an almost daily basis," says ASC's Health Education Officer, Emily Bishop — who leads the Individual Case Management team. Health educators, navigators, and case managers also collaborate to help clients self-manage their health and achieve viral suppression. As needed, clients are referred to ASC's Legal and Housing Programs, Food Pantry, Nutrition Program, English as a Second Language classes and support groups.

"We really want our clients' experience when they come to African Services Committee to be a respite from stress in and of itself. Writing the curriculum for the sessions that I teach, doing the administration, doing the reporting — those are all obviously really important parts of my work, but day-to-day the most rewarding thing that I can do is really making someone feel welcome, making someone feel comfortable."

Supervising Family Case Manager, Aida Diallo counsels a client.





NUTRITION AND FOOD PANTRY

"This is where the community comes. This is where they cook. This is where they share their cooking, together. They enjoy their meal and discuss issues," says ASC Founder and Co-Executive Director, Asfaha Hadera.

African Services Food Pantry is open 9 to 5, five days a week for anybody who needs supplemental food. Clients are welcome to cook and almost every day of the week there is somebody cooking at ASC's Teaching Kitchen — enjoying a communal meal and using ingredients from the food pantry.

"We have the pantry. We have the food. We have the kitchen, and we have hungry people," says ASC Co-Executive Director Kim Nichols.

The Nutrition Program at African Services Committee has served nearly 100,000 healthy meals to hundreds of families since 2000, through recurrent nutrition and cooking classes, and food pantry. A critical component to successful HIV treatment, program staff help clients and families affected by HIV/ AIDS make informed, healthy choices to maintain a nutritionally-rich diet.

"The nutrition program has been very helpful for me because I came here to also help my



African Services Committee staff (from left) Christine, Youma, and Adizatou cooking up a delicious Thanksgiving feast for clients and staff at our Harlem office.

children — my one-year old and three-year old. So whatever food and knowledge I got from the program goes to my family," says ASC Nutrition Program client Djénéba from Burkina Faso.

More than 4,000 individuals and families were served by ASC's food pantry alone in 2018, which provides essential supplemental nutrition, including weekly fresh bread donations from Orwasher's Bakery and organic fruits and vegetables in the summer months through a partnership with the Central Harlem Community Supported Agriculture Program.

"Individuals and families who need supplemental nutrition can rely on African Services Committee to make sure that their table is full each day," says ASC Food Pantry Coordinator Youma Nafo. "Every year we notice an increase in the number of new clients seeking pantry service. With this increase, the challenge is to continue serving everyone in need of food and never turning anybody away."



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Imagine stepping foot in a foreign land, in need of help, but without the language capacity to navigate basic services, such as health, food, and housing. Nearly one in four New Yorkers have limited English proficiency, according to data from the NYC Office of Immigrant Affairs. For nearly a decade, African Services Committee's awarded English as a Second Language program works to mitigate this common social determinant of health by providing tailored language and literacy lessons, free-of charge, to help immigrants communicate and build opportunity for themselves and their families.

ESOL instructors and volunteer tutors taught an average of a dozen students of all nationalities, in each of three class levels, languages and academic backgrounds twice a week in 2018 — totaling more than 200 classes.

"I like the idea of working with people who are trying to make it in a new place," said African Services Committee ESL Coordinator, Andrew Greene. Before ASC, Greene taught in Thailand and the New School in New York City. "It is amazing to have the opportunity to help immigrants and get to know them."

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



Funded by the H. van Amerigen Foundation, African Services Committee's Mental Health Services Program aims at providing HIV and mental health counseling services to men and women from the African and Caribbean Diaspora, living in New York City, by reducing stigma and shame associated with receipt of "mental health" services, and offer supportive mental health services as an adjunct to other social services offered to ASC clients. Led by Mental Health Counselor Nathalie Weeks, LMSW, the existence of the counseling program is ASC's recognition of the unmet psychological and emotional needs of immigrants, refugees and persons seeking asylum, and its commitment to meeting those needs.

