

Sexual
Health



Social
Services



Bebashi

TRANSITION TO HOPE
2018 Annual Report



Hunger
Relief

Breast
Health





A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**“BEBASHI HAS
CONSISTENTLY BEEN
THE FOREFRONT OF
OUT OF THE BOX
THINKING.”**

Bebashi – Transition to Hope was founded in 1985 to address the impact of HIV in urban communities of color. At the time, there were no other AIDS service organizations in the United States doing so.

We trailblazed because we had to.

Over the last 33 years, Bebashi has prided itself for being a trailblazer. We have consistently been on the forefront of out of the box thinking – with new and innovative ways to address the sexual health disparities within urban communities – especially among African Americans.

Through this evolution, whether it be the expansion of our health screening programs, or our increased interaction with the families of our HIV+ clients, we were stunned by the crushing poverty and other social determinants of health impacting so many lives, in so many ways.

So, in typical trailblazer fashion, Bebashi did something about it. We expanded our food pantry from serving roughly 60-70 HIV affected people and their families, to serving approximately 300 individuals every month. We added health screenings for other sexually transmitted infections, Hepatitis C, and pregnancy. Furthermore, ten years ago, through a partnership with Susan G. Komen’s Philadelphia affiliate, Bebashi staff began educating underinsured African American women about breast cancer, the importance of early detection and ongoing care, and we referred economically-challenged women to free mammograms. Bebashi has also helped more than 4,000 individuals pay for state identification cards, without which, it is nearly impossible to access housing, benefits, health care, or employment. This year, through a new partnership with Miriam Medical Clinic, our uninsured clients can receive free primary health care and lifesaving screenings.

Philadelphia is the poorest large city in the United States, and it has the highest level of deep poverty. It is estimated that at least 400,000 (or nearly 26%) Philadelphians live at or below the national poverty line. We know that we cannot address every challenge of all Philadelphians in-need. However, we knew that we could and should do more – and we are.

This would have not been possible without our supporters, funders, and champions. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to support the life-changing work of Bebashi. We are forever grateful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Gary J. Bell". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gary J. Bell, MSW, LCSW, BCD
Executive Director



WE'RE MORE THAN JUST HIV

Many people know that Bebashi has been a long-time provider of HIV prevention, testing, and medical case management. However, Bebashi also provides a host of other services to help economically-challenged Philadelphians improve their overall quality of health and well-being, as well as address the social determinants that impact our community. In fact, Bebashi is one of the largest, most trusted providers of free, culturally-competent health care and social services in Philadelphia.



2018 National Testing Day

OUR MISSION

To empower people to enhance the quality of their health and overall well-being by providing access to culturally-sensitive high quality healthcare, HIV/AIDS services, health education, and social services.



2018 BE Expo



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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OUR SERVICES

Second Helping Food Pantry

Second Helping offers fresh fruits, vegetables, and meats, as well as nonperishable items and food vouchers, for economically-challenged individuals and their families. To help our clients eat more nutritiously, Second Helping staff and partners offer workshops and easy-to-prepare healthy recipes that can be made with the items clients receive. We also provide ready-to-eat meals for homeless or unstably-housed individuals.

Our Bodies

Bebashi's breast health initiative, Our Bodies, provides educational workshops, counseling, referrals to free or low-cost clinical breast exams and mammograms, as well as ongoing, one-to-one support for medically-underserved women aged 40 and older.

Resource Navigation Services

Bebashi's navigation services help economically-challenged individuals access basic needs such as housing, transportation, toiletries, and clothing. The program also provides referrals to critical resources and supports such as job training, employment assistance, quality and culturally-sensitive healthcare, and behavioral health services to help individuals navigate these complex systems and help them on their rise out of poverty.

Confidential and Anonymous Testing

Counseling and testing for HIV and other STIs, pregnancy, and Hepatitis C is provided at our office on Spring Garden Street, as well as at partner locations throughout the city.



LGBTQ+ Services

Bebashi's services developed for the LGBTQ+ community focus on HIV and STI prevention, sexual health education, increasing access to ongoing, culturally-sensitive care, improving overall health outcomes, and promoting health equity among LGBTQ+ and identifying individuals. Services help clients to overcome barriers by linking them to a host of resources and social services. Bebash also hosts a support group for LGBTQ+ clients to help them connect, share stories, and build community.

