2020 became a year of firsts for many of us. For Metro Inclusive Health, it was the latest test of our ability to remove barriers to care.

Even in the face of a global pandemic, I continue to be amazed by the agility of our team. We mobilized to make sure service to thousands of patients and clients went uninterrupted, and we expanded TeleHealth to create even greater access to care.

Pandemic isolation, a social justice reckoning and a stressful election contributed to a surge in demand for behavioral health services. We developed a team to meet that demand.

As LGBTQ+ Community Programs and Prevention and Sexual Health established virtual content and outreach plans, removing the boundaries of geography allowed us to welcome fresh faces in underserved areas across Tampa Bay, the U.S. and internationally.

Our Medical Director led the development of continually evolving protocols to meet and exceed CDC guidelines so staff were able to continue providing services, safely.

And although it’s 2021 as I write this, we are witnessing the Metro Inclusive Health team rise to the challenge of vaccinating individuals for COVID-19, with over 3,000 doses already provided.

Metro Inclusive Health is proof that people with a passion for what they do make the difference. A heartfelt thank you to the staff, patients, clients, community partners, sponsors and donors that make what we do possible. We refuse to let uncertainty nor adversity stand in the way of our mission.
METRO TELEHEALTH
APPOINTMENTS WITH LOCAL PROVIDERS PROVED TO BE A VERSATILE SOLUTION, CREATING GREATER ACCESS TO CARE IN 2020.

2,408
NEW PATIENTS ENROLLED
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: 866
PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES: 341
PRIMARY CARE: 818

Uniquely Inclusive Care

We are committed to eliminating barriers to quality healthcare by providing access to every individual regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, religious beliefs or financial means. Our sliding-scale fee offers any individual the ability to receive care based on proof of income and regardless of their ability to pay.

Complete HIV & Primary Care

METRO optimizes health outcomes for those living with HIV by offering HIV care — in partnership with CAN Community Health — combined with primary care and wraparound services including medical case management, behavioral health and prescription assistance.

METRO CONTINUES TO OUTPACE THE NATIONAL AND STATE AVERAGES OF HIV+ INDIVIDUALS LINKED AND RETAINED IN CARE AS WELL THOSE WHO HAVE REACHED UNDETECTABLE STATUS

Undetectable=Untransmittable

UNDetectable is when one’s viral load is so low, it cannot be detected in a test or passed on to others through sex.
Powered by Community

Patients, sponsors and donors supported charitable services totaling $772,512.24!

Thank you!

30 INDIVIDUALS HOSTED FACEBOOK FUNDRAISERS TOTALING $5,524!

with additional support from

2,781 VISITORS FROM 50 STATES, INCLUDING 2,263 FROM FLORIDA, 55 FROM NEW YORK AND 23 FROM GEORGIA

Not All Heroes Wear Capes

At METRO, your normal insurance copay provides health services and prescription assistance to under-or-uninsured community members.

Soaring to New Heights

By expanding virtual programming when it was needed most, we reached 2,561 Youth and Young Adults, of whom 915 were Black or African American and 498 were Hispanic or Latinx. LGBTQ+ Community Programs saw a total of 1,604 attendees.

Metro’s Copay It Forward Program Provided $485,163.89 in Healthcare Assistance Funds

Individuals, small businesses and major corporations hosted “Pride Raisers” benefiting Metro

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION TRAININGS INCREASED AS COMPANIES, SMALL BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS COMMITTED TO MORE WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Metro’s LGBTQ+ Welcome Center. Our partnership with the City of St. Petersburg, continued to serve as an entry point to a welcoming and inclusive community for visitors and new residents

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Trainings increased as companies, small businesses and organizations committed to more welcoming and inclusive environments

Thank you to The Smart Ride

Tablets generously gifted by the PowerOn Foundation expanded programs to those without the technology necessary to attend

Florida Blue Foundation

Florida Blue continues to be a valued partner in supporting programs for our LGBTQ+ 50 or better community

The Annual LGBTQ+ Youth Summer Camp

Sent 84 care packages to youth across Tampa Bay and as far as Texas, Oregon, Arkansas and Canada

