



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Damien Center Opens Organization's First Satellite Center at Community Alliance of the Far Eastside, Inc. (CAFE)

*Damien Center @ CAFE offering free HIV & STD testing, medical care, pharmacy services, case management,
and prevention services*

INDIANAPOLIS (February 17, 2021) – Today, [Damien Center](http://www.damien.org), Indiana's oldest and largest AIDS service organization (ASO), announced the opening of its first satellite center "Damien Center @ CAFE." Located at the Community Alliance of the Far Eastside (CAFE), 8902 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, the Center's second location will offer testing, medical care, prevention, pharmacy services, case management, emergency assistance, and housing services on the Far Eastside of the city.

Leadership at Damien Center determined that CAFE's location on the Far Eastside was a good fit because data analysis of HIV cases throughout Marion County shows the area around 38th and Post Rd. has a high rate of people both living with HIV and new HIV cases. This area also has a large population of both Black and LatinX residents, both of which statistics show are historically at high risk of contracting the disease.

Founded in the 1980s, CAFE enhances the quality of life of Far Eastside residents through a variety of programs: Career Pathways, Center for Working Families, Economic Development, Great Families, Neighborhood Engagement, Re-Entry Program, Senior Services, Summer Teen Employment Camp, and Youth Employment programs.

"CAFÉ has spent more than three decades building relationships with residents on the Far Eastside and we are proud and excited to partner with them," said Alan Witchey, president and CEO at Damien Center. "It is important for us to partner with trusted organizations like CAFE to ensure that we reach as many people in this community as possible. Damien Center strives to be a one-stop-shop home for HIV wellness, and it is critical that our clients stay engaged and retained in care. This collaboration helps ensure these individuals have access to equitable care."

Damien Center @ CAFE is centrally located within CAFE's facility and will provide convenient access to an expanded menu of programs and services in conjunction with those already provided by CAFE.

"This new partnership with Damien Center is a win-win and helps us with our mission to enhance the quality of life of residents on the Far Eastside," said Michael Howe, CEO of Community Alliance of the Far Eastside, Inc. "Having Damien Center on-site will allow the community to access HIV and STD medical care, testing, and prevention services that can help them lead strong and healthy lives."

Damien Center @ CAFE is open Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Free HIV and STD testing is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment.

For more information, to schedule your free HIV & STD test, or get connected to services, visit www.damien.org/cafe or call 317.632.0123.

About Damien Center:

Damien Center is Indiana's oldest and largest AIDS service organization and leads the effort to prevent the spread of HIV. The Center opened in 1987 and offers a one-stop-shop model of care that includes preventive, supportive, and medical services that empowers people in Central Indiana affected by HIV/AIDS to move forward each day with dignity so they may live abundant and productive lives. Damien Center believes passionately in the dignity and worth of every person who seeks their services and strives to be a safe and welcoming place so that no barriers separate people from the services they need to prolong and enhance their lives. For more information visit: <http://www.damien.org> or follow them on Twitter at [@DamienCenter](https://twitter.com/DamienCenter) or like them on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/thedamiencenter/>.

About Community Alliance of the Far Eastside (CAFE)

CAFE is a resident-driven, neighborhood-based nonprofit organization that works to enhance the quality of life on the Far Eastside. CAFE is committed to engaging youth, adults, and seniors in a community network that strives to keep families strong, empowered, and connected through opportunities for leadership, self-sufficiency, asset building, and social activities. For more information visit: <http://www.cafeindy.org> or follow them on Twitter at [@CAFE_46226](https://twitter.com/CAFE_46226) or like them on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/CAFEINDY/>.

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