



THRIVING WITH HIV

Palm Springs is a desert oasis and a thriving retirement community where being LGBT and HIV+ is accepted and understood. **It's believed that Palm Springs has a higher concentration of long-term HIV survivors than anywhere in the world.**

For decades being HIV+ was considered a death sentence. Today, thanks to effective therapy, HIV is considered a chronic, manageable disease. However, survivors are now challenged with both the medical consequences of decades living with HIV and its treatments but also unresolved emotional grief—often diagnosed as post-traumatic stress disorder. HARP - PS seeks to **research and better understand the medical and emotional factors of how to thrive as long-term survivors of HIV.** Surviving a plague is not easy.

Today, more than half of all people living with HIV in the US are 50 or older, and many are thriving. However, research shows that conditions which typically strike HIV- people in their 60s and later are occurring in HIV+ people in their 40s and 50s. Why is this? **These concerns have brought the issue of aging with HIV to the forefront.**

It's all about collaboration. Palm Springs is unique in having so many long-term survivors keen to participate in this vital research and **many local HIV service providers** to conduct patient-centered, community-based medical and behavioral research.

OUR MISSION | To improve the lives of the large and growing population of long-term HIV and AIDS survivors by studying the impacts of long-term HIV disease and its treatments on the natural aging process.

For more information about visit harp-ps.org or contact jeff.taylor@harp-ps.org.