

# HIV/AIDS in Chicago

Because HIV-related deaths have declined and diagnoses have remained fairly stable, the number of people living with HIV/AIDS in Chicagoland has steadily increased in the last 10 years. There are now around **25,000** diagnosed cases in the metro area. Of these,

- Two thirds are ages 30-49
- 20% are women
- 60% are African-American
- The top 3 transmission groups are men having sex with men (50%), injection drug use (20%), and heterosexual sex (20%)
- There is at least one case in each of Chicago's 77 neighborhoods

[Chicago Dept. of Public Health, 2008]



## Look For Us on the Web!

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Search for "Bonaventure House" on these sites:



## Contact Us!

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**ALEXIAN BROTHERS**  
AIDS Ministry

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# Walk With Us



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How College Students Can Partner With Alexian Brothers AIDS Ministry



**ALEXIAN BROTHERS**  
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## Who We Are

Alexian Brothers AIDS Ministry (ABAM) provides transitional housing and supportive services for people who are diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and are homeless or at risk for homelessness. Founded in 1989 at the height of the AIDS crisis, ABAM has become one of the most established and respected supportive living programs in the Chicago metro area. We provide residents with four walls and three square meals for up to two years. During their time here, they have access to

- Comprehensive Case Management
- Licensed Substance Abuse and Recovery Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Spiritual Care
- After Care

*Our vision is to transform the lives of people with HIV/AIDS within a compassionate, supportive community by providing a home, comprehensive services, and spiritual care.*

At the end of two years, the majority of our residents rejoin the community as independent, productive members of society. Since its founding, Alexian Brothers AIDS Ministry has served over 1500 residents at its three locations, Bonaventure House on the North Side of Chicago, The Harbor in Waukegan, and Bettendorf Place on the South Side of Chicago (opening 2010).

## Why Get Involved?

Everyone knows college students are especially busy, but here are a few reasons it might be worth making a place for Alexian Brothers AIDS Ministry in your studies, activities, and social calendars.

### Build Your Transcript or Resume

Volunteer with us to fulfill a service requirement or demonstrate community involvement.

### Learn About Housing, Health and Poverty Issues

Most apathy stems from a lack of knowledge, so educating yourself and others can be invaluable.

### Fight for Social Justice

Work to ensure that those on society's margins are cared for and given a voice.

### Get to Know People with Incredible Stories

ABAM residents are remarkable people who have much to offer as well as gain from college students.

### Make a Difference in Someone's Life

Helping someone in poverty who has HIV/AIDS will change their lives and yours forever.



## How to Walk With Us



There are a number of ways in which you or your campus group can come alongside Alexian Brothers AIDS Ministry in our mission to provide care, compassion, and dignity for people struggling with homelessness and HIV/AIDS. Here are some ideas for how to get involved:

### As an Individual:

- ⇒ Follow us on social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, and MySpace
- ⇒ Volunteer—either on a regular basis or for one-time events

### As a Group:

- ⇒ Form a team to support us in the annual AIDS Run/Walk in Chicago
- ⇒ Have us give an educational presentation on your campus
- ⇒ Dedicate an event to us on campus (e.g., a concert, barbecue, art show)
- ⇒ Take up a collection for specific goods that ABAM needs (e.g., toiletries)
- ⇒ Share your special skills or knowledge with the ABAM community (e.g., cooking, gardening, worship & prayer, arts & crafts, performing arts, massage)

**We look forward to partnering with you!**