In 2018, 85 individuals — hailing from 35 countries — received professional, bi-lingual mental health services in more than 500 individual sessions. Over half were HIV positive. Mental health services are often a necessary component of managing a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS, adhering to medical regimens and sustaining a positive attitude in the face of a serious, chronic illness. From Housing to



ASC Mental Health Counselor, Nathalie Weeks

Legal, every program at ASC referred clients to receive a mental health assessment in 2018 as well as outside referrals from NYC governmental agencies and private hospitals. Clients receive a comprehensive array of services: Mental health assessment, diagnosis, collaborative treatment goal development, ongoing emotional support, counseling and mental health treatment, information and referral for more extensive psychiatric treatment, as needed, and problem solving.

Many clients who received mental health services suffered from severe trauma and were diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder — recent, and ongoing: forced marriages, female genital mutilation/ excision, domestic violence, human/ sex trafficking, religious conflict, persecution due to sexual orientation, incarceration, assault, extreme poverty, the shock of receiving an HIV diagnosis, years of separation from families, loss of family members due to violence/political conflict, fear and anxiety resulting from new and threatening immigration policies, and more.

"One of the primary advantages of providing mental health services at ASC is the atmosphere of safety and cultural understanding available on the premises," says Weeks. "ASC's diverse staff speak many languages and are highly representative of the African and Caribbean countries from which clients originate, the warm and welcome ASC office space is ideal for delivery of sensitive services."



JUNE 2009

Love & Let Live, the first African-language HIV awareness campaign launches in NYC

APRIL 2010

We celebrate 10 years based in Harlem

OCT 2010

Zeway Clinic opens in Ethiopia

AT A GLANCE ASC NYC DEEP ROOTED AND ON THE GROUND

Founded **37 years** ago by an Ethiopia refugee in response to the Horn of Africa refugee crisis and **resettled refugees** from around the globe.

More than **20,000 lives** are changed each year: 7,000 in NYC and more than 20,000 in Ethiopia

Serving refugees and immigrants from nearly **120 countries** across the globe.

Services by staff in **25 languages and dialects** from Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and around the world.

In 2018 at our headquarters in Harlem, our diverse and compassionate staff served refugees and immigrants from nearly 120 countries across the globe — testing for infectious diseases such as TB, HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis, distributing nutritious food to thousands of families, supporting LGBTQ asylum seekers, providing free and affordable legal immigration services to newcomers, teaching literacy to new immigrant adult learners, providing case management and housing assistance, and navigating clients to much-needed health care.

NYC IN ONE YEAR

More than 300 HIV-affected families secured or maintained **housing**

600 people provided **free legal services**

1000 people provided **free HIV tests** and Hepatitis B and C testing

6,500 people received **healthy food**



ASC rallying for a "HepFreeNYC" on the steps of City Hall with City Council Health Chair Mark Levine and fellow advocates.

NYC FOR HEALTH

Integrated health services: HIV, STI, Hepatitis, TB testing and treatment, prevention and support

Free HIV, Viral hepatitis **testing and counseling**

Linking clients to **quality medical care**

Food pantry and **nutrition** counseling

Mental health counseling

Maternal and infant **health education**

NYC FOR COMMUNITY

Enhancing the **power to thrive** in the community

Finding **housing** for HIV-affected families

Adult English and **literacy classes**

Anti-stigma and HIV/ Hepatitis **advocacy campaigns**

Asylum and domestic **violence legal services**

Know Your Rights / **Immigration**

Legal Education

Free and low cost **legal assistance**

AT A GLANCE ASC ETHIOPIA

WWW.ASC-ETHIOPIA.ORG



African Services Committee provides free HIV and TB testing and treatment, nutrition, and reproductive health services from our locally-run, model clinics in public markets, in **five regions of Ethiopia**.

Since 2003, ASC's Ethiopia clinics have provided **free HIV and TB clinical services** to nearly **200,000** of the most marginalized and educated approximately **1,000,000** people in **HIV prevention**.

