



GILEAD
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC

Improving Lives, Building Futures

May 1, 2017

Dear Community Member,

Gilead is family. For many of our clients, Gilead provides connection, community support, and a sense of belonging that is often lost through the isolation brought about by mental illness.

And **you** are Gilead's family! It is only through the bonds of connection with our loyal community of supporters that we are able to meet the needs of over 700 individuals living with mental illness in Middlesex County.

You are the reason our clients are able to develop more fulfilling and meaningful lives, and become assets to our community.

This year we have a special request: As you know, *state funding for mental health services, continues to shrink*. So, we are coming to you during Mental Health Awareness Month to ask you to **help us close the funding gap**.

In recent years, this funding gap has caused significant challenges for one of Gilead's longest standing and most accomplished programs, **The ACT Team** (Assertive Community Treatment). ACT provides intensive case management services to 88 clients who live independently in the community. This **population has grown both in numbers, and in severity of illness** over the past few years, as the waiting list for residential programs has grown and state funding has declined. An increasing percentage of these clients are homeless and all are dealing with chronic and severe mental illness.

Despite the lack of essential state funding, **Gilead has invested in specialized staff** to better serve the changing needs of this at-risk population. Now, we're asking you, the Gilead family, to help us ensure that this support can continue to change lives for years to come.

To cover the cost of the ACT rebuild, we need to raise **\$100,000**. To help us do that, a group of dedicated supporters* has agreed to **match your donation**, dollar for dollar, up to a total of **\$50,000**. Although in past years, we have offered you a choice in how your donation dollars are spent, this year we believe there is no choice. The money we raise will be used to support our **ACT program**.

We will be deeply grateful for whatever amount you feel you can contribute, and the amount that's right for you, is right for Gilead. The beauty of the Matching Campaign is that **your dollars will be doubled by others who are inspired by your generosity**. You may contribute to the **2017 Matching Campaign** by check, credit card or by securities transfer through June 30, 2017. To donate on-line go to www.gileadcs.org, click on the Matching Campaign slide show on the homepage, and follow the prompts. All contributions are tax deductible.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Gilead Community Services. **You can make a difference** in the lives of individuals who face daily challenges. With your help, we will continue to improve lives, and build futures!

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Osborne
Chief Executive Officer



**We are grateful to the following dedicated supporters who have agreed to match your donation dollar for dollar up to \$50,000: Jane McMillan; Russ & Leslie Hassmann; Bob, Dick, & Peter Baldwin; Fran Ludwig; Mark Ludwig; Welles & Lillian Guilmartin; Suzanne & John Gaskell; Cathy & Bob Boone; Chuck Snyder; Barry Simon & Sue Silverman; Suburban Stationers; and Jim & Lisa Kaveney.*