Remembering a friend

decade.

Bob Mayo

served as

a Board

member.

Board of

ficer and

key leader

Mission

Vital Bridges helps people throughout metropolitan Chicago reacted by HIV and AIDS to oprove their health and build self-sufficiency by providing food. nutrition, housing, case managenent and prevention services.

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Bob helped Vital Bridges in so many ways. lovce Dawson First, he brought professional resources to Dr. John Flaherty the organization to help us plan and focus David Goldman our efforts. Bob was a strategic thinker and Khoa Ho instrumental in the merger process that cre-Gall Morse ated Vital Bridges.

Bridges family,

Bob was a fearless fundraiser and a very generous donor. Bob connected his extensive network to our cause. He brought scores of people to our events and thereby to our organization.

of Vital Bridges. On January 8, 2009, Bob

be tremendously missed by all in the Vital

passed away after a prolonged illness. He will

Boh was an avid advocate for our clients. He was clear about what was important and committed to making sure that people living with HIV/AIDS, who had no resources, could come to Vital Bridges to improve their health and build productive futures. Because of him. thousands of people living with HIV and AIDS have received nutritious food, nutrition counseling, housing services, counseling and education. Most of the people that Bob's generosity and leadership touched never met. him. But his impact is felt everyday: in the meals clients eat; the apartments they call home; their interactions with the counselors who help them move forward; and the training they receive in our Learning Center.

Bob is survived by his partner Bill Lasche, a loving family, and many, many friends. To honor Bob's memory, Vital Bridges has created the Robert S. Mayo Memorial Fund to support client services. If you would like to give a gift to the fund, please go to our website: www.vitalbridges.org or mail a contribution to Vital Bridges, 5543 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL 60640. Through the fund, Bob will live on at Vital Bridges.

20th Anniversary

Continued from cover



food, housing and case management - became a reality with the merger of Open Hand Chicago, Community Response and the HIV Coalition, becoming Vital Bridges. Clients across the metro area could now access multiple services at multiple sites in the city and suburbs, and professionals were there to help them plan their next steps and meet their needs.

When it became clear that our clients were struggling to find adequate housing and all too often were on the verge of homelessness. Vital Bridges expanded its housing services



to assure that clients had the foundation from which to rebuild their lives. And, as the medical complexity of our clients increased, we responded with additional education, more intenproviders to help clients manage and sustain their health.

In twenty years, Vital Bridges has provided nearly 10 million nutritious meals; more than 600,000 nights of safe, stable housing; 250,000 counseling and education sessions and countless hours of compassion and care. From a tiny orga-



nization supported with a few thousand dollars and a small army of dedicated volunteers, Vital Bridges has grown into

From day one, Vital Bridges was built on strong commitment: to respond to those who were sick and had no resources; to build quality, effective services; to stay the course in hard times; to put clients first. Twenty years later, this commitment still stands.

Must Bridges celebrates 30 years of helping people with HEV and AID

2006

sive case management, and stronger relationships with medical

Each year, Vital Bridges now helps nearly 2,000 clients build healthier, more self-sufficient lives. The organization provides 500,000 meals; 30,000 nights of housing; 12,000 counseling sessions; and 2,000 educational and vocational sessions.

Open Hand, The HIV Coalition, and Community Response merge to form Vital Bridges.

is Vital Bridges' first year, critical services like food, housing, and case management ar

nded to over 2,400 people with HWAIDS Immughout Chroagolans

teers beloing to bring our mission to life.

a nearly \$4 million agency with a professional staff of 28.

Today, Vital Bridges has a corps of more than 500 volun-

unity Response is started in Oak Park to meet the rising needs International AIDS Conference, organized by the tal Bridges begins construction of a new facility on Chicago's west side - a space that ter for Disease Control, is held in Attanta rightes Vital Bridges; model of integrated services. Client are now able to access all of services under one roof, including life skills and job readiness training sessions at the nity Response implements a case management program for in HFV/AIDS in Oak Park and on Chicago's west side. The HIV Coalition (HIVCO) is founded to respond to the gap in AIDS. us to highly active antinetroviral therapy. (the 'cocktail') os and education along the North Shore. The AIDS Quit. Ray Showatter Residence is purchased in Oak Park to 1991 1992 1993 1999 2000 2001 2002 ers Hand Chicago opens the first Groceryland on Chicago's north side.

he US, 200,000 AIDS patients have died, and 1.5 million have been

(V is the decade since AID's was named.)

nical trials show progress in suppressing the development of AIOS in HIV+ patients. A drug-

ur Roan White CARE Act is first signed by President George H. Busi

n Hand Chicago is formed when 30 Chicago volunteers deliver hot



Sources: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/aids/cron/ (posted may 30, 2006 web site copyright © 1995-2007 WGBH educational foundation) AND http://history.nih.gov/NIHInOwnWords/docs/page 26.html.

2003

2004

2005

016 Vital Bridges provides III is millionth moal.

st AIDS patients are seen in hospitals across the country