ASC ETHIOPIA IN ONE YEAR

20,000 children, women, and men with HIV & TB testing & treatment, **7,000** children and pregnant women get intensive **nutritional support**, **18,000** children get new shoes, **6,000** women and girls receive **reproductive health care**, and over **100** families get **income-generating** support.

Staffed entirely by Ethiopian doctors, nurses, lab technicians, case managers, pharmacists, administrators, and outreach workers

Outdoor market-based clinics in **Addis Ababa**, **Mekele**, and **Ziway**.

ASC's **four mobile clinics** (totaling 28 rooms) provide **remote rural poor** with **critical access** to health services.



African Services Committee's Henry van Ameringen Health and Community Development Center, located in the Shola Market in Addis Ababa, was the first location established upon ASC's return to Ethiopia in 2003.

Free HIV testing is welcome to all who walk in to ASC's Health and Community Development Center in Mekele, Ethiopia. Established in 2007, ASC's northernmost Ethiopia clinic provides more than 20,000 people each year with HIV prevention education; outreach, counseling and testing for HIV/AIDS; CD4 testing; vitamin and supplemental nutrition; and micro-lending.

HEALTH SCREENING & NAVIGATION TO CARE

Obstacles abound for newcomers trying to access health care in the United States: Immigration status, lack of English language fluency, low income, unsafe neighborhoods, health insurance, and absence of culturally-competent caregiving are among the many social determinants of health that African Services Committee's Testing Center team works hard every day to help immigrants overcome.

"We welcome everyone to our Testing Center in Harlem. Our services are confidential and we always let clients know that we don't share any information — reassurance that is especially important today because of the fear running throughout immigrant communities," says Testing Center Coordinator, Dr. Halimatou Konte, whose Testing Center team provided nearly 1,000 free and confidential HIV tests and counseling in 2018.

The typical client who walks in to ASC's Testing Center can receive free and confidential health screening for HIV, sexually transmitted infections, viral hepatitis, pregnancy, diabetes, hypertension, maternal and infant health education, low-fee TB testing, navigation to affordable care, and referral to cancer screening. Clients are often newly arrived immigrants from Africa, South America, and the Caribbean, speak little to no English, are uninsured, and need help navigating the city's health care system and connecting with social services. In addition to offering free testing to walk-in clients throughout the week at ASC's Testing Center, ASC's Testing Center team is busy holding monthly maternal and infant health and family planning workshops. ASC's Patient Navigators, Adama Traore and Daouda Ndiaye, have been an integral part of ASC's



ASC Testing Center Coordinator, Dr. Halimatou Konte

Testing Center program for more than a decade by helping ASC clients enroll in affordable health care and providing hospital escort and medical interpretation — working closely with New York City hospitals such as Bellevue Hospital Center and Montefiore Medical Center, among others.

Utilizing long-time partnerships with local African leaders, the Coalition Against Hepatitis for People of African Origin (CHIPO), African community radio shows, and community and faith-based institutions, African Services continues combatting pervasive viral hepatitis stigma and lack of awareness by conducting targeted, multilingual outreach and mobile testing campaigns throughout NYC's five boroughs. Viral hepatitis disproportionately affects African, Asian, and Pacific Islander immigrant communities.

"I had a client from West Africa who had been diagnosed Hep B positive in his country of origin. He was confused and scared. He didn't know where to turn for help," Dr. Konte says. "ASC confirmed he was positive for hepatitis B. We then provided education, counseling — everything he needs to know about living with hepatitis B. ASC patient navigators linked him to affordable medical care and the client makes sure he receives all the necessary follow-up treatment by routinely visiting his doctor. He reaches out to me to this day and I can say he is happy, comfortable with his diagnosis, and thriving."

DEC 2010

ASC begins anti-retroviral treatment provision in Ethiopia

APRIL 2011

30-Year Anniversary

MAY 2011

ASC receives the Calderone City Health Award

ADVOCACY

"I've had clients tell me that the news isn't allowed in their home anymore, because their kids were having nightmares that they were being taken away," says ASC/ ICLC attorney Jessica Greenberg.

