

Brothers United / The Damien Center

Indianapolis, IN



Brothers
United
INCORPORATED



DAMIEN.
CENTER
Leaders in HIV/AIDS Prevention + Care

Snapshot

TARGET POPULATION

LGBTQ Youth ages 13-24

SETTING

Community-Based Organization
Sexual Health Clinic

FOUNDED

2012

DESIGN/THEORY

Transtheoretical Model

HIV CARE CONTINUUM

Bar before the Bars to Retention in Care

Diagnosis

Prevention

Linkage to Care

Retention in Care

HAART Therapy

Viral Suppression

Brothers United/Damien Center Overview Video



Innovations

Brothers United and the Damien Center's joint Linkage to Care (L2C) program connects clients to in-house and off-site medical and social services that help prevent HIV infection and maintain health of persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA).

A full-service medical clinic with a food pantry, PrEP services and community spaces for support groups, The Damien Center is a one-stop care setting where clients living with HIV can access resources and services to help them lead healthy and fulfilling lives. Brothers United provides comprehensive, specialized case management and care coordination for PLWHA with a special focus on Black LGBT patient communities. Both organizations rely



Bellflower Clinic
Ezkenazi Health
Life Care
St. Francis Hospital
State and local health departments
Women in Motion

 **2014**, The Damien Center

-  Provided **2,623 FREE** HIV tests
-  Served **1,191 HIV-POSITIVE** patients
-  Served **779 CLIENTS** through the Food Pantry
-  Assisted **319 FAMILIES** with housing
-  Assisted **300 PATIENTS** through counseling

upon a network of local community based organizations (CBOs) and AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs) to improve linkage to HIV and STD/STI care services for Black MSM residing in Indianapolis and surrounding regions.

Service Coordination

Since the Damien Center and Brothers United in close proximity of one another, clients are able to take advantage of a host coordinated services offered by both organizations. Eligible clients can readily access PrEP services, which include comprehensive risk reduction counseling, assistance with Medicaid enrollment, and referrals for social and medical services. HIV-negative clients and those living with HIV participate in various support groups including HIV Mpower, a support group designed for same gender loving men living with HIV and 50 Plus, for HIV+ men ages 50 and older seeking social support in coping with aging in the context of HIV.

Brothers United Targeted Services

Brothers United staff utilize a client-centered approach to service provision. Staff members work closely with clients to address barriers and develop comprehensive plans for health, wellness and personal development while providing linkages to resources within the local community. Onsite service provision includes the following programs:

- **Ryan White Support Services**
Brothers United is a Part C funded Ryan White ASO and offers support services for individuals living with HIV including linkage to care, housing support and case management.
- **Support for Persons Living with HIV**
A group level intervention that promotes the sexual health and well-being of men living with HIV/AIDS through weekly meetings and workshops.
- **Young Adult Discussion Group**
The Immaculate Men Acquiring Genuine Excellence (IMAGE) is a youth group focused on educating and empowering young men by creating a comfortable and safe space to discuss topics such as sexuality, education, relationships, and healthy sexual behavior.
- **Many Men, Many Voices (3MV)**
3MV is a behavioral intervention developed by the CDC offered to Black MSM ages 25 & over. The

intervention aims to prevent HIV and STI transmission through discussion of factors that influence identity, behavior, self-efficacy, power, and partner negotiation.

- **Pillow Talk (Transgender Support Services)**

Pillow Talk is a program designed to serve transgender (trans) clients of Brothers United. Pillow talk is a peer-led program that provides support and empowerment for trans clients. Pillow Talk provides workshops and trainings that assist participants with finding gainful employment and reaching their educational goals. Additional services include support groups, violence prevention information and advocacy, housing services, and mental health counseling and referrals.

- **Red Ribbon Rumble (RRR) HIV Prevention Program**

The Red Ribbon Rumble (RRR) is an HIV prevention program funded by the Health Foundation of greater Indianapolis that targets the local House/Ballroom community. RRR youth participate in leadership development activities and contribute to program design and implementation. RRR participants host bi-weekly gatherings on Thursdays from 9 – 11PM and host events throughout the year to engage local communities in health promotion activities and information sharing.

