

"Be kind, for everyone is fighting a hard battle. And if you really want to see what people are, all you have to do is look."

—Auggie, from WONDER

## Dear Gilead Supporter,

This year has been hard for everyone. Our days have been filled with anxiety and uncertainty. But one thing is certain. In the midst of our greatest challenges, our greatest resource will always be our **connection**: A shared laugh, a shared meal, a shared hug.

This year, our connection looked a little different. It came in the form of hundreds of donated hand-made masks. Unable to run and walk together for our April Road Race, we connected through countless photos of clients, staff, and friends moving alone but together in bright orange T-shirts. Our Quizine dinners this year took place under popped trunks and a setting sun. Smiles may have been masked this year, but joy surely wasn't.

Connection is a powerful healer for all of us, including our clients. Recognizing that connection is central to recovery, through your generosity, we have been able to keep our clients connected to their doctors and therapists via telehealth. Masks and PPE have made outings safe, and allowed staff to continue providing high quality care. We were able to deliver thousands of meals, letting our clients know that they are seen, cared for, and never alone.

And none of this would have been possible without our connection to you. Your genuine compassion and inspiring generosity have filled us with wonder and underscored the true meaning of connection. We are truly stronger together.

You can help keep our clients connected and on a path to recovery by donating to Gilead's **2020 Annual Appeal!** Please use the enclosed envelope or make a donation on our website at www.gileadcs.org.

With overflowing gratitude for your wonderful kindness,

Dan Osborne, CEO Gilead Community Services