



St. Vincent's Hospital and Medical Center of New York

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A University Hospital of New York Medical College.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 16, 1994

Mr. David S. Ford
Vice President and Director of Philanthropy
Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A.
One Chase Manhattan Plaza
New York, New York 10081

Dear Mr. Ford:

On behalf of St. Vincent's Hospital and Medical Center of New York, I am pleased to submit a proposal to the Chase Manhattan Bank for a grant in the amount of \$250,000 over three years for the Hospital's Supportive Care Program endowment.

For 15 years, our Supportive Care Program has met the needs of terminally ill patients who were beyond the hope of a cure. Initially, the majority of participants in the Program were cancer patients. Today, over 75% of the Programs's census is made up of people with AIDS.

The goal of the Supportive Care Program is to promote and achieve comfort -- physical, emotional and spiritual -- through an interdisciplinary effort including nursing, social work, and pastoral care. At a time of great stress and heartache, the Program helps each person manage to live as fully as possible, with comfort, peace, and dignity. In addition, Supportive Care places special emphasis on the mental health needs of people with AIDS and their care providers. The Program also provides counseling and bereavement services for family members, friends, and loved ones.

One of the best places for a person with AIDS to receive care is at home, surrounded by friends and loved ones. Providing the necessary level of care at home can, however, be difficult. As the AIDS epidemic takes its toll, more people are facing their illness alone. Here the Program plays a vital role. By providing support services to AIDS patients and their caregivers, Program staff and volunteers enable a patient to stay at home for as long as possible. Volunteers work one-on-one with patients and families, providing companionship and assisting with routine chores like shopping and laundry.

Upon entrance into the Program, every AIDS patient is individually assessed by a psychiatric social worker with guidance from other members of an interdisciplinary team. This comprehensive assessment is the blueprint for addressing each person's mental health and psychological needs. A "plan of care" proposes specific ways to address needs and implement intervention.



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The Program's registered nurses and Chaplains (whose services are augmented by volunteer clergy) meet the patient's physical and pastoral care needs. Social workers help with varied social problems, counseling patients on finances, housing, and insurance. In addition to weekly visits to patients, the Program offers support groups for people with AIDS, caregivers of people with AIDS, and parents of adult children with AIDS.

Bereavement care when the death is from AIDS is practically non-existent in New York City. In response, the Supportive Care Program offers individual counseling and bereavement support groups for a person's loss from AIDS. For persons wishing periodic support, the Program has a telephone follow-up service.

Through the generous support of numerous foundations, corporations and individuals the Supportive Care Program has worked to remain flexible and receptive to the evolving needs of people with AIDS and has developed innovative services to help meet these needs. This has included projects such as expanding services for parents who have AIDS to include their children and caregivers and developing a psychiatric outreach team to bring mental health services to people with AIDS and cancer who are homebound.

The Chase Manhattan Bank has been a generous donor to a Program which is funded solely through philanthropic sources. The endowment, which currently totals \$2.6 million in principal, covers approximately one-half of the Program's operating budget. Kathleen Perry, C.S.W., the Program Coordinator, oversees the Program's 11.5 employees. There are 80 trained volunteers who contributed 10,400 hours of volunteer time in 1993. The average daily census is between 80-100 patients.

Our proposal to increase the Supportive Care endowment is part of St. Vincent's capital campaign, "Advancing the Art of Healing" a \$50-million effort to augment endowments and make critically important facilities modernization. To date, we have raised more than 20% of the goal (\$10 million) from just a handful of gifts. The trustees have been generous and supportive. Our proposal to the Chase Manhattan Bank represents the beginning of a new campaign phase as we begin to discuss the program with close friends in the business community.

Fifteen years ago, when St. Vincent's began its Supportive Care Program, society was unfamiliar with the words "AIDS," "crack," and "homeless." As a non-profit institution facing inevitable changes in healthcare finance, we believe that endowments will help St. Vincent's meet new challenges as we work to serve the community.

Chase Manhattan Bank has been a distinguished partner in caring for those in distress and need. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Karl P. Adler, M.D.
President and
Chief Executive Officer

KPA/nh

cc: Joseph G. Savage ✓