The Administration's continued siege against the immigrant community in 2018 was one of nightmares: Separation of families at our borders, changes to the Public Charge rule, and the announcement that domestic and gang violence would no longer be considered grounds for asylum, rank among the many inhumane fronts African Services Committee advocates and allies battled. Led by Director of Advocacy and LGBT Programming Amanda Lugg, Policy Advocate Bakary Tandia, and ASC/ ICLC attorneys, ASC advocates volunteered at the borders, took to the streets, the press, podiums, "Know Your Rights" panels, and offered pro-bono counsel to counter balance the federal administration's assaults on immigrants and families.

As the administration continued its assault on immigrants, ASC and ICLC attorneys' full capacity was invoked in Harlem while detention centers became overburdened with asylum seekers who were being sent to remote detention centers around the U.S. — places where there were no attorneys who could help them. These newcomers, sometimes young children forcibly separated from their parents, had no rights and were treated as less than human. ASC and ICLC attorneys responded by volunteering to provide vital information and counsel to asylum seekers at the U.S. - Mexican border and various ICE Processing Centers throughout the country to help ensure their rights were protected.

"I have represented dozens of clients from Central America. These clients have faced horrendous forms of persecution," says ASC Staff Attorney Deirdre Stradone who was among ASC's attorneys who volunteered in 2018 at a



African Services Committee's Advocacy Director, Amanda Lugg, among more than a dozen immigrants and allies arrested in a New York Immigration Coalition -led protest to protect families against Trump's cruel revision of the Public Charge rule.

remote ICE detention facility in Georgia. "The majority are literally fleeing for their lives."

ASC condemned in the strongest possible terms the administration's proposed revision to the "public charge" rule, and stood in solidarity with immigrant families and their allies across the country against any expansion of the "public charge" provisions. In a heartless move, otherwise-eligible applicants could be denied U.S. permanent residency if they access or have accessed any subsidies from a range of government programs and benefits.

"Here at African Services Committee, we have clients consulting their case managers as to whether they should stop taking their HIV medication and others who have refused lawfully-entitled housing assistance in the belief that this will preserve their eligibility to reunite their families," said Lugg. "Such scenarios call to attention the catastrophic public health implications that this rule threatens to create, undoing hard won progress toward ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the U.S. and here in New York State. Unfairly, and against the public interest, many individuals living with chronic health conditions will be asked to choose between their own health and welfare, and their legal right to family reunification," said Lugg.

ASC is the HIV/AIDS policy lead member in the nation-wide campaign Protecting Immigrant Families. Thanks to advocacy and outreach, the campaign raised more than 250,000 public comments on the Federal Register posting against the cruel attack on immigrant families.

OCT 2012

Hawassa Clinic opening
in Ethiopia

OCT 2013

ASC celebrates 10 years
of service in Ethiopia

MARCH 2015

ASC awarded Service Organization
of the Year at WomenWerk Gala

ASC ETHIOPIA

COMMUNITY-BASED RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY NEED

“Even though I fled a terrorist regime in Ethiopia in 1977, my mind never left its people. It was always my dream to go back and make and impact there.”

— African Services Committee Founder and Co-Executive Director Asfaha Hadera.

Bringing African Services' community based HIV-testing model to the front lines of the HIV epidemic in 2003, African Services Committee Ethiopia's five grassroots health and community development centers provide a free one-stop service to the most marginalized segments of the community who find it difficult to get medical and social support, particularly integrated support, from larger institutions. “A true community-based response to community need, we were the first organization to start free HIV testing and counseling in 2003,” says Hadera.

Our Ethiopia programs serve patients who are impacted by climate change, human rights abuses, war and ethnic persecution, famine, and diseases of poverty. ASC's institutional strength is in its integrated, free community-based clinics and community development centers, providing health services and prevention and treatment commodities for the most destitute. We have fully

integrated sexual and reproductive health and family planning and child nutrition with HIV and TB testing and treatment.

