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Events - 12/98 - Youth and Town Hall Forum-Georgetown

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Questions for Moderators

How do you address the opposition of the work that you do? Have you encountered any surprising allies or opponents?

If there is someone who is HIV+ on the panel: Could you please go through your daily medicine regime.

Can you give us your position on needle exchange and any experience you have implementing such a program in your area of work?

How important is early diagnosis of HIV status and does it make a difference in treatment and mortality rates?

How long is the average life expectancy of an individual who today finds that they have full-blown AIDS?

What do we know so far about natural immunity to AIDS? Is anyone tracking naturally immune people in AIDS-plagued regions, and projecting what impact their reproduction of immune children will eventually have on the plague?

With new treatments, the HIV is reaching undetectable levels in the blood (still detectable in lymph tissue I believe). What does this really mean? What happens if they give blood? Will it be detected? Also, at these levels, what are the chances of spreading the HIV to other partners?

The promise of a vaccine for HIV seems always on the horizon. With trials now underway, how long will it be before a vaccine is available? Also, is there any promising news on developments beyond lifelong drug therapy for people already afflicted?

Any thoughts on the instant blood or saliva tests for HIV antibodies. Are they accurate?

Prevention is still the key. Do you believe that our prevention efforts are all that they should be?

Whom does an HIV-positive person have to tell?

**PRESIDENT CLINTON UNVEILS NEW STEPS TO ADDRESS EMERGING CRISIS OF THE UP
TO 40 MILLION CHILDREN WHO WILL BE ORPHANED BY HIV/AIDS BY 2010,
COMMEMORATES WORLD AIDS DAY
December 1, 1998**

Today, President Clinton, commemorating World AIDS Day, joined Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Brian Atwood, to launch a series of new initiatives to address the growing crisis of children orphaned by AIDS. The President unveiled historic new increases at the National Institutes of Health dedicated to fund research aimed at developing an effective AIDS vaccine and new prevention strategies to help address the problem of HIV/AIDS throughout the world; announced new emergency funding from USAID to support international community-based AIDS orphan programs; and directed his AIDS policy advisor Sandra Thurman to lead a delegation to Africa to assess the growing problem of AIDS orphans and recommend new strategies for responding. The President:

- ✓ **Highlighted USAIDS projection that up to 40 million children who will be orphaned by HIV/AIDS by 2010**, over 90 percent of which live in developing countries that have too few resources to provide for their care and support. Globally, there are over 33 million people with HIV or AIDS, with another 5.8 million becoming infected every year. As with so many epidemics, children and young people are bearing much of the burden of AIDS. In the United States, as many as 80,000 children have already been orphaned by AIDS.
- ✓ **Announced 12 percent increase this year in funding by the National Institutes of Health on research to prevent and treat HIV around the world.** The National Institutes of Health, representing the largest single public investment in AIDS research in the world, will support a comprehensive program of basic, clinical, and behavioral research on HIV infection and its related illnesses. These will include:
 - **\$200 million investment in research on AIDS vaccines to prevent transmission around the world, a thirty-three percent increase this year alone.** The development of a safe and effective AIDS vaccine is critical to stemming the growing problem of HIV/AIDS and AIDS orphans across the world. The President announced that NIH will dedicate \$200 million in vaccine research in Fiscal Year (FY) 1999, a \$47 million increase from FY1998 and an 100 percent increase since FY1995. This investment is critical in supporting the President's challenge to make AIDS vaccine research a national and international priority.
 - **\$164 million for other research critical to addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic across the world.** The President also announced that the NIH will invest \$164 million, in FY1999, a \$38 million increase over last year for critical projects to reduce the number of AIDS orphans by preventing and treating HIV/AIDS internationally, including: a new prevention trials network to reduce adult and perinatal transmission of HIV/AIDS; new strategies to prevent and treat HIV infection in children; funding to train more foreign scientists to collaborate on this epidemic; research on the prevention and treatment of the opportunistic infections, such as tuberculosis, that commonly kill people with HIV/AIDS; and research on topical microbicides and other female-controlled barrier methods of HIV prevention.

