ANNUAL REPORT

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE AFRICAN COMMUNITY IN NEW YORK CITY

2006

AFRICAN SERVICES
COMMITTEE

All Rights for All Immigrants!
Full Rights for All Immigrants!

We are America
In that time, our mission has evolved in parallel with the evolution of the African migration to the United States. Begun in 1981, in the early years of the African refugee Diaspora, African Services Committee was established to aid newly arrived refugees in their struggle to adjust to life in America. Thousands of people fleeing conflict in the Horn of Africa—as well as Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Albania—found safe haven in the U.S. through our sponsorship.

As the demographic tide turned from refugees to an increasingly diverse spectrum of immigrants from across Africa, we broadened African Services’ portfolio and embraced the needs of these newcomers by developing health, legal, housing, food and nutrition, and English as a Second Language programs. In turn, African immigrants began to create opportunities for others and they have brought a stunning array of cultural diversity to New York City.

Today, African Services Committee can count several hundred thousand newcomers among those we have assisted. Whether they hail from North, South, East, or West Africa, they have put down roots and developed communities. Immigrants from the Caribbean have also come through our doors in great numbers and found support in the community, as well. It is with great pride that we can recount the many successes they have gone on to achieve as professionals, entrepreneurs, artists, and community leaders. They are essential partners in our effort to enhance the quality of life in the Diaspora through the fight against HIV.

Just three short years after bringing our knowledge of HIV prevention back to the Continent, African Services has helped over 4,000 HIV positive people in Ethiopia learn their status and access care, treatment and support. We have enabled 40,000 more to learn that they are HIV negative and how to prevent infection.

The racial, ethnic, professional, linguistic, and cultural diversity of today’s 77-member staff across two continents is one of our greatest assets. It brings a rich texture and capacity to our organization and invites people of diverse backgrounds to seek the assistance they need. We take pride in both the culture and the life-altering outcomes of our work.

It has been a long and challenging road, but African Services Committee has grown like a sturdy tree. We have been nourished by both hardship and success. We are a strong family, and with us the African community has advanced and is making its mark.

Sincerely,

Kim Nichols
Co-Executive Director

Asfaha Hadera
Co-Executive Director

DEAR FRIENDS,

After 25 years of continuous service, African Services Committee’s work has come to symbolize the core of the community response to HIV and other life-threatening diseases in New York City’s African community.
Standing Up for Immigrants

Immigrants made history last year, coming out of the shadows in cities across the U.S. and setting in motion unprecedented support for humane immigration reform. African Services joined this historic mobilization, by making the voices of African and Caribbean immigrants heard from Albany to D.C.

On April 10th, African Services took part in New York City’s massive immigration rally, demonstrating in support of basic civil rights, family reunification and a pathway to citizenship for immigrants.

At City Hall, we saw hundreds of thousands of people converged on lower Manhattan. Throughout the afternoon, as work shifts ended, immigrants flooded off the subway packing the streets. For many of us, it was something we never imagined we would see—it was the whole American family.

Bakary Tandia, an ASC staff member originally from Mauritania, addressed the crowd more than 300,000 strong, reminding leaders of the hardships newcomers endure in the U.S. and speaking out against the criminalization of undocumented immigrants and those who assist them.

"It has been too long, but we have to have hope."
— Rosie Perez, at the UN Special Session on AIDS protest rally

Still Fighting for Leadership After 25 Years of AIDS

At the watershed UN General Assembly Special Session on AIDS in 2001, world leaders finally acknowledged the global threat of AIDS and pledged action against the epidemic. Since then there have been 15 million AIDS deaths and 25 million new HIV infections.

In May 2006, when world leaders again convened a high-level meeting at the UN to assess the state of the AIDS epidemic, African Services helped to mobilize a strong coalition of first responders, activists and people living with HIV from around the world to make the realities of global AIDS known and hold governments accountable for the failure to fulfill their commitments.

Inside the UN, we lobbied leaders intensively to set real and specific targets for universal access to AIDS treatment by 2010. The final declaration fell short, failing to include fully commitments to fund the fight or endorse science-based HIV prevention around the world.

Outside the UN, we staged the largest AIDS demonstration in five years to protest government inaction and sustain the public demand for a quicker response to the AIDS crisis at home and abroad.