ASC Ethiopia has worked under contract with UNFPA, UNICEF, American Jewish World Service, PEP-FAR, WHO, the French Embassy, and BGI Ethiopia, Regional HAPCO and Regional Health Bureaus, PFSA, ICAP, I-Tech, Abt Associates, Ben Gurion University, Izumi Foundation, H. van Ameringen Foundation, MAC AIDS Fund, International Foundation, and Harman Family Foundation.

ASC Ethiopia staff — comprised entirely of Ethiopian doctors, nurses, lab technicians, case managers, pharmacists, administrators and outreach workers — directly help the most vulnerable families living with HIV and TB get back on their feet through our attention to diagnosis, free treatment access, nutrition and reproductive health support, and school and income-generating subsidies. ASC's Ziway and Mekele clinics also provide rapid testing and treatment for malaria.

ASC Ethiopia is supported by our many partners, including Vitamin Angels (vitamin/mineral donations for 2,000 children and pregnant/lactating women each year), TOMS Shoes, the Ethiopian federal Ministry of Health and Addis Ababa, Oromia, Amhara, SNNPR, and Tigray Regional Health Bureaus, DKT and Pathfinder, BGI Ethiopia, Mekdim, Ethiopian Midwives Association, and Family Guidance Association.

AMARAZ

“My son loves playing football and enjoys school,” says ASC Mek'ele Health and Community Development Center client and community outreach leader, Amaraz. “I'm working hard to see him graduate.”

Since learning she was HIV positive many years ago, Amaraz has been receiving a variety of free supportive services from ASC Ethiopia's Health and Community Development Center in Mek'ele including: Free sexual and reproductive health education, contraception, CD4, hematology, chemistry screening, HIV antiretroviral treatment, as well as income-generating, and nutritional support. Today Amaraz is an outreach leader in



her community and frequently works with ASC Ethiopia to promote ASC's HIV prevention and support programs to the city's commercial sex workers.

“I get full HIV treatment for free at ASC. We get everything we need for free at African Services.”

ASC ETHIOPIA CORE COMPETENCIES

Targeted **outreach, health education, & condom distribution** to vulnerable populations

Pediatric HIV testing for children over 15 months of age. Capacity-building VCT practice provider, **data collection, lab services & quality assurance**

Mobile HIV testing through ASC Seven Tents program

Laboratory monitoring services (CD4, hematology, chemistry, serology, parasitology)

HIV antiretroviral and opportunistic infection treatment and prophylaxis for TB, STI,

malaria and viral hepatitis diagnosis & treatment

Sexual and reproductive health, contraception & family planning

Laboratory services provided to patients from referral partners, including government hospitals & health centers

Income-generating support for destitute HIV positive women. Nutritional support (Plumpy'Nut, Plumpy'Sup, multivitamins, & basic food commodities) for pediatric HIV patients & their siblings

Voluntary **counseling and testing for individuals & couples**



ADDIS ABABA, INCLUDES TEN SUB CITIES AND 99 KEBELES

The **Henry van Ameringen Health and Community Development Center**, located in the Shola Market in Addis Ababa, was the first location established upon ASC's return to Ethiopia in September 2003. Located in a large open-air market in Addis, this clinic provides free services to thousands of the most vulnerable people in this community, each year. Number of beneficiaries: **21,571**



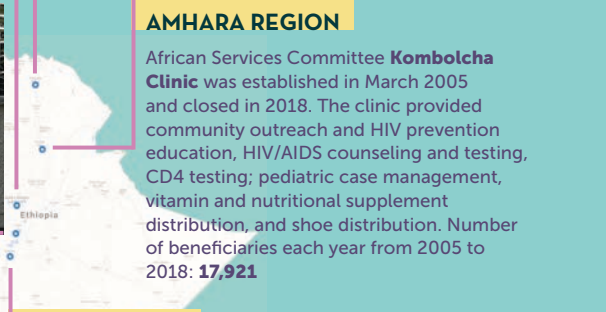
TIGRAY REGION MEKELE ZONE

The **Kim E. Nichols Health and Community Development Center**, based in Mekele, was established in March 2007. Mekele is ASC's northernmost clinic based in the Tigray Region. This clinic is located in the downtown area of Mekele, which is a principal economic and education center in Ethiopia. Number of beneficiaries each year: **21,662**



