

-HIV

LEAGUE

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



About Us



Since his high school years, **Daniel Szymczyk** has been working for multiple nonprofit and non-governmental organizations with a variety of missions addressing issues ranging from international justice, water independence, and people experiencing homelessness in New York City. However, in the Fall of 2015, he was wondering how he could make the most impact in a community he's a part of. The HIV community. Something he has been able to do is look back at his past experiences and based off of those experiences, he sees what is needed in communities he's a part of.

While looking back on his studies as an undergraduate student at Appalachian State University, he remembered how little support he had when he was a student living with HIV. That's when it hit him. A scholarship for students living with HIV. After doing extensive research to see if a scholarship like this existed on the national level, he saw that there were no active scholarships for this community within that capacity.

Why was this? Was it because of the preconceived notion that people living with HIV will live shorter lives, therefore investing in the community's higher education isn't worth it? Or was it just because of the overall stigma that HIV holds in general?

Daniel was determined to dig into these questions and change the conversation. So with the help of family, friends, mentors, allies, and those who are a part of the HIV community themselves, **The HIV League was formed.**



The People



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Scholarship

HIV League Scholarship

The HIV League Scholarship is the only national scholarship for students living with HIV. It recognizes the immense potential of its scholars, and aims to build their knowledge, skills, and leadership.

Every World AIDS Day (December 1st of every year), The HIV League releases the application for the HIV League Scholarship. Each applicant may choose one of the three scholarship options when they apply:

- 2-year \$7,000 scholarship for a full-time student
- 1-year \$3,500 scholarship for a full-time student
- 1-year \$1,500 scholarship for a part-time student

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for the HIV League Scholarship, one must meet the following criteria:

- A person living with HIV/AIDS
- Matriculated as a full-time or part-time student in an institution of higher education in the United States of America or US territory for at least one year starting the Fall semester following the application submission deadline
- An unweighted GPA of at least 2.5 or the equivalent of an unweighted GPA of at least 2.5 from at least one educational institution

COVID-19 HIV League Micro-Scholarship

In response to the COVID-19 epidemic, The HIV League has created the COVID-19 HIV League Micro-Scholarship. The COVID-19 HIV League Micro-Scholarship is a needs-based scholarship for those who demonstrated the most need during the COVID-19 epidemic. Each micro-scholarship awarded consisted of \$1,000 funds for each Scholar to use towards their education.

The HIV League received 114 applications for this micro-scholarship opportunity and was able to award 30 \$1,000 micro-scholarships.



Our Scholars

2020 HIV League Scholars



Charisse Ahmed

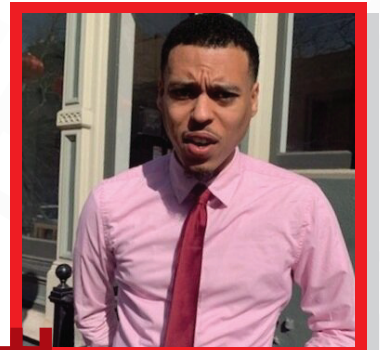
Philadelphia, PA – University of Pennsylvania - Two-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$7,000)

Charisse Ahmed is a PhD student at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Her research focuses on the implementation of interventions to improve health outcomes among adolescents living with HIV in Eswatini. Charisse received her first Bachelor's degree in Health Education at the University of Florida (UF) in 2015 and her second Bachelor's degree in Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania in 2018. Since 2013, Charisse has been involved in HIV advocacy work on the domestic and international level, from providing HIV/AIDS education to high school and college students, organizing community-based HIV prevention and testing events, conducting HIV socio-behavioral research, to attending national and international HIV conferences and meetings with policymakers to advocate for the needs of young people living with HIV.

Anthony Anderson

College Park, MD – Tulane University - Two-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$7,000)

Anthony graduated from Georgetown University in 2019 with a Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies. During his time on campus, he advocated on behalf of people living with HIV through various forms of education. Anthony continues his HIV advocacy as the Program Coordinator of Prevention at NMAC. Along with this, he is a member of the National Youth Forum on Homelessness where he advocates for sustainable laws that empower youth experiencing homelessness.