"I saw all these people...and I thought, Yes! We are America, we contribute with our blood, sweat and tears. We just want it to be official”
— Ruth Mitchell, African Services client (Trinidad)

"This struggle isn’t only about immigrants; it is about people trying to protect their dignity."
— Bakary Tandia, African Services staff (Mauritania)
Legal Advocacy for Immigrants and Support for Their Families

For immigrant families coping with the impact of an HIV diagnosis, the law may be the last place they look for help. But throughout the last year, African Services helped dozens of immigrant families use the legal system to resolve issues traditionally addressed through the safety net of the community and extended family.

With newly-expanded legal services and family case management programs, we have successfully helped clients resolve custody issues; attain child support; qualify for public benefits; fight housing, employment and discrimination cases; and adjust immigration status for themselves and their children. A weekly women’s support group has helped mothers meet and develop their own networks for mutual support.

World AIDS Day 2006: Red, Hot + RIOT LIVE!

On December 1, African Services and the Brooklyn Academy of Music commemorated World AIDS Day 2006 together with Red, Hot and RIOT LIVE!, an all-star tribute concert celebrating the life and music of Nigerian artist and activist Fela Kuti, whose life and struggle was cut short by AIDS.

The event raised critical funds for African Services’ HIV/AIDS care and support programs in New York City and showed the importance of forging community partnerships across sectors to create a unified front against HIV/AIDS.

African Services is grateful to BAM and the Red Hot Organization, as well as the Howard Gilman Foundation and the many corporate sponsors, who recognized the importance of World AIDS Day in New York City and made this event possible.

On Ethiopia’s Frontlines

Nearly 18,000 people learned their HIV status last year through African Services’ three HIV testing and care centers in Ethiopia, proving the strides that can be made by small, local initiatives working at the grassroots to combat AIDS.

African Services also brought reproductive health counseling into our HIV testing and care programs in Ethiopia, with a grant from UNFPA, and continued to provide CD4 testing to help stage patients in urgent need of ARV therapy.

At the equivalent of US$5 per test—half of the cost at local public hospitals—African Services has put reliable and affordable CD4 testing within reach. Contributions are accepted from patients who are able to pay, and ASC subsidizes testing for the many who are not. We are grateful to Becton Dickinson for the donation of essential equipment and supplies.

Deepening Our Roots: The Capital Campaign for African Services Committee

After the launch of our first capital campaign two years ago, African Services has signed a 10-year lease at our offices on 127th Street in the heart of Harlem. Construction will soon transform empty loft space into new work space and counseling rooms, an ESL classroom and computer lab. We are grateful to our supporters who have invested in the continued growth of African Services and the dynamic African community we serve in New York City.

Chitra Aiyar, Idella Cooper, Lauren Sachs, Gefachew Fikiremariam, Wudenesh Molla and Andrea Panjwani staff African Services’ expanded legal and family case management programs.

“Africa has more than enough wisdom, love and joy. We must reclaim them.”

– Alison Fairbrother, volunteer; Students of the World

The future is really bright.
I believe we will control this HIV.”

– Alemseged Girmay, Program Director, African Services Ethiopia
**FUNDING & SUPPORT**

**June 2005 - May 2006**

**GOVERNMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Department of Health and Human Services, HRSA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Department of Housing and Urban Development, HOPE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Emergency Management Agency</td>
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**State & Local**

- City Council Member
- Robert Jackson
- City Council Member
- Bill Perkins
- New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- New York City Department of Youth & Community Development
- New York City Bureau of Maternal & Infant Health
- New York State Department of Health, AIDS Institute
- State of New Jersey, Division of Youth & Family Services

**FOUNDATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & CORPORATIONS**

- Altia Employee Fund
- American Jewish World Service
- Becton Dickinson
- BGI Ethiopia
- Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS
- Champion Courier
- Chembio Diagnostic Systems, Inc.
- The Corkery Group
- David Szerlip & Associates, Inc.
- Empire State AIDS Ride
- First Data Western Union Foundation
- GMHC AIDS Walk New York
- Henry Van Avermaeten Foundation
- International Foundation
- Koonsrug’s Corp.
- MAC AIDS Fund
- Ms. Foundation for Women
- New York City AIDS Fund
- New York Community Trust
- Permanent Mission of Angola to the UN
- Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the UN
- Permanent Mission of Lesotho to the UN
- United Way of NY, CMC & SEFA
- UNFPA

**INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Name</th>
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| $1,000 - $4,999 | Jane Aronson
| Addie Guttag
| Matthew & Rebecca Leising |
| $500 - $999 | Mebrat Ambaye
| Judith Greenwald
| Greg Nichols
| Grace Nkenke |
| $200 - $499 | Scott Metzner |
| $100 - $199 | Judith Baker
| Dennie Beach
| Michael Betha
| Sandy Bodner
| Enrique Brown & Irene |