OROMIA REGION EAST SHEWA

In the Fall of 2010, in collaboration with Castel Winery and BGI, African Services expanded to the southern region of Ethiopia with the **Blavier Health & Community Development Center**, in Zeway. Number of beneficiaries each year: **26,250**



AMHARA REGION

African Services Committee **Kombolcha Clinic** was established in March 2005 and closed in 2018. The clinic provided community outreach and HIV prevention education, HIV/AIDS counseling and testing, CD4 testing; pediatric case management, vitamin and nutritional supplement distribution, and shoe distribution. Number of beneficiaries each year from 2005 to 2018: **17,921**

SNNPR REGION

The **Health & Community Development Center** in Hawassa is the newest clinic to be added to the ASC roster, and was established thanks to our partnership with BGI Ethiopia and Castel Wineries. The clinic closed in 2018. Number of beneficiaries each year from 2005 to 2018: **24,896**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SUPPORT & REVENUE	DEC 31 2018	DEC 31 2017
SUPPORT		
Grants and Contracts	2,913,736	2,746,411
Contributions	132,403	186,948
Total Support	3,046,139	2,933,359
REVENUE		
Service Income	113,158	184,807
Miscellaneous Income	9,458	5,470
Pharmacy Services Income	905,936	333,235
Investment Income	51	(45)
Total Revenue	1,028,603	531,764
Total Support & Revenue	4,074,742	3,465,123
PROGRAM SERVICES		
PROGRAM SERVICES		
Health Services	874,183	686,169
Housing Services	397,741	374,270
Legal Assistance	974,347	1,013,855
Social Services	722,455	630,472
International Program	381,184	413,457
Total Program Services	3,349,910	3,118,223
SUPPORTING SERVICES		
Management and General	691,238	667,725
Fundraising	103,683	69,020
Total Supporting Services	794,921	736,745
Total Expenses	4,144,831	3,854,968
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		
Change in Net Assets	(57,916)	(389,845)
Beginning of Period	653,712	1,043,557
Net Assets at End of Year	595,796	653,712

MAY 2016

ASC awarded Organization of the Year at the
New York Immigration Coalition's Gala

