



Spring 2016

My thoughts about Mark Light and his contribution to the success of Positive Impact Health Centers.

For more than two decades, AID Gwinnet and Positive Impact provided comprehensive services to the Atlanta through a continuously evolving process designed to meet the regularly changing issues of people in the HIV affected community. Aid Gwinnett focused on clinical medical service care, prevention and client support services while Positive Impact provided behavioral health, prevention and support services. Critical and successful collaborative alliances and changing market conditions moved the two organizations toward a merger which resulted in the development of Positive Impact Health Centers in March of 2015.

Mergers like this require executives, senior leaders, line staff, board members and volunteers to allocate time and resources for thoughtful planning and execution. The blending of unique agency cultures requires insightful recognition and validation. Skillful and creative planning is needed to secure staff commitment and to establish clear strategies to guide the continued transformation of the agency. This important transition required the assistance of a multi-talented professional. Having worked with Mark Light, we knew that he would be the perfect person to accomplish this daunting task.

With many years of experience, study, and thoughtful research, Mark Light developed a comprehensive plan to combine representatives formerly from the two agencies into work groups with clear objectives designed to produce a viable and dynamic strategic plan for the new agency. Mark has a unique, clear and engaging style that is both beautiful to experience and results oriented. He expects each person to commit as much energy to the process as he has and he facilitates skillfully until he achieves this goal.

His excellent work resulted in a unified staff with a renewed committed to a vibrant strategic plan that would grow the agency in sustainable ways and increase the number of clients served while maintaining the agency commitment to providing services to all people regardless of income or social status.

Having been committed to nonprofit work for more than 40 years, including twenty three years as the Director of Positive impact, and with all my contacts with consultants, I have never experienced a person as thoughtful, personable and as competent as Mark Light. It is both a pleasure and a gift to work with him. He is a joy to be with in professional collaboration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul L Plate", with a long, sweeping underline.

Paul L Plate

Former Executive Director of Positive Impact

Director of Change Management for Positive Impact Health Centers

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