**EXPENSES**

**PROGRAM SERVICES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>1,020,489</td>
<td>981,278</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing Services</td>
<td>490,425</td>
<td>516,707</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal Assistance</td>
<td>84,865</td>
<td>64,877</td>
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<td>Refugee Program</td>
<td>5,377</td>
<td>8,931</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Services</td>
<td>252,114</td>
<td>206,684</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Program Services</td>
<td>1,856,683</td>
<td>1,678,477</td>
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**SUPPORTING SERVICES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>378,130</td>
<td>569,582</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total EXPENSES EXCLUDING GIFTS IN KIND</td>
<td>2,234,813</td>
<td>2,248,059</td>
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**NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning (as adjusted)</td>
<td>455,748</td>
<td>341,358</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>211,100</td>
<td>114,390</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets at End of Year</td>
<td>666,848</td>
<td>455,748</td>
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Summary of financial statements for the years ending May 31, 2006 and 2005.
NEW YORK CITY STAFF

Chitra Aiyar (US)
  Staff Attorney
Erin Augis (US)
  ESL Teacher
Mulsew Bekele (Ethiopia)
  Health Programs Director
Sean Brennan (US)
  Assistant Health Programs Director
Virginia Brobyn (US)
  ESL Teacher
Catharine Bufalino (US)
  Communications Director
Anthony Chaneyfield (US)
  NPHV Housing Coordinator
Alice Clomogah (Ivory Coast)
  Assistant Coordinator, Testing Center & Early Intervention Services
Idella Cooper (Liberia)
  Staff Attorney
Aida Diallo-Diagne (Senegal)
  TB/HIV NPHV Housing Coordinator
Amadou Dia (Senegal)
  Risk Reduction Counselor
Getachew Fikremariam (Ethiopia)
  Client Legal Advocate
Claudette Francois (Haiti)
  Senior Case Manager
Coumba Gueye (Senegal)
  Receptionist
Asfaha Hadera (Ethiopia)
  Founder & Co-Executive Director
Muna Hamouie
  Founder & Co-Executive Director
Co-Executive Director
Muna Hamouie
  Founder & Co-Executive Director

ETHIOPIA STAFF

Alemseged Girmay
  Ethiopia Program Director

SHOLA MARKET CENTER

Tsigemariam Abebe
  Outreach Worker
Habtom Aboy
  Outreach Worker
Zewdinesh Ademe
  Data Manager
Bekele Belachew
  Guard
Gebre Egziabher Berhe
  Chief Security Officer & Storekeeper
Eshetu Endris
  Guard
Gulelat Kebede
  VCT Counselor
Elizabeth Menen
  Counselor
Teshome Mengistu
  Guard
Ejegayhu Tadesse
  Outreach Coordinator

Kokhee Tamirat
  Accountant/Secretary
Seblewongel Tamiru
  Janitor
Mesfin Tekle
  Lab Technician

MERCATO CENTER

Hanna Aberra
  ART Physician
Getachew Areda
  Guard
Ayele Asrat
  Guard
Haregewoyn Asrat
  Lab Technician
Seblewongel Berhanu
  Site Coordinator
Martha Berhe
  VCT Counselor
Yenenesh Fierku
  Janitor
Shikur Kelifa
  Guard
Negat Kidanu
  VCT Counselor
Sewharg Tadesse
  Outreach Worker
Hana Teklu
  Pediatric Case Manager

KOMBOLCHA CENTER

Mohamed Amede
  Site Coordinator/ Lab Technician
Tigist Kifle
  Janitor
Ahmed Mohammed
  VCT Counselor
Amelework Tesfaye
  Accountant/Secretary
Mekdes Tesfaye
  VCT Counselor
Kidist Tesfaye
  VCT Counselor
Mulunesh Teshager
  Data Manager

FOUNDED IN 1981, AFRICAN SERVICES COMMITTEE IS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY OF NEW YORK CITY’S AFRICAN DIASPORA COMMUNITIES. WE PROVIDE HEALTH, HOUSING, LEGAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO OVER 10,000 NEWCOMERS EACH YEAR, FOCUSING ON HIV PREVENTION, CARE AND SUPPORT. WE ALSO WORK ON THE FRONTLINES OF THE GLOBAL AIDS EPIDEMIC THROUGH OUR HIV TESTING CENTERS IN ETHIOPIA AND ADVOCACY, POLICY WORK AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE U.S. AND ABROAD.