Chris Collins

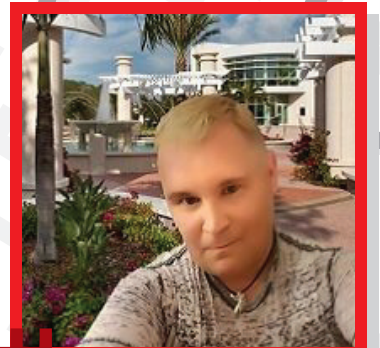
Tallahassee, FL – Florida State University - Two-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$7,000)

Chris is a second-year PhD student in Social Work at Florida State University. He holds a Master's degree in Social Work and professional licensure as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in the state of Florida. His current research focuses on violence against women perpetrated by involuntary celibates, extreme risk protection orders ("red flag" laws), and underreporting of hate crimes perpetration.

Hunter Drake

St. Petersburg, FL – University of South Florida - Two-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$7,000)

Hunter is beginning the second year of his PhD program in Public Health with a specialization in Community and Family Health at the University of South Florida. His prior academic pursuits led to a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Arts in Psychological Sciences with a focus in Experimental Psychology. Hunter currently serves as a graduate research assistant and holds a data analysis position at the USF Health Department of Pediatric Infectious Disease. His graduate assistantship work is contributing to a study on a smoking cessation e-health intervention for people living with HIV. He has also enjoyed the opportunity to teach Health Psychology and Psychology of Gender as an adjunct professor at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.



2020 HIV League Scholars cont'd



Chris

Central Florida - Two-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$7,000)

Chris is currently part of the Honors Program at the college he attends. Chris plans to complete his Associate of Arts in Spring and matriculate to a four-year university to major in cyber security. Chris is a vibrant person, who strives to bring humor and light to conversations and relationships. He was a class president, an athlete, and a thespian before heading to college the first time. He has previously volunteered at with hospitals, parks, meal programs, and community shelters.

Full-Time Art History Student

New York, NY - Two-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$7,000)

Because of the nature of the HIV League Scholarship, recipients have the option to not make their name public. This HIV League Scholar requested to keep their name private, and we are respecting their wishes.



Full-Time Medical Student

Washington, DC - Two-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$7,000)

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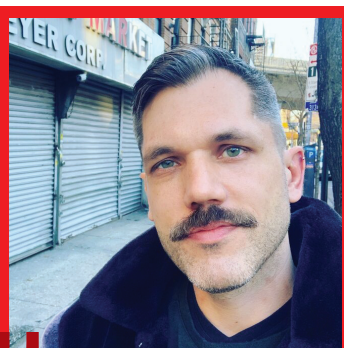
Full-Time Medical Student

Western Ohio - Two-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$7,000)

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2020 HIV League Scholars cont'd



Kevin Graves

Los Angeles, CA - University of Southern California - One-Year Full-Time 2019 HIV League Scholar (\$3,500)

Kevin is a second-year Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT) master's student at the University of Southern California, where he is a Topping, AHEC, and Dean's Scholar and holds Kappa Delta Pi and Psi Chi honors. He works as an MFT trainee at Pelican Cove Counseling Centers, providing long-term psychotherapy to low-and-no-income individuals, couples, and families in East Los Angeles.

Martez Smith

Brooklyn, NY - University of Rochester - One-Year Full-Time 2019 HIV League Scholar (\$3,500)

Martez is a doctoral candidate in Nursing and Health Science at the University of Rochester School of Nursing. He holds a Bachelor of Social Work from Ohio State University and a Master of Social Work from Long Island University Brooklyn. His research interests include addressing racial, sexual and gender minority health disparities through community-driven, asset-based interventions. In addition to conducting research, Martez works alongside a nationwide cadre of activists, organizing for social justice with the Keeping Ballroom Community Alive Network (KBCAN), which he co-founded in 2015.



