



Dear Friends and Supporters of Alliance Health Project,

We are thinking of you and hope you and your loved ones remain safe and sane as we pass through these unreal, frightening times. What we are experiencing at this moment in time is completely outside anything we are familiar with. Yet, we can take solace in the fact that we are not alone--even if we are home alone--all around the world, across artificial borders and natural oceans, we are experiencing this crisis together.

You may be surprised to hear that despite the “shelter in place” order, the mental health and substance use care we offer at the AHP Services Center is an essential service and our clinic remains open for our clients in acute crisis.

The care our LGBTQ+ clients receive are a safety net, even a lifeline, for those who are especially struggling. At this moment, many of our clients, like many of us, are experiencing amplified levels of anxiety, fear and even panic. When you add COVID-19 fears to living with HIV, a severe mental illness and/or a substance use disorder-- it's a lot to cope with. That's why we have been working so hard for the past week to create staffing plans and procedures so our clients can still get the care they need.

Thanks to all that work, our clients can have HIPPA-compliant telephone counseling appointments with counselors who are working from home and those calls are routed through secure applications. At the same time, our clinic is being staffed by a small crew to allow rotating in-office and work-from-home schedules that ensure AHP safety net care for our clients. Now that our regular face-to-face clients have been transitioned to telephone sessions, we have stabilized our workflow at the clinic to be available for clients who are in crisis.

The response of our frontline mental health and medical team, who never once questioned their role as safety-net providers for our clients, has been truly inspirational. Our team rolled up their sleeves and began making plans to keep our clients and staff safe and in care, and our clinic open for emergency care. Their response has made us proud to be walking this scary journey with them. We held a Zoom staff meeting today and the photo above is a gallery page from the meeting; silver lining, we briefly meditated together.

For Clients

Please call us at **(415) 476-3902**, Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm so we can connect you with an AHP provider.

If you are seeking new services, please call us to get a phone screening for your needs at **(415) 476-3902**. If you do not have a phone, we will be here from 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday. Please knock and we will invite you in for screening.

Let us Know How You're Doing

How are your loved ones responding to this crisis? Please share your stories of inspiration and struggle and, with your permission, we'll include them in a future AHP essential care during the COVID-19 outbreak email.

Be Kind and Be Safe,

Lori Thoemmes and Jim Dilley, on behalf of team AHP