- ✓ **Unveiled \$10 million in emergency relief funding at USAID to provide support for AIDS orphans.** USAID will make available \$10 million in emergency funding to support community-based efforts for orphans, including training and support for foster families, initiatives to keep children in school, vocational training, and nutritional enhancements. In addition, USAID will take steps to help prevent the spread of HIV from mothers to children and to improve medical care for children already infected with HIV.
- ✓ **Directed AIDS Policy Advisor Sandra Thurman to lead fact-finding delegation to raise awareness and make recommendations to address growing problem of AIDS orphans.** President Clinton asked Sandra Thurman, Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, to lead a fact-finding delegation to southern Africa, where 90 percent of AIDS orphans reside. The delegation will include representatives from across the Clinton Administration, key Congressional offices, and the national media to raise awareness about this emerging problem and to develop recommendations for action.
- ✓ **Unveiled new steps to address the continued needs of those living with HIV/AIDS in the United States.** While the problem of AIDS orphans is most acute internationally, the President also underscored that HIV/AIDS impacts and displaces families in this country as well. The President highlighted that today the Vice President will be unveiling over \$200 million in funds for the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS program this year to assist communities around the country to keeping individuals affected by HIV/AIDS and their families from becoming homeless. The Vice President will announce these grants at a meeting with local community leaders who provide housing and other support services for people living with HIV/AIDS, as well as several individuals and families who have benefited from their services.
- ✓ **Built on a solid record of achievement in HIV/AIDS.** Today's announcements build on a deep ongoing commitment by the Clinton Administration to respond to the AIDS crisis both in the United States and across the world. The Administration has fought for other critical investments in HIV/AIDS. This year alone, the President:
 - Declared HIV/AIDS in racial and ethnic minority communities to be a severe and ongoing health care crisis and unveiled a new \$156 million initiative to address this problem, including crisis response teams, enhanced prevention efforts, and assistance in accessing state-of-the-art therapies all targeted toward ethnic and racial minorities in communities across the country;
 - Worked with Congress to secure historic increases in a wide range of effective HIV/AIDS programs. Increases this year alone include: a \$262 million increase in the Ryan White CARE Act; a 12 percent increase in AIDS research funding at the NIH, a \$32 million increase in HIV prevention programs at the CDC; and a \$21 million increase in the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS program at HUD.

Event Sponsors:

Advocates for Youth
AIDS Policy Center for Children
Youth & Families
DC Log Cabin Republicans
Food and Friends
Georgetown Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance
GWU Hopes (HIV Peer Educators)
GWU Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance
GWU School of Public Health and Health Services
LLEGÓ
Metro Teen AIDS
National AIDS Fund
National Gay, Lesbian Task Force
National Youth Advocacy Coalition
Population Services International
Sasha Bruce
Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League
Stonewall Democrats
Whitman Walker Clinic
Window Communications
Youth Pride Alliance

Special Thanks to the Following:

Bill Barnes, David Barr, Kim Blackford, Craig Bowman,
Amy Chambers, Martha Cosgrove, Larry D'Angelo, Paul
Dione, Christopher Dyer, Maxine Eber, Angel Fionos, Patsy
Fleming, Susan Haney, David Harvey, Aaron Hedges, Donald
Hitchcock, Koren Hoard, Shelley Kilmer, Joel Lawson,
Jeffrey Levi, Suzanne Lindauer, Andy Litsky, Kerry Lobel,
Tom Lopach, Ronald MacInness, Mathew Margui, David
Mariner, Keleigh Matthews, Ian McClatchey, John McGirk,
Daniel McGlinchy, Tom Metzger, Robert Miller, Steve Miller,
James Milner, Daniel Montoya, Clark Moore, Brian
Neumann, Maeve O'Higgins, Tom Plummer, Michelle Riguard,
Chad Sandhas, Frank Salamone, Darryl Saunders, Sylvia
Silver, Molly Snodgrass, Twana Steel, Todd Summers, Lorri
Swain, Sandra Thurman, Maggie Troope, Helen Walker,
Denise Watkins, William Waybourn, Paul Yandura

