The Atlanta AIDS Fund provides crucial support for HIV/AIDS prevention, advocacy and care, addressing Greater Atlanta’s high rate of new infections.

THE ISSUE
Georgians have the third-highest risk of contracting HIV in the nation, with one in every 51 people becoming infected, according to the CDC. Only Washington, D.C. and Maryland rank higher. The rate of new infections is highest in people of color, as well as people who are poor, homeless, incarcerated, have health challenges, unprotected sex and/or use drugs. Because these communities historically have insufficient access to health care, their infections are more likely to progress to AIDS.

- Men who have sex with men still represent the largest group of people living with AIDS in Atlanta at 51 percent.
- While African-Americans make up 29 percent of the population in Georgia, they represent 77 percent of new AIDS cases, and 63 percent of all existing AIDS cases in Atlanta were among this group.
- African-American women account for 87 percent of all women with AIDS in Atlanta.
- Fifty percent of new HIV infections occur in youth 16-24 years old.

UNITED WAY’S ROLE
Each year, United Way and the Community Foundation facilitate a grantmaking process providing general operating support for AIDS serving organizations as well as restricted operating support for HIV/AIDS prevention, care or advocacy programs. Together with the Community Foundation, we manage an advisory committee that helps review grant applicants from across the 13-county metropolitan Atlanta area. Programs are then funded through our collaborative partnership with the Community Foundation, Fashion Cares and the Allen Thornell HIV Care and Service Fund.

THE RESULTS
Since 1991, United Way and the Community Foundation have provided more than $12 million in support for AIDS serving organizations. To apply for funding, find more information at www.cfgreateratlanta.org.