Our mission is to serve, support and empower Marin’s LGBTQ+ community and everyone in the county living with and affected by HIV. We envision an LGBTQ+ and HIV community that is connected, empowered, and thriving within a supportive Marin County.

Raising the bar for our future

Remarkable progress has been made to advance LGBTQ+ rights. Powerful medications put us close to eliminating deaths from HIV, and new infections. Our work is far from over.

LGBTQ+ youth in Marin continue to face rejection, discrimination, and even suicide because of who they are and who they love. Our LGBTQ+ seniors experience higher rates of isolation and depression. People living with HIV feel shunned, and many still face significant health challenges. Leadership from LGBTQ+ agencies remains critical as young gay and bisexual Latinx and African-American men become HIV-positive at needless rates.

The Spahr Center invited 150 people to share their aspirations for the future of Marin’s LGBTQ+ and HIV communities with us. As a result, we commit ourselves to raising the bar on our existing work.

We can and must make every LGBTQ+, HIV-positive and affected person in Marin feel that they belong. That they are valued. That they are fully empowered. And that our civic institutions ensure their health and well-being.

The difficult times in which The Spahr Center commits to this five-year Strategic Plan make the work more urgent! Indeed, we view this work as a vital antidote. Please join us in ensuring that all of Marin helps to raise the bar.

To read more about our current work, visit us at www.thespahrcenter.org.
ACHIEVING OUR PRIORITIES THROUGH COMMITMENTS TO:

ENSURING THE SAFETY NET

We will ensure a comprehensive safety net of services that supports all LGBTQ+, HIV-positive and affected individuals, and that enables them to thrive.

- Establish Case Management services that connect LGBTQ+ people with essential support services
- Convene a network of providers to strengthen safety net services and systems for LGBTQ+ people in Marin
- Leverage community partnerships to establish a Transgender Health & Wellness Clinic

INCREASING COMMUNITY CONNECTION

We will increase opportunities for LGBTQ+, HIV-positive and affected people of all ages to have a sense of place, community, and belonging.

- Establish a space that serves as a focal point for LGBTQ+ and HIV community connection and expression, with expanded social and cultural events, support groups, and volunteer opportunities
- Build a Friendly Visitors program to increase social support for LGBTQ+ Seniors

GETTING TO ZERO ON HIV

We will work to ensure that all HIV-positive people enjoy good health, quality of life and are stigma free, while also preventing new cases of HIV infection among gay and bisexual men of color, women of color and people who inject drugs.

- Deliver services that address the unique conditions of early aging in HIV-positive people
- Provide services to address inequities in viral suppression and in new cases of HIV infection among Latinx and African-American people
- Build a community health worker program that supports community members to serve as the next generation of HIV prevention and harm reduction workers

For further information, or to become involved in implementing this plan, please email dvangorder@thespahrcenter.org.
ACHIEVING OUR PRIORITIES THROUGH COMMITMENTS TO:

BUILDING A MORE SUPPORTIVE MARIN

We will build a Marin County that more openly and genuinely embraces LGBTQ+, HIV-positive and affected people, and that provides expert, inclusive services to our community.

- Develop a Safe Schools model for LGBTQ+ inclusion, equity, and safety in schools
- Expand training and technical assistance to health and human service providers to ensure that they are welcoming and skilled in working with our community—especially seniors and youth
- Lead communications campaigns that increase the visibility of and support for our community throughout Marin

SHOwing Up FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

We will ensure that LGBTQ+ black, indigenous and people of color are empowered and that their needs are fully addressed by The Spahr Center and Marin County.

- Ensure that planning, delivery and evaluation of The Spahr Center’s programs and services prioritize racial equity and the leadership of LGBTQ+ people of color
- Collaborate with local health and social service providers and funders to ensure that the needs of LGBTQ+ people of color are prioritized and fully addressed

ADVOCATING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

We will organize LGBTQ+, HIV-positive and affected people, as well as our allies, to ensure public policy that increases the well-being and rights of our community.

- Create The Spahr Center Advocacy Network to mobilize our community and its allies in support of public policy that ensures our rights and well-being
- Establish a leadership training institute to empower LGBTQ+, HIV-positive and affected people to assume public policy-making roles

For further information, or to become involved in implementing this plan, please email dvangorder@thespahrcenter.org.