

What You Can Do

- Plan an educational event on HIV/AIDS on or near December 1 (World AIDS Day) or any other convenient time.
- Hold a worship service to remember persons with HIV/AIDS or HIV/AIDS projects in Africa. Additional information is available in the International Affairs Committee 2000 report "Proclaiming God's Kingdom".
- Invite a guest from a local group to speak on HIV/AIDS. Or contact International Ministries, Presbyterian World Service & Development or the International Affairs Committee.
- Contact the Inter-Agency Coalition on AIDS and Development for more information and resources. Tel. (613) 788-5107
email: info@ucad-cids.com
web site: www.icad.com
- Copy this brochure for your information table. Use excerpts in bulletins and newsletters.

Some Facts on HIV/AIDS

Persons with HIV, Dec. 1999. 33 million +
Increase over previous year. 10 %
% living in developing countries. 95%
% living in sub-Saharan Africa 67%
% of young adults with HIV (Kenya) . . 15%

95% of deaths due to AIDS are of young adults in their peak productive and reproductive years.

--INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT 2000

HIV/AIDS Projects:(PWS&D)

Presbyterian Church of East Africa:
train the trainers program.

Church of Central Africa Presbyterian:
Blantyre Synod—orphans care program
Livingstonia Synod—home care program

Church of North India: community health program
Madurai (South India) Non-formal Education Center:
AIDS Awareness Days

Nicaragua: AIDS education for street children

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HIV/AIDS Responding to a Pandemic

*A resource for
congregational use*



PREPARED JOINTLY BY:
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
PRESBYTERIAN WORLD SERVICE &
DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

**Prayer for
World AIDS Day
December 1**

“The solution to HIV/AIDS lies in a fundamental transformation of the conditions of poverty in Africa and around the world.”

(from the TORONTO STAR, October 2, 1999)

*Most Gracious God,
In your love for us, you sent Christ to reign
over us in righteousness and truth.
Hear us now as we seek your help for
those who are affected by HIV/AIDS.*

*Into the tragedy of families and communi-
ties devastated by HIV/AIDS, we pray for
hope.*

*We pray that, through education and pre-
vention, and through the discovery of a
vaccine, the spread of this disease can be
stopped.*

*We pray for compassion for those needing
medical care and for children orphaned by
AIDS.*

*We pray for a more just sharing of re-
sources, so that those in poorer countries
can receive the treatment they need.*

*We pray for churches and church staff
seeking to make a difference. Grant them
courage and strength to continue.*

*Help all of us, O God, to be ministers of
peace and justice to a hurting world.*

In Christ's Name, we pray. Amen.

The Crisis

“Our young friend, Clothilde, who is a leader of the Christian Council of Mozambique (CCM), says every young Mozambican is acquainted with someone who is HIV positive, often, grimly, without either of them knowing about it. A disproportionate number are inexperienced teenage girls, victims of older men seeking ‘safe’ partners. The priority of CCM youth for 2000 will be anti-AIDS programs. None of the medicines that help people with AIDS in North America are affordable here.” -- Karen & Bill Butt, Canadians working in Mozambique.

International AIDS Conference

The 13th International AIDS conference was held July 2000 in Durban, South Africa—the first to be held on the African continent. South Africa is home to four million people infected by HIV. Good news announced at the conference was that an inexpensive antiviral drug, nevirapine, shows indications of cutting by half the number of infants who become infected by their HIV positive mothers.



Use this prayer on November 26, (the Sunday before World AIDS Day) which is Reign of Christ Sunday, or adapt it for any other Sunday.

Kenya

In 1994, **International Ministries** appointed Dr. Rick Allen to assist the Kenyan church to develop a program for raising awareness of ways to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS.

A strategy of “training the trainers” was approved in 1996. To date, 130 trainers have participated in 4 intensive workshops. Each is expected to train 40 Community AIDS Educators. The hope is to train 300 trainers by 2003 and 10,000 Community AIDS Educators.

The focus is on lifestyle choices, including the use of condoms. This has been difficult for the church to accept as many equate condoms with promiscuity. Special courses are being conducted for ministers; 58 ministers attended the first course and left carrying boxes of condoms!

For many partners of **Presbyterian World Service and Development**, the decision to tackle issues around the taboo subject of HIV/AIDS has not been easy. But the impact the pandemic is having on families and communities has compelled them to act. They often meet much resistance, but they continue to work in the hope the spread of this devastating disease may be stopped. -- Karen Plater, PWS&D