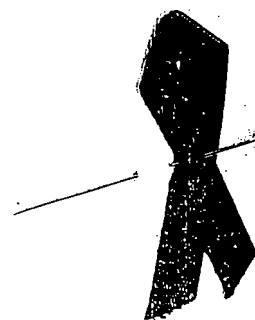
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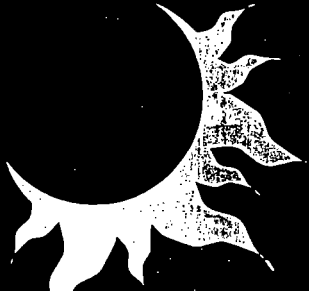
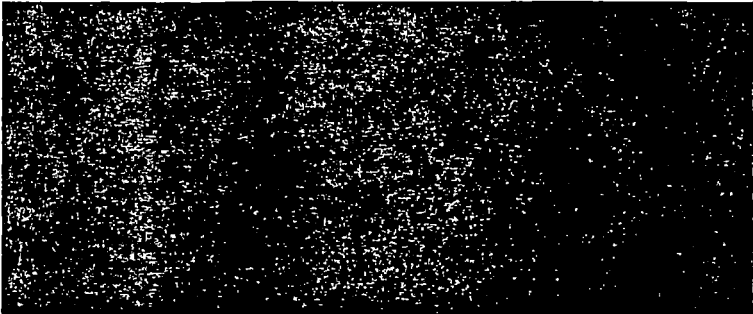
Youth & HIV/AIDS The New Battleground

A World AIDS Day Townhall Meeting



December 1, 1998





HIV/AIDS and Young People

- Last year, roughly 50% of reported new HIV infections worldwide occurred in people between 15 and 24 years of age.
- In the United States last year, one out of every four reported new HIV infections occurred in a person under 22 years of age.
- AIDS-related illnesses are the sixth leading cause of death among people between the ages of 15 and 24 in the United States.
- By the end of 1997, 22,953 cases of AIDS had been reported in people between the ages of 20 and 24 in the United States.
- Most people with AIDS before the age of 30 were infected with HIV in their teens or twenties. This illustrates the importance of advocating prevention to young people so that they have the information and resources they need to protect themselves and each other from HIV when they make decisions about experimentation with drugs and sex.

Welcoming Remarks:

Dr. Sylvia Silver

*Director, Office of HIV Activities,
GWU Medical Center*

Introduction of Moderators:

Bill Barnes,

*Advisor to San Francisco
Mayor, Willie Brown, on
AIDS and HIV Policy*

Patricia Fleming,

*HIV/AIDS Consultant and former
Director, White House Office of
National AIDS Policy*

Performance:

Youth Acting Against AIDS

Introduction of Panelists:

David Barr,

*Director of Forum for
Collaborative HIV Research, GWU*

Angel Brown,

Peer Educator from Sasha Bruce

Dr. Larry D'Angelo,

*Director of Adolescent Medicine,
Burgess Clinic, Children's National
Medical Center*

Keleigh Matthews,

*Adolescent Employment Readiness
Center, Burgess Clinic, Children's
National Medical Center*

Todd Summers,

*Deputy Director, White House
Office of National AIDS Policy*

To be announced

GWU Peer Educator

Questions and Answers from Audience

Closing Remarks:

