

Press Release

Alamo Area Resource Center | October 1, 2025

AARC Celebrates 35th Anniversary with Public Art Mural Honoring HIV & LGBTQ Communities



The mural is installed on the exterior of Dakota Icehouse, 433 S. Hackberry St., San Antonio, TX.

San Antonio, TX — The Alamo Area Resource Center (AARC) proudly marks its 35th anniversary with a new public art mural, created by local artist Mauro De La Tierra and installed on the exterior of Dakota Icehouse.

The mural reflects both history and hope. The opening piece honors the indigenous tale of the creation of the San Antonio River. The cactus and eyes pay tribute to the resilient people who forged a path toward a brighter, more prosperous future—just as AARC was founded during the HIV/AIDS crisis to bring hope and care when few others would. By integrating the Fig and Pomegranate plant, the mural celebrates a community flourishing despite challenges, reflecting the strength of people living with HIV and LGBTQ+ communities who continue to thrive.

Dandelions symbolize enduring hope for a positive future, carrying forward AARC's commitment to health equity and compassion. The hands embody unity and the importance of uplifting one another, including long-term HIV survivors whose resilience is central to our story.

"This mural was created to honor AARC's 35 years of resilience, compassion, and community care," said Jose Cervantes, Executive Director. "It is a celebration of the journey behind us and the future ahead."

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About AARC—

AARC was founded in 1990 to assist in the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. AARC now serves as one of the leading primary LGBTQ+ Social Service and Health organizations in San Antonio and surrounding counties.