Full-Time Social Work Student

Baltimore, MD - One-Year Full-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$3,500)

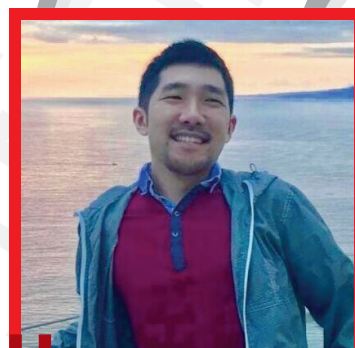
Because of the nature of the HIV League Scholarship, recipients have the option to not make their name public. This HIV League Scholar requested to keep their name private, and we are respecting their wishes.



Keisuke Lee-Miyaki

San Francisco, CA - Graduate Theological Union - One-Year Part-Time 2020 HIV League Scholar (\$1,500)

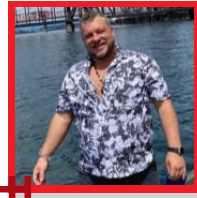
Keisuke Lee-Miyaki was born and raised in Tokyo, Japan, who's ordained by Hongwanji, Kyoto, in 2006 as a Pure Land Buddhist Priest, and endorsed by Buddhist Churches of America in 2018, as a Minister's Assistant. Following the first unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at California Pacific Medical Center in 2015, he completed his CPE residency 2017-2018 at the Oncology/Hematology Unit of UCSF Medical Center. Currently, he is working at Sojourn Chaplaincy at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center for providing emotional/spiritual care to staff and the most vulnerable population in the city. His primary practice is deep listening and sutra chanting meditation. He holds a Master of Arts, Pure Land Buddhist Studies from Ryukoku University in Kyoto and currently pursuing a certificate from the Buddhist Chaplaincy program at Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley.



COVID-19 HIV League Micro-Scholarship



Brandyn D.
Norwalk, CA - Cypress College



Ryan DePauw
Portland, OR - Portland State University



Christopher Garcia
San Antonio, TX - San Antonio College



Alejandro Gonzalez-Caceres
North Miami, FL - Florida International University



James P. Marshall, "JP"
Bend, OR - Oregon State University-Cascades



Justin O.
Los Angeles, CA - Santa Monica College



Bert Joseph Partin
Portland, OR - Portland Community College



Kara R.
Northern California - Sierra College



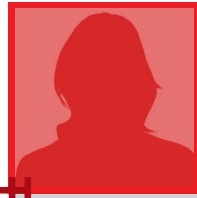
Alan Speer
Dallas, TX - Texas Tech University



Lucas
Full-Time Math Student - New York, NY



Rogelio
Full-Time Opera Performance Student - Seattle, WA



Shay
Full-Time Respiratory Therapy Student - Pittsburgh, PA



Shekinah
Full-Time Pre-Med Student - Palmetto, FL



Full-Time Nursing Student
Queens, NY



Full-Time Forensic Psychology Student
Kansas City, MO



Full-Time Communications Studies Student
Los Angeles, CA



Full-Time Engineering Student
Guam, USA



Part-Time Educational Studies Student
Southern California



Full-Time Nursing Student
Southern South Carolina



Full-Time Education Student
Greensboro, NC



Full-Time Natural Resources Student
Corvallis, OR



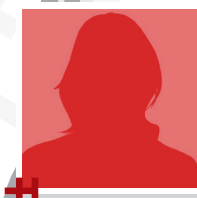
Full-Time Mathematics & Secondary Education Student
Chicago, IL



Full-Time Economics Student
Sacramento, CA



Part-Time Business Student
Houston, TX



Full-Time Neurobiology Student
Northern New Jersey



Full-Time American Sign Language Student
Los Angeles, CA



Full-Time IT-Web Software Development Student
Southern Wisconsin



Full-Time Marine Science Student
St. Petersburg, FL



Part-Time Pre-Veterinary Science Student
Austin, TX



Full-Time Social Work Student
Southern Minnesota

A History of the HIV League Scholarship

2019



Anthony R. Lucas
Oakland, CA - Wingin' Institute



John Arthur Jackson, III "JJ"
Jacksonville, FL - The Chicago School of Professional Psychology