Bill Barnes and Patricia Fleming

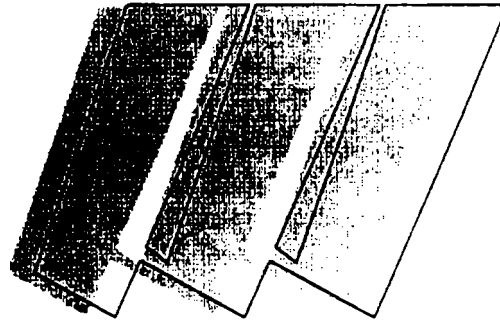
SHOW FLOW

6:30-7:00	Informational tables open and refreshments served
7:00	Panelists arrive on Stage.
7:00	Lights are flashed to indicate beginning of Program
7:00-7:05	Welcoming remarks by Sylvia Silver (Sylvia Handles)
7:05-7:10	Introduction of Moderators by Sylvia Silver (Sylvia provided with Bios of Moderators)
7:10-7:20	Moderators have time to speak on issues, then introduce Youth Acting Against AIDS
7:20-7:35	AIDS 101 by Youth Acting Against AIDS (Youth from Audience will create interaction)
7:35-7:45	Introduction of Panelist by Bill Barnes and Patsy Fleming (Bios Provided)
7:45-8:10	Remarks from Panelists (In order of introduction)
8:00-8:50	Moderators facilitate questions from audience (If questions slow, ask one question, allow for comments, and return to audience)
8:50-9:00	Closing Remarks from Bill Barnes and Patsy Fleming (Thank organizations on Program, invite attendees to stay to meet panelists and talk one-on-one)
9:00-9:30	Informational tables open and refreshments served
9:30	Volunteers break down room(s) at 9:30 or when last person leaves, whichever comes first

Panelists: Please keep an eye on time card in front row.

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356 Huntley Drive - West Hollywood, CA 90048-1919
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FAX

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*Here is an update. Please give me a
call at your earliest convenience.*

*Best,
Donald*

Youth & AIDS Town Hall Meeting

A World AIDS Day Event



George Washington University

School of Public Health

Tuesday, December 1, 1998

Ross Hall Room 227

2300 Eye Street, NW

7:00 - 9:00 post meridiem

Free admission and refreshments

For more info call 703.518.0631 Ext. 7

LLEGO

Metro Teen AIDS

Food and Friends

National AIDS Fund

Advocates for Youth

Youth Pride Alliance

Stonewall Democrats

Whitman Walker Clinic

DC Log Cabin Republicans

GWU HOPES (HIV Peer Educators)

Population Services International

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

GWU Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance

Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League

Georgetown Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance

AIDS Policy Center for Children, Youth & Families



Last updated 11/18/98 at 11:59 AM

World AIDS Day Town Hall Meeting

Date: Tuesday, December 1, 1998
Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Location: Ross Hall Rm. 227, George Washington University

Mission: To provide a forum for Youth and HIV/AIDS care providers to discuss status of HIV infection among youth, ages 13-24. We will identify and address the successes and shortcomings of education, prevention, and treatment for youth.

Format:

- Town Hall Meeting
- Two Hour Program
- 15 Minute Performance Artist, Youth Acting Against AIDS
- Panel Moderators
- Diverse Panel of Six
- Q & A from Audience
- Refreshments

Involved Organizations:

- Advocates for Youth
- AIDS Policy Center for Children, Youth & Families
- DC Log Cabin Republicans
- Food and Friends
- Georgetown Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance
- GWU Hopes (HIV Peer Educators)
- GWU Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance
- LLEGO
- Metro Teen AIDS
- National Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Task Force
- Population Services International
- Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League
- Stonewall Democrats
- Whitman Walker Clinic
- Youth Pride Alliance

Financial Sponsors:

- Advocates for Youth
- Whitman Walker Clinic
- Window Communications
- Youth Pride Alliance

Draft: Work in Progress

Last updated 11/18/98 at 11:59 AM

Speakers

Sylvia Silver, GWU (Introductions)

Moderators

- Patsy Flemming (Adult Moderator)
- Open for Youth (Age 14-24)

Panelists

- Keleigh Matthews, Burgess Clinic
- GWU Peer Educator
- David Barr, AIDS research
- Todd Summers, Deputy Director of White House AIDS Policy Office
- Open for Youth (Age 14-24)
- Open for Youth (Age 14-24)

Potential Speakers and Moderators (Maximum 6, plus moderator):

- Bill Barnes, 21 year-old HIV+, Mayor of San Francisco
- Youth from National AIDS Fund
- Representative from DC Youth Shelter, Sasha Bruce
- Minority AIDS Council Representative
- Larry D'Angelo, Children's Hospital 202-884-2178 other: 202-884-3068
- Youth from Children Affected by AIDS Foundation
- Infected Global Youth or Global Expert
- HIV positive youth
- PACHA Rep for Youth
- HIV Positive Hemophiliac

Draft: Work in Progress

Attn: Todd Summers.

