



HIV/AIDS AND TB NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER FROM THE NATIONAL HIV/AIDS AND TB PROGRAMME, PRETORIA

Number 18 6 March 2002

EDITOR'S NOTES AND STAFF NEWS

Happy birthday to the staff members of the HIV/AIDS and TB unit who celebrate their birthday in March:

- Eunice Mokwena (3)
- John Wilson (5)
- Sebei Masha (6)
- Suzette Pretorius (22)
- Kgomotso Vilakazi (29)

PLANNING FOR 2002/03

The national HIV/AIDS and TB Chief Directorate met over 2 days (27-28 February 2002) to finalise the operational plans for the 2002/03 financial year. One important focus was to ensure that the crosscutting issues are addressed, and that there is no duplication.

These plans will be shared in a National HIV/AIDS and TB Meeting from 7-9 March 2002 where the national office and provinces will share their key operational activities for the next financial year.

GLOBAL FUND FOR AIDS, TB AND MALARIA

The Global Fund came into being in December 2001, and recently announced that the first round for proposals need to be submitted by 10 March 2002.

Due to the inadequate time for proper consultation, South Africa will be submitting a proposal for the 1st round of funding that is limited in scope. The proposal will focus on 2 broad areas, namely TB Management, and Communication for Behaviour Change.

The proposal on TB Management focuses on issues such as:

- Strengthening TB management
- Training healthcare workers on DOTS expansion
- Managing multi-drug resistant TB

The 2nd aspect, communication for behaviour change, will focus on reaching youth in formal settings, focusing on issues relating to prevention, treatment, care and support.

South Africa is keen to submit a more expanded proposal for the 2nd round of funding. This second proposal will include more elements of the response to HIV/AIDS and TB, such as care and support, advocacy, treatment, and addressing the social environment (e.g. stigma and denial).

Consultations will start at the next South African National AIDS Council meeting to plan for the 2nd proposal process.

For more information, please contact Rentia Agenbag on (012) 312-0152 or agenbr@health.gov.za

DISTRICT HEALTH COMPETITION

The 4th Annual National District Health Systems Conference was held in Port Elizabeth on 14-15 February this year. The theme of the conference was 'Strengthening the delivery of primary health care through a municipality-based district health system'. A range of parallel sessions was held including one on HIV/AIDS. Four papers were presented followed by a robust discussion. Papers were presented on: developing a district-based HIV/AIDS programme (experiences from Lydenburg, MP); providing home-based care – the Bambisanani Project; establishing high transmission areas – the

East London experience; and Hope Worldwide's project in Soweto.

Key issues that were raised included:

- (a) Traditional healers are an important component of the programme;
- (b) Use HTA for targeting interventions;
- (c) Need policy on volunteers – different tariffs used at present; caution re: creation of dependency by families;
- (d) Provide services for orphans (using an Intersectoral approach);
- (e) Assist parents to disclose to children;
- (f) Emphasise a comprehensive approach; and
- (g) Include income generation programmes in our approaches.

Besides the interrogation of key issues in district development and service delivery the conference was also used to make presentations to the districts that emerged as leaders in a range of categories. Using a national list of indicators provinces evaluated each district (KZN and WC did not compete for a range of reasons). One of the special categories was district with the best HIV/AIDS plan. The district, which won this year, was Ehlanzeni in Mpumalanga. The Minister presented the district management team with a certificate and a floating trophy in the shape of the red ribbon.

For more information please contact Dr. Yogan Pillay on ypillay@intekom.co.za

RECOGNISING THE BUSINESS RESPONSE TO HIV/AIDS

Each year, the Global Business Council on HIV/AIDS presents its Awards for Business Excellence, recognizing innovative business responses to HIV and AIDS in companies around the world. The 2002 Awards will be presented May 16th in New York City. The Council welcomes entries from businesses that have responded to HIV and AIDS. Entries are welcomed from businesses worldwide in the private sector. Entry forms and details on past award winners can be found on the Council's website. For more information, please contact Julian Hussey at jhussey@businessfightsaids.org or visit <http://www.businessfightsaids.org>

USEFUL WEBSITES

The following websites could be of interest to you. Please try them out.

www.health.gov.za

www.aidsdirectory.co.za

www.medadvocates.org/news/main10818.html#Week-in-Review

www.dpp.org.za

www.hst.org.za

You are also encouraged to share information on other useful websites. Feedback on the Department of Health website would be especially valuable.



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Red Ribbon Resource Centre

For all requests of HIV/AIDS materials (posters etc.), please contact:

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