The Vision Program

The Vision Program offers immediate and direct services for youth who may be seeking employment and/or educational opportunities. Brother United staff members and volunteers help clients to develop resumes, obtain employment, apply for school, and access other social services or resources.

Mental Health Services

Brothers United offers mental health counseling on-site and on-going group and individual counseling sessions for mental health and substance use.

PrEP

Though PrEP is offered locally at ASOs and CBOs, such as the Damien Center, many of Brothers United's client base are unaware of how to access, utilize and cover the cost of PrEP Brothers United has embarked on an educational campaign to spread the word about PrEP within the local Black gay male community and provides clients with PrEP education on-site and offsite during community events. PrEP education activities include the following:

- Defining PrEP
- Explaining how PrEP functions as a prevention method
- Informing clients where to access PrEP within the local community

“ It's not hard to get clients connected to care. Our hardest part is keeping them connected to care.”

MAJESTER SEAN MCDUFFIE





Contact

TERRELL PARKER
Program Manager

✉ tparker@brothersunitedinc.org

☎ 317-200-3658



Downloads

Ethical Decision Making

L2C Overview

Motivational Interviewing
Presentation

Policies and Procedures Manual



Links

Brothers United Website

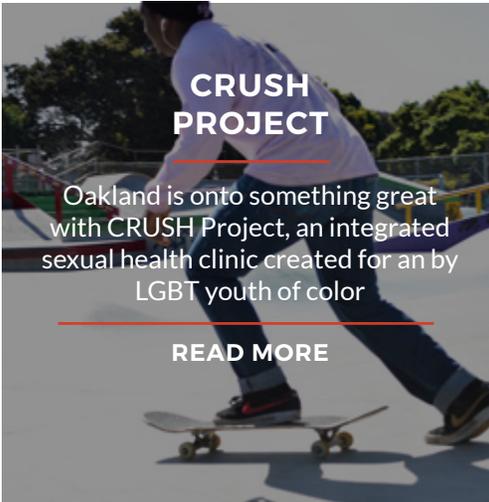
Damien Center Website



Podcasts

Coming Soon!

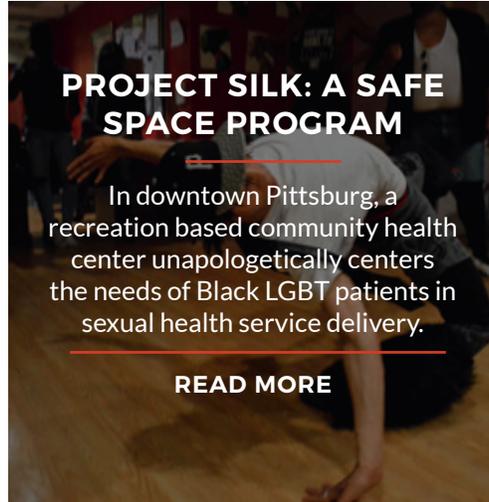
Other Featured Models



CRUSH PROJECT

Oakland is onto something great with CRUSH Project, an integrated sexual health clinic created for and by LGBT youth of color

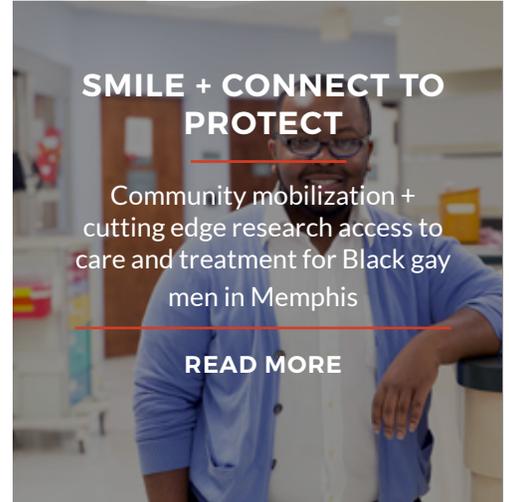
[READ MORE](#)



PROJECT SILK: A SAFE SPACE PROGRAM

In downtown Pittsburg, a recreation based community health center unapologetically centers the needs of Black LGBT patients in sexual health service delivery.

[READ MORE](#)



SMILE + CONNECT TO PROTECT

Community mobilization + cutting edge research access to care and treatment for Black gay men in Memphis

[READ MORE](#)