Monday, November 16, 1998

Dear Friend,

We would like you and your organization to join us on World AIDS Day at the George Washington University, School of Public Health to address the topic of **Youth Matters: Youth & HIV/AIDS – The New Battleground**.

There is still an opportunity for local and national HIV/AIDS organizations to get involved, as well as the opportunity to set up informational tables in the back of the auditorium.

Please contact me if you would like to participate in the program, have a representative present with your organization's materials, or if you need more information.

- Who:** Advocates for Youth, DC Log Cabin Republicans, Food and Friends, Georgetown Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance, GWU Hopes (HIV Peer Educators), GWU Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance, LLEGO, Metro Teen AIDS, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Population Services International, Stonewall Democrats, Whitman Walker Clinic, and Youth Pride Alliance
- What:** World AIDS Day Town Hall Meeting:
Featuring the diverse voices of local youth and HIV/AIDS care providers. Youth Acting Against AIDS acting troop will open program. Free Admission.
- When:** Tuesday, December 1, 1998
7:00 PM to 9:00PM
- Where:** George Washington University, School of Public Health
Ross Hall Rm. 227
2300 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
- Why:** To provide a forum for Youth and HIV/AIDS care providers to discuss status of HIV infection among youth, ages 13-24. We will identify and address the successes and shortcomings of education, prevention, and treatment for youth.

Best regards,

Donald Hitchcock
Youth Pride Alliance

703-518-0631 X7 Information Hotline
202-223-0554 Work
202-233-0558 Fax

Remarks of Amy Slemmer

Mr. President, Secretary Albright, Administrator Atwood, Director Thurman, and other distinguished guests.

While I have been involved in the AIDS community for nearly 15 years, today, I am here to talk with you as a mother of a child orphaned by AIDS.

My daughter Cynthia and I are honored to participate in today's World AIDS Day observance and to be part of this historic commitment to addressing the needs of millions of children worldwide who are caught in the crossfire of the AIDS pandemic.

While the number of children orphaned by AIDS is staggering -- it is important to remember that these are not numbers -- they are children. Children trying to survive the death of their parents. Children trying to learn to live again. Children searching for hope. Today, I am proud to be able to tell you about just one of these children -- my daughter, Cynthia.

Cynthia was born almost 9 years ago -- to a loving mother, who was attentive, caring, and HIV positive. Carla Edwinna Barrett reveled in raising Cynthia. She marked holidays as though each was a cause for great celebration and a chance to focus on the importance of family.

For Halloween, Carla dressed Cynthia up in costumes for the nursery parade. At Christmas, Carla took Cynthia for pictures with Santa. Easter time included trips to church and Easter egg hunts. And between holidays, Carla volunteered to read stories in Cynthia's pre-school.

Some families have the luxury of taking these precious moments for granted. Carla and Cynthia did not. For short periods, Carla could run from reality of her HIV infection -- hoping their time together would last forever. But before long, she began to feel the debilitating effects of HIV disease. Simple things like walking Cynthia to and from school became increasingly taxing and required more and more time.

Cynthia noticed her mother's sinking energy level and began asking what was

wrong. Like most mothers, Carla initially tried to protect her daughter by convincing Cynthia that she was just tired.

As HIV turned to AIDS, Carla's visits to the doctor became more frequent. There were days when Carla would take Cynthia to school, rush to a doctor's appointment, only to discover she needed to be admitted to the hospital. And while this left her concerned about her health, it left her panicked about who would pick Cynthia up from school, who would explain to her what was going on, and who would care for her.