FUNDING & SUPPORT

GOVERNMENT

FEDERAL

Federal Emergency Management Agency

STATE AND LOCAL

New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute

New York City Council

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

New York City Department of Youth and Community Development

New York City Human Resources Administration

CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS

ADP Benevity Community Impact Fund

AJG Foundation

American Express Employee Giving Program

Bank of America Matching Gifts

Bank of America United Way Campaign

Jill And Jay Bernstein Family Foundation

BGI Ethiopia /Castel Winery

Broadway Cares Equity Fights AIDS

Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center

The Nathan Cummings Foundation

Emergency Food Assistance Program

Goldman Sachs & Co. Matching Gift Program

Harman Family Foundation

H. Van Ameringen Foundation

High Mowing Seeds

The Richard R. Howe Foundation

The Hyde And Watson Foundation

IBM Employee Services

The Keith Haring Foundation

Kikkerland Design

Koonyeung's Corporation

Lucky Dog Vodka

MAC AIDS Fund

Margrave Max von Baden Foundation

Nah We Yone

New York Immigration Coalition

Park Avenue Charitable Fund

Pension Wealth Consultants

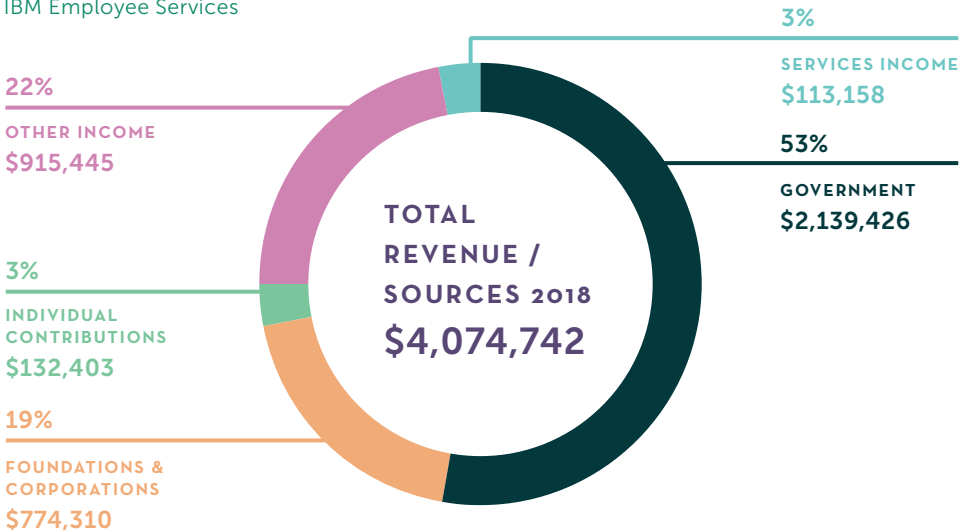
Prudential Financial

Skadden Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP

Stonewall Community Foundation

Sugar Hill Capital Partners

Troutman Sanders LLP



FUNDING & SUPPORT CONTINUED

SPECIAL PARTNERS

Abye LLC Addis Ababa Restaurant
ACRIA
Aid for Africa
Americares US Access
Les Ambassades
Becton Dickinson and Company
Blessed Coffee
BOCA Pharmacy
Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center
Brooklyn Law School
Broadway Cares Equity Fights AIDS
Cardoza School of Law
Central Harlem Community
 Supported Agriculture Program
City Council Member Mark Levine
Columbia University School of Social Work
Columbia University School of Law
Coalition Against Hepatitis for
 People of African Origin (CHIPO)
Common Cents New York –
 Penny Harvest Account
Communities Together for Health Equity
Mackenzie Crone
Detention Watch Network
EarthShare's Charity Support Center
Ella Mack Photos
Equal Justice Works
Ethiopian Airlines
Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health
Fairway Market
Fortunate Communications, Inc.
The Fresh Air Fund
Fund for the City of New York
Susan & Judith Greenwald
Ruth Gruen
The Harlem Chamber Players
The Havens Relief Fund Society
HealthGAP
Healthy Communities Consulting
HIV Law Project
HS2 Architecture
Institute for Family Health
Elizabeth Jenny-Avital, MD
Steven Laxton
Literacy Assistance Center
Mailman School of Public Health
Columbia University ICAP
Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs
Medica Pharma
Mount Sinai School of Medicine HONE Project
Sanae Nakayama
New York State Department of Health
New York City Department of Health and
 Mental Hygiene
New York City Health and Hospitals
New York Cares
New York Immigration Coalition
New York University School of Law
Nirah Johnson
Jonathan Parker
Orwasher's Bakery
Ponni Perumalswami, MD
Public Health Solutions
Queen of Sheba Ethiopian Restaurant
Jonathan Ross
Samuel Kebede
SmartyPants Vitamins
TKPR
TOMS Shoes
Treatment Action Group
UNAIDS
UNITAID
Vitamin Angels
Edward Wake
West Harlem Development Corporation
904 Prospect Avenue Pharmacy, Inc.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS BY GIVING LEVEL

\$150,000 +

Henry van Ameringen

\$25,000 +

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Julie Mehretu

\$10,000-\$25,000

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“

Come, come, whoever you are. Wanderer, worshiper, lover of leaving. Ours is not a caravan of despair. Come, even if you have broken your vows a thousand times. It doesn't matter. Come, yet again, come, come.” -Rumi

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