Nicholas L. Calvin
Nashville, TN - Nashville State University



Nicole Begay
Mesa, AZ - University of Arizona



Tankut Atak
Minneapolis, MN - University of Minnesota, Twin Cities



Rod McCoy Jr.
Silver Spring, MD - Widener University



Troizel D. L. Carr
Newark, NJ - New York University



Ciara Owens
Las Vegas, NV - Grand Canyon University



Medical Student
Chicago, IL

2018



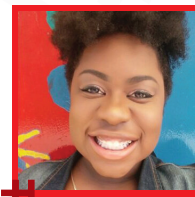
Alex Aldana
Los Angeles, CA - Los Angeles City College



Drew Hockman
Minneapolis, MN - University of California, Berkeley



Michael B. Clark
New York, NY - New York University



Tranisha Arzah
Seattle, WA - Seattle Central College

2017



Kristofer Stojanovski
Ann Arbor, MI - University of Michigan



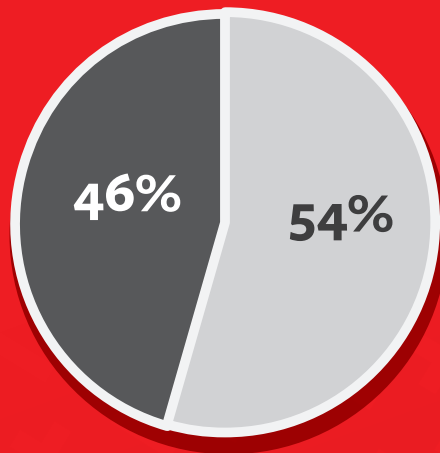
Nicole Begay
Mesa, AZ - Mesa Community College



Financial Report

2020

Total Revenue



2019 Net Income

 - \$123,787.51

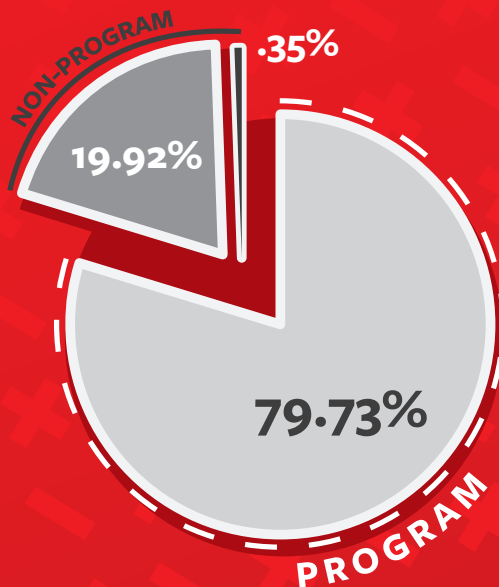
2020 Revenue

 - \$103,574.26

Total Revenue

\$227,361.77

Total Costs



Program Costs

 - \$85,196.20

Non - Program Costs

 Operational
- \$21,282.09

 Fundraising & Events
- \$383.20

Total Costs

\$106,861.49

Donors

2020 HIV League Donors

HIV Community Leader (\$2,500+)

- AIDS United
- Bill & Lisi Szymczyk
- The Campbell's Family Foundation
- Broadway Cares Equity Fights AIDS
- Gilead
- JustForFans

HIV Community Investor (\$1,000-\$2,499)

- Anthony Santella
- Jih-Fei Cheng
- Nehali Patel
- Jeff Mooney
- Michael Marino
- Vickie Lynn

HIV Community Fighter (\$250-\$999)

- Abhilash Kolli
- Danel Szymczyk
- Michelle Ogle

HIV Community Supporter (\$100-\$249)

- Andrew Spieldenner
- Anonymous Donor
- Ashley Fong
- Marko Lysko
- Stephen Bonett

HIV Community Helper (\$1-\$99)

- Barbi Perez
- Dale Stark
- Hunter Drake
- Kyle Ishmael
- Tracy Hay
- Victoria Leon





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