

Firelight Newsflash! 18 February 2008

Love in the Time of HIV

Relationships are hard enough. Finding the "right" person, getting used to each other's strange habits, and sticking around for the highs and the lows. But dating becomes even more complicated if one or both of you happens to be HIV-positive. PlusNews, IRIN's HIV/AIDS news service, introduces this Valentine's Day a bold new series, 'Love in the Time of HIV'. The series focuses on the often-ignored love lives of people living with the virus, and explores the impact of HIV on their relationships.

Read the first instalment at:

<http://www.plusnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=76713>

Psychosocial Support Mapping Exercise

Dr. Jonathan Brakarsh is a clinical psychologist consulting with UNICEF and REPPSI on a study assessing psychosocial support services and programming in the Eastern and Southern African region. To complete his mapping exercise, Dr. Brakarsh is using the attached questionnaire to obtain any expertise and country or regional information regarding who are the key organizations or networks providing PSS programs and services. In addition, Dr. Brakarsh requests to be advised of any technical groups or networks on PSS globally.

Should you have information and expertise to share with Dr. Brakarsh, please communicate directly with him at brakaim@mweb.co.zw. He'll be sure to share the results of the mapping exercise with you once it's complete.

Red Ribbon Award: Celebrating Community Leadership and Action on AIDS

Deadline: 29 February 2008

The Red Ribbon Award will be presented every two years and is a joint effort of the Leadership and Community Programme Committees of the International AIDS Conference, supported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) on behalf of the UNAIDS family. It aims to honour and celebrate outstanding community leadership and action that has helped curtail the spread and impact of HIV/AIDS. All community-based initiatives focused on HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment and support will be considered. Please see

nomination form attached.

For more information:
Red Ribbon Award
United Nations Development Programme
304 East 45th Street, 10th Floor, FF-1042
New York, NY 10017
United States
Tel: +1 212 906 6184
Fax: +1 212 906 5023

Website:
<http://www.redribbonaward.org/>

Donor Profile: Izumi Foundation

Contact info:

Catherine Bryant, Program Officer
Izumi Foundation
One Financial Center, 28th Floor
Boston, MA 02111 USA
Fax: +1 (617) 292-2315
Email: info@izumi.org
Website:
<http://www.izumi.org/index.html>

Grantmaking Information:

Geographic focus: Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia

Issue focus: Grants support efforts that will reduce the burden of infectious diseases in developing and low-income countries. Funding focuses on strengthening local health care delivery systems, cost-effective strategies for disease prevention; storage, transportation, and distribution of donated vaccines and pharmaceuticals; and disease interventions that encourage the most effective use of limited, local health care resources. The foundation actively encourages projects that will advance collaboration and partnerships between public agencies, nongovernment organizations, private voluntary organizations, local health care providers, and local health care delivery systems.

Grant size: The foundation's grants very rarely exceed \$100,000. Multi-year grants are seldom awarded.

Application process: Continuous. The foundation accepts letters of inquiry at any time during the year.

New Publication by UNICEF: Caring for Children Affected by HIV and AIDS

This Insight is intended to advance the discussion on the impact of HIV and AIDS on children in three key ways: by drawing attention to the situation of children orphaned by AIDS and the limitations of current responses for the realization of their rights; by reviewing the options for the care of these children, highlighting effective experiences and lessons learned from family and local approaches; and by identifying ways in which local, national and international actors can effectively fulfill their responsibilities to safeguard the human rights of children, with particular focus on children orphaned by AIDS.

<http://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/pdf/insight-hiv-eng.pdf>

Protégeons les enfants touchés par le VIH et le SIDA

Le rapport étudie les options de protection des enfants dans les communautés touchées par la pandémie du SIDA. Partant du principe que le lien parent-enfant est la pierre angulaire du développement de l'enfant et que la famille est l'élément fondamental de la société, le rapport considère tout d'abord les moyens de garder aussi longtemps que possible les parents en vie et la famille unie. Il examine ensuite les solutions alternatives de protection au-delà de la famille la plus proche. Les arrangements vont de la prise en charge par la famille élargie, à travers différentes formes d'accueil dans la communauté, à l'adoption et au placement en établissement. Le rapport met en lumière les façons dont les acteurs extérieurs à la proche communauté peuvent soutenir et améliorer la capacité des ménages et des communautés à prendre soin des enfants livrés à eux-mêmes.

<http://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/pdf/insight-hiv-fre.pdf>

Online Resource: Women, Children and HIV Library

This website is focused on providing resources on the prevention and treatment of HIV infection in women and children. It is targeted at health workers, program managers, and policy makers in resource-poor settings.

To access, visit the following website:

<http://womenchildrenhiv.org>

For a UNICEF and REPSSI study looking at PSS (psychosocial support) services and programming for children within an HIV and AIDS context in the Eastern and Southern African region*, could you please provide the following information. Your assistance will be of great help.

Please e-mail your responses to brakaim@mweb.co.zw

*The countries in the Eastern and South African region include Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Comoros, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe

Thank you,

Dr. Jonathan Brakarsh
UNICEF Consultant

QUESTION:

For your country or region, who are the key organizations or networks providing PSS (psychosocial support) programs and services? Feel free to include all levels of organizations: CBO, FBO, NGO, INGO, and Networks. Please provide e-mail contact and geographic location if known.

Organizations/Networks to Contact:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.