

About World AIDS Day

World AIDS Day was established in 1988 when a group of health care leaders from around the world met and agreed on the concept of a day when people can come together to demonstrate the importance of AIDS awareness and show solidarity for the cause. Twenty years later, while this underlying principle of solidarity and awareness remains the same and many improvements have been made, much work remains:

- Worldwide, there were an estimated 33 million people living with HIV/AIDS in 2007. In the U.S., approximately one million people are living with HIV and AIDS, and one-fifth do not even know their disease status, posing a high risk of onward transmission.
- Stigma and discrimination against those with HIV/AIDS poses a major threat to universal access to treatment and to HIV/AIDS-related human rights.

Global HIV/AIDS efforts and the AMA

The AMA has taken a strong stance on the need to fight HIV/AIDS at the global level. For example, the AMA supports continued funding efforts to address the global AIDS epidemic and disease prevention worldwide (H-20.898) and has pledged to join international campaigns for the prevention of HIV disease and care of persons with HIV (H-20.922).

Get involved in World AIDS Day 2010

You can help put AMA policy into action by joining the MSS on Dec. 1, 2010, as we heighten awareness of the worldwide AIDS epidemic among people in our medical schools and communities. Now, more than ever, we must continue the work that has been started. As long people continue to die from AIDS, work still remains. It requires that we continue a concerted, multidisciplinary leadership campaign. We must lead. We must empower. And finally, we must deliver. Let us be the vehicle of change in our world.

Your chapter can do many things to get involved:

- Hold a lunch talk or teach-in on the Global AIDS epidemic.

- Host a panel of 3rd and 4th year students who have interned with AIDS-related organizations or participated in international clinical rotations and worked with AIDS patients.
- Organize a volunteer project at a local AIDS clinic to help the underserved.
- Distribute information and red ribbons in your community.
- Use the [MSS World AIDS Day Forum-in-a-Box](#) to help plan your event.

Remember, AMA Chapter Involvement Grants are great sources of funding for World AIDS Day projects:

- www.ama-assn.org/go/cig

World AIDS Day resources

Free World AIDS Day and HIV/AIDS resources are available for order and/or download in pdf format from a variety of organizations:

- World AIDS Campaign [posters and postcards](#)
- U.S. DHHS customizable [posters and fact sheets](#)
- CDC [fact sheets and brochures](#)
- CDC National Prevention Information Network (NPIN) [materials](#)
- [Fact sheets](#) on the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)
- Kaiser Family Foundation [materials](#)

More information

Please visit the following Web sites for more information on World AIDS Day:

- www.worldaidsday.org
- www.worldaidscampaign.org
- www.avert.org/worldaid.htm
- www.aids.gov

Contact us

AMA-MSS Committee on Global and Public Health:

- www.ama-assn.org/go/cph



**World AIDS Day 2010:
Universal Access and Human Rights**