The Virtual Trans Fashion and Health Expo welcomed keynote speaker and internationally recognized trans advocate, Schuyler Bailar

The Candle Sour

Bake ‘n’ Bakes

Valhalla Bakery

Wear Capes

Not All Heroes

With additional support from

Trulieve

Valhalla Bakery

Bake ‘n’ Bakes

The Candle Sour

Florida Blue Foundation

Florida Blue continues to be a valued partner in supporting programs for our LGBTQ+ 50 or better community
In addition to diagnosing and treating HIV, testing is key to assessing risk. Therefore, at-home testing with TeleHealth was expanded as we ramped up in-person testing by appointment and community testing via Mobile Health Units.

A renovation of the German American Club will revive one of Tampa Bay’s oldest landmarks, built in 1909, and transform the 5,000 sq. ft. Grand Hall into one of the area’s most sought-after event venues. Event rentals help offset operating expenses so we can focus more resources on our community.

AIDS Vu. Health Alert for Pinellas County

IN PINELLAS COUNTY 25% of new HIV diagnoses were among Black & African-Americans. 90% were new cases. 86% of all cases were men. 52% were between the ages of 40 & 59.

TAKEAMINUTESTPETE.ORG

PulsePoint is the #1 call for mobile health care in Pinellas County. 6,511 HIV tests performed. Over 100,000 face masks provided. 89,469 condoms distributed.

In St. Pete, hundreds of youth, seniors and members of our LGBTQ+ community depend on METRO’s life changing community programming. The new Health and Community Center will help us meet the demand for these programs in Tampa.

Locate in zip code 33605, with a 62% Black/African-American and 22% Hispanic/Latinx population, the new location will greatly increase access to care for communities of color.

Will you help us raise the roof?
METROTAMPBAY.ORG/Tampa
Black & Empowered
Our last major event prior to lockdowns, the Black & Empowered Brunch brought together local leaders at METRO St. Pete and Tampa. Panelists shared firsthand experiences, defined “empowerment,” and charted a path toward an equitable, healthy future for our community.

United We Hand
Participants and staff took part in the interactive mural United We Hand by Ya La’Ford at METRO’s St. Pete location. Due to the pandemic, the mural remains somewhat a work-in-progress. We hope to re-engage the community around its further development in the near future.

Awards & Recognition
METRO had a stellar year of awards and recognition.

Creative Loafing Best of the Bay
Best Non Profit
Best LGBT Organization
Best Community Center

Watermark Wave Awards
Favorite Local Health Care Facility
Most Effective Local LGBTQ Organization
Favorite Fundraising Event

Meet EnBe!
Introduced in 2021, EnBe (they/them/their) is a superhero promoting Metro Inclusive Health’s mission to “knock down” barriers to care while championing diversity, equity and inclusion in our Tampa Bay community.

What Our Community is Saying
Thank you is never enough!!!
Sonja J.
This place is by far the most welcoming health place I’ve been to. Kudos to all the staff members from the front desk to everyone that I have interacted with. Will recommend METRO to anyone.
Raymond T.
I was impressed. The staff are all pleasant and helpful. Shows they are happy working there.
Ed N.
Getting a counselor helped me out a lot. So yeah I would and will recommend this to everyone. Gotta keep safe and stay healthy.
Johnny A.
Love the services here. Hope once I am a RN and a PA I can work for them.
Armando R.
Compared to other places? There is no other place I would recommend for inclusive care.
Alex B.
Friendly and professional!
Carey K.
Impeccable service! Thanks for taking good care of me!
Joshua S.
It’s really nice to be with other LGBTQ+ people who accept me. METRO Youth Peer Support Attendee
The getting to know people in your community situation, I love it, and the youth nights help with added stress. METRO Youth Nights Attendee
The level of thought, care and planning that went into this was amazing! My daughter made new friends that she is in daily contact with. Her confidence has grown [and] she is happier since camp. Thank you!
LGBTQ+ Youth Summer Camp 2020, Parent

Stay connected!