Trans Necessities Closet

The first of its kind in Philadelphia, the Closet enables transgender people to obtain free gender-affirming items such as clothing, cosmetics, wigs, prosthetics, binders, and other necessities. Clients are also linked to resource navigation to ensure that their full spectrum of needs are met.

Hepatitis C Services

Bebashi's services aim to prevent the spread of Hepatitis C while improving the health outcomes for individuals living with the virus by providing testing, community-based health education, and linkage to quality treatment.

Identification Services

Bebashi helps individuals living in deep poverty pay for and obtain a state photo identification card, which is necessary to access benefits, human services, education, and employment.

HIV Medical Case Management

Bebashi provides an array of social services to help HIV+ individuals access care and adhere to treatment with the goal of achieving viral suppression, as well as obtain resources and supports to improve their physical health and overall quality of life. Led by licensed social workers, our support groups help HIV+ clients achieve these goals and cope with the emotional and physical challenges related to their diagnosis. Support groups feature regular medical updates about new treatment options, coping with side effects, as well as strategies to improve their health and well-being.

Bebashi

BY THE NUMBERS



OF HIV+ MEDICAL
CASE MANAGEMENT
CLIENTS ACHIEVED
VIRAL SUPPRESSION

DISTRIBUTED

75,000

POUNDS OF NUTRITIOUS
FOOD TO 3,600
LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS



OFFERED HIV TESTING AT
10 PARTNER SITES
THROUGHOUT



PROVIDED
BREAST HEALTH
SERVICES TO
1,738
WOMEN

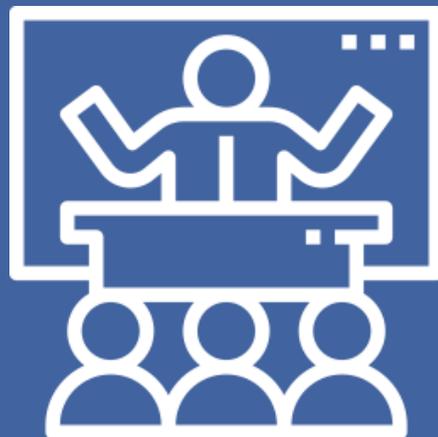
PROVIDED MEDICAL
CASE MANAGEMENT TO

925

INDIVIDUALS LIVING
WITH HIV



PROVIDED
EMERGENCY FUNDS
TO 181
**ECONOMICALLY-
CHALLENGED**
INDIVIDUALS



PROVIDED PREVENTION
OUTREACH AND SEXUAL
HEALTH EDUCATION TO

942

HIGH-RISK LGBTQ
INDIVIDUALS



TESTED

2,412



INDIVIDUALS FOR HIV AND OTHER STIs

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENDITURES AND SUPPORTERS

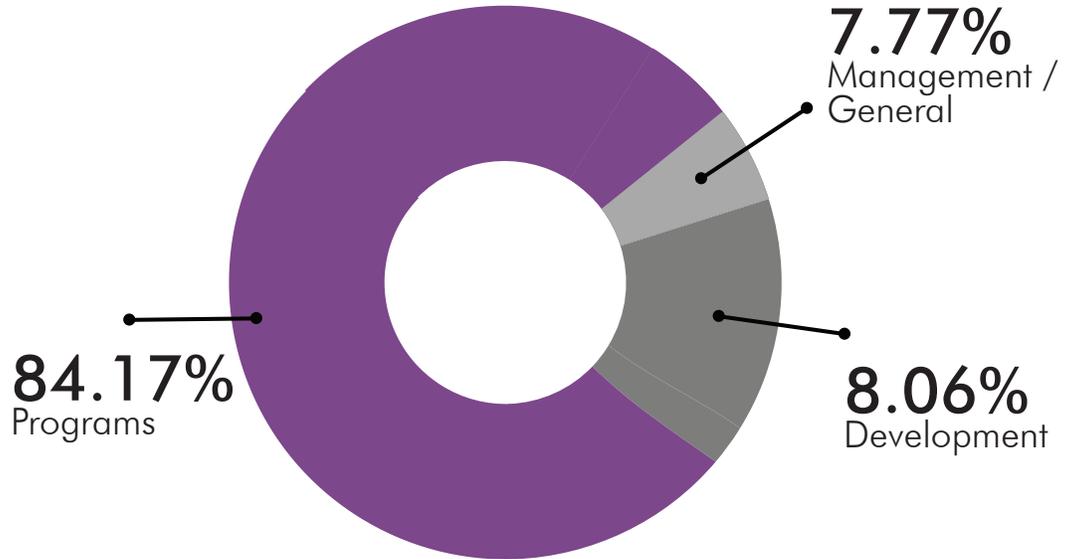
At Bebashi, we ensure that donations are spent wisely and responsibly. In fiscal year 2018, more than 84% of our funds were spent providing comprehensive health services and education to economically-challenged Philadelphians.



TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

Bebashi has a staff of 46 dedicated employees who are passionate about our clients, the Philadelphia community, and bridging the health equity gap.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENDITURES



SUPPORTERS

AccessMatters
 Adam Funck
 Adebimpe M. Dada
 Affiong Inyang
 Alan Mcallister
 Alston-Beech Foundation
 Amanda Fox-Rouch
 Amber Hikes
 Anastasia M. Gray
 Anonymous
 Asia Ali-Hawkins
 Ava Haitis
 Beverly H. Lomax
 Bims Naija Styles
 Blake A. Rowley
 Brittany Manopello
 Brother Tracy Gibson
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 Carol Henry
 Carolyn Monson
 Citizens Bank
 City of Philadelphia
 AIDS Activities Coordinating Office
 Corey B. Stone
 Creative Wraps
 Crystal Waters
 Darren R. Linkin
 Dave Bodoff
 David Valentine
 D'Brickashaw Ferguson Foundation
 Deborah Roundtree
 Debra Branch
 Debra Powell-Wright
 Delaware Valley Chapter of The Links, Inc.
 Delaware Valley Legacy Fund
 Delta Sigma Theta

Denise Coppage
 Dennis Caldwell
 Elizabeth A. Reasey
 Ellen Tedaldi
 Ernest Owens
 Eustace M. Francis
 Eve Hickson
 Francine Blakey
 Frank Worts
 Franklin McAdam
 Gail Hill
 Gary J. Bell
 Gaye H. Painten
 Gilead Sciences, Inc.
 GoodShop
 Guy Judkowski
 Harley Miller
 Harold A. Avery
 Helen Dow
 Ivy Inspiration, LLC
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 Javier Alandete
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 Jesse Hein
 Jetti Newkirk
 Jik the Barber
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 Joyce Miller
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 Juniata Design, Inc.
 Karen Downer
 Karen Moore
 Karen Young

Katherine Nauman
 Kati Gray-Sadler
 LaRessa Tate
 LaVerne Cole-Avery
 Leo & Peggy Pierce Family Foundation
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 Life Tree Pharmacy
 Lily Furniss
 Linda Marshall
 Linda Siegel
 Linda Watson
 M-A-C AIDS Fund
 Maceo Hood
 Marcine Pickron-Davis
 Mariose Roach
 Mark G. Cornish
 Meg Rider
 Mel Heifetz
 Melaney Gilchrist
 Michael Byrne
 Michael Simmons Schade
 Michael Reed
 Minuteman Press – Virgo Investments
 Morgan Wade
 NABFEME, Inc.
 National Philanthropic Trust
 Nneka Pettigrew
 Norma D. Thomas
 PaceButler Corporation
 Paypal Charitable Giving Fund
 Perry Monastero
 Philadelphia Department of
 Public Health
 Philip Chan

Philly AIDS Thrift
 Public Health Management Corporation
 Queerality
 Rachel Banks
 Rachel Simmons Schade
 Rana Walker
 Raymond Hayward
 Rittenhouse Eye Associates
 Robert Ambrose
 Roberta Gallagher
 Robin Hightower
 Robyn Green
 Ronald Green
 Sami Jarrah and Jonathan Miller
 Sandra Jewett
 Sharmain Matlock-Turner
 Sherri Hall
 Susan Domchek
 Susan G. Komen - Philadelphia Affiliate
 Susan Slawson
 TABU Bar & Sports Lounge
 TD Bank Charitable Trust
 Thomas C. Roby
 Tina Powell
 Traci Smith
 Tracy Gibson
 Uncle Bobbie's Coffee & Books
 University of Pennsylvania Health System
 Vertex Insurance Group, Inc.
 ViiV Healthcare
 Virginia Johnson Smith
 Wawa Foundation
 William Martin
 W.W. Smith Charitable Trust



CONNECTION TO RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Second Helping serves as a gateway to Bebashi's wide array of health services. Bebashi does more than provide good food. "We approach every person holistically," says Keough. "When folks come to the food pantry, we conduct a short assessment and link them to a **resource navigator** who can help them address other needs they may be experiencing such as housing, employment, mental health services, etc."

Philadelphia is the nation's poorest large city, with a staggering

48%

of residents — nearly half — who cannot provide basic nutrition for their families.

Recent data has shown that while food insecurity is on the decline nationally, it continues to rise in Philadelphia. To help combat these trends, Bebashi opened **Second Helping Food Pantry**.

PROVIDING NUTRITIOUS FOOD

Our **Second Helping Food Pantry** provides food to nearly 300 individuals and their families monthly. Established in 1999, Second Helping is now one of the largest food pantries in North Philadelphia. It is also one of the few food cupboards in the city that is open five days a week, offers a variety of meats and proteins, as well as produce, and provides healthy ready-made meals to homeless or unstably-housed individuals who lack the means to store and/or cook food.

According to Hunger Relief Coordinator Patrick Keough, Second Helping is known for the amount of food it provides—most clients receive a week's worth of food for every member of their family—as well as the personal nature of the service. "People who utilize Second Helping say it feels more like a grocery shopping experience than a food pantry," he says. "They also really appreciate the quality of food. When clients come in, they are excited to tell me about the meals they prepared the week before."

PROVIDING BASIC NEEDS

Bebashi provides additional basic needs services to the community through its emergency fund. Funds are available to help economically-challenged clients purchase necessities such as heaters, air conditioners and mattresses, pay utility and medical bills, and more. In addition, Bebashi established a fund to help cover the cost of obtaining a Pennsylvania state identification cards. Without proper legal identification, it is nearly impossible to access the basics. A recent report by the National Law Center on Homelessness notes that a lack of identification is one of the greatest obstacles in moving out of poverty. "At Bebashi, we found that many clients were unable to gain employment or even access public benefits or services because of their lack of an ID," says Executive Director Gary Bell. "Our partnership with Philly Restart covers the cost of a State ID so the individuals we serve can take the first step toward self-sufficiency."



Housing Seminar

AMPLIFYING LGBTQ+ VOICES

“

When someone has been abandoned by their family and doesn't have a job or a place to live, HIV and other health matters tend to land on the back-burner," says **Bebashi Executive Director, Gary Bell**. "In order for us to help those who are high-risk focus on their health, we first have to help them address their basic needs."



Over the past three years, BebashI has intensified its efforts to outreach to LGBTQ+ people of color.

ADDRESSING BASIC NEEDS

Chief among these efforts are the organization's prevention navigation services. Navigation helps LGBTQ+ individuals of color at high-risk for HIV infection overcome barriers to care by offering resources and social services such as assistance obtaining public benefits, access to housing, food, education, and job training, STI testing and treatment, substance abuse treatment, and mental health care.

The support and services provided by BebashI's prevention navigation program were life-changing for Alonda Talley. Talley was temporarily housed at a shelter for LGBTQ+ individuals when she learned about the program. "I was going through a hard time," she recalls. "But the staff at BebashI helped me get on my feet. They made sure I had food and when I was able to get a place to live, they helped me get the things I needed to furnish it. They constantly gave me encouragement and checked in to make sure I stayed on track. I just love the staff at BebashI," she says. "Everyone there makes you feel so welcome. They believed in me, so I could believe in myself."

MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE

While engagement in care and prevention services is critical, there remains a high level of distrust of the service system among many in the community. "If you have experienced stigma or discrimination from a provider you are less likely to seek care," says Michael Melvin, Prevention Specialist and HYPE Program Coordinator. "It's important to reach people in environments where they feel comfortable and receptive."

One unique way BebashI does this is through partnership with leadership in Philadelphia's thriving ballroom scene. The first of its kind in Philadelphia, BebashI's HYPE Program aims to help prevent new HIV infections while encouraging HIV positive members to engage in ongoing care. Built on a foundation of education and access, HYPE staff train community leaders to host

educational workshops to ensure that members of the ballroom scene can access critical information and resources to prevent infection. Approximately 300 individuals are engaged with HYPE, and the program has become popular in neighboring cities.

EMPOWERING TRANS VOICES

Bebashi has also been working to empower and promote the voices of trans and gender nonconforming (TGNC) individuals through its Trans Necessities program. Trans Necessities provides a safe space where TGNC Philadelphians can learn about health and wellness and receive free, gender-affirming supplies and resources. In addition to clothing, wigs, prosthetic breasts, binders, makeup, accessories, and toiletries, navigators can offer referrals for services such as legal name or gender marker changes for legal identification and documentation. Plus, everyone who accesses the service is offered health information, testing and referrals for primary care, PrEP, and other resources.

Keisha Gabbidon, supervisor of BebashI's prevention navigation services agrees. "So many LGBTQ+ folks have lost faith in the system," she says. "The most gratifying part of my job is when I see that moment when they recognize that we truly care, and we are going to fight for them no matter what. There is a transformation in them and you can see a sparkle of hope and a little light coming through."





SUPPORTING WOMEN AND IMPROVING BREAST HEALTH

Robin Dawson hadn't had a mammogram in seven years. "I had a bit of a scare during my last mammogram and had been avoiding them ever since," she says.

Her story is not uncommon. Far too many African American women in our city are not getting screened for breast cancer. As a result, the breast cancer mortality rate for black women is higher than that of their white counterparts. Experts attribute this to a lack of awareness about the importance of mammography screening, coupled with a lack of access to and an understanding of the healthcare system. Fear, denial, stigma, and myths about breast cancer can also play a role.

Bebashi's *Our Bodies* program addresses these challenges and helps to reduce breast cancer mortality among medically underserved women of color by raising breast health awareness and increasing access to screening and treatment.

Utilizing strategies recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Our Bodies* offers educational breast health workshops at partner sites throughout the city, provides one-to-one counseling, and refers women to free mammography screenings. Patient navigators also help women overcome barriers to care and navigate the healthcare and insurance systems. According to Prevention Supervisor, Keira Ragsdale,

"Denial and fear keep many clients from accessing screening. We walk clients through the process so they know what to expect and help them understand that breast cancer doesn't have to be a death sentence. We also work to address economic and logistical obstacles by providing transportation tokens, accompanying them to appointments as needed, and helping them obtain other supports such as child care," she says.

A highlight of *Our Bodies* is BreastFest. This annual event aims to educate attendees on the importance of early detection and ongoing health care. Attendees can also receive clinical breast exams from an onsite nurse, and Temple Health Fox Chase Cancer Center's mobile unit staff provide free mammograms in a comfortable and safe environment.

For Dawson, who connected with Bebashy at a health fair, the welcoming atmosphere at BreastFest provided the motivation she needed to have her first mammogram in seven years. "I was blown away by BreastFest. I learned about prevention, detection, and destroying myths about breast cancer. Most importantly, so many women shared their stories. It was awe inspiring."





COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Bebashi works with dozens of corporate and non-profit partners to provide a variety of services and combined programming. Through these partnerships, Bebash is able to services more people in need and expand the wide-range of services the organization offers.



GET INVOLVED

Visit www.bebashi.org to learn more and sign up to volunteer or donate.

Volunteer



Host a Food or
Toiletry Drive



Donate



Become a
Board Member



HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday	9 AM - 5 PM
Tuesday	9 AM - 5 PM
Wednesday	9 AM - 5 PM
Thursday	9 AM - 8 PM
Friday	9 AM - 5 PM

TESTING HOURS

Monday	9 AM - 4 PM
Tuesday	9 AM - 4 PM
Wednesday	9 AM - 4 PM
Thursday	9 AM - 7 PM
Friday	9 AM - 4 PM

SUPPORT GROUP

HIV Co-ed Support Group
Tuesdays | 1:30 - 3 PM
Thursdays | 5:30 - 7:30 PM

HIV Women's Support Group
2nd and 4th Wednesdays | 10 AM - 12 PM

LGBTQ+ Support Group
1st Wednesdays (During Kiki Lounge) | 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Bebashi

TRANSITION TO HOPE

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Philadelphia, PA 19123
215-769-3561
www.bebashi.org



Stay Connected @bebashi
*Instagram @philly.bebashi