It was during these unexpected emergencies that I was able to act as a safety net for Carla and Cynthia. I had known them both for a long time. Ten years ago I had volunteered to be a "buddy" for a woman with HIV -- and that woman was Carla. I was there when Cynthia was born -- and was able to share in the celebration when we found out that she, unlike her mother, was healthy and HIV free. Beginning in those early days, we created a strong and close extended family..

Each new hospital admission brought worse news about Carla's health. As she struggled with one AIDS complication after another, she was forced to make impossible choices -- choices that no parent should have to make.

Carla wanted Cynthia's needs to come first. Occasionally she would put off needed treatment, to spend quality time with her daughter. Unfortunately, these healthy interludes would not last long before the horrors of AIDS would once again take hold.

Cynthia could no longer be spared the pain of her mother's illness, and her life began to get really complicated. Carla's hospital stays took her away from Cynthia's classroom where the other children had begun to expect her. Cynthia tried to explain her mother's absences to friends -- while not fully understanding them herself. Some people talked about the "A word" and some of the kids kept their distance. She knew something was wrong, deadly wrong.

Like most children, Cynthia immediately assumed her mother's absence and even her illness -- was her fault. During those nights that she spent with me while her mother was hospitalized, I tried to comfort her and discourage her from blaming

herself. Even with my reassurances her fears would waken her with nightmares.

Before long, Carla understood that she needed to face her own death. And while this reality scared her, nothing compared to the anguish she felt about grappling with who would raise Cynthia when she was gone. Cynthia was only 5 and she had her whole life ahead of her.

One of the most painful conversations I have ever had was discussing with Carla her wish that I raise Cynthia after she died. Carla was desperate to be sure that Cynthia had the love and guidance she needed to hang on to her dreams. I agreed that day to try and give her that chance. Knowing that Cynthia would not be left alone, gave Carla comfort and peace.

Millions of children around the world just like Cynthia need that second chance and do not get it. And millions of mothers around the world just like Carla, search for that feeling of peace before they die, and never find it. I can't even image that pain. That's why I am here today.

After her 8 year battle with AIDS, Carla died at the age of 25. While our grief continues, Cynthia and I are now a happy family. I am a little overprotective, but we are blessed with a home, a patient pediatrician, and a family support system that understands that it really does take a village to raise a child.

Cynthia is a brilliant little girl who is now thriving at a new school. She makes friends easily, is a star soccer player, and a joy to parent. While she enjoys all of the pursuits of a typical 8 year old, she is wise beyond her years about death and dying.

Every day I try to live up to my promises to Carla. I try to raise Cynthia as a happy child, who is proud of her African American heritage, who knows no prejudice in her heart and who, when the time comes, will honor Carla's memory by living up to her full potential.

The lessons that I have learned on this journey have been invaluable. As a mother, I now know what it means to be grateful. Grateful for Cynthia's health, for her smile, and for our future as a family. I want what all mothers want -- a chance to make the world better for my child -- and for all children.

So today I join with the voices of mothers from Baltimore to Botswana and from the South Bronx to Southeast Asia. In villages, in cities, on farms, and in the suburbs, mothers are crying out that the coming generation is in jeopardy. Our global family has AIDS -- and everyday it is mortgaging the futures of millions of children.

Mr. President, I commend you for the action you are taking today on behalf of the children orphaned by AIDS. Being left alive should not mean being left alone.

Because of your compassion and your dedicated leadership, our government can now help to bring hope to millions of children who will find themselves, as Cynthia did, orphaned by AIDS.

Until there is a cure for AIDS, women and men in the developing world will need increased access to care and support so that they can live long enough to care of their children. And as we work toward a world without AIDS -- not only here but around the world -- we must always remember the children whose futures are in our hands.

Mr. President. Thank you for fighting AIDS not people with AIDS. Thank you for helping to build our global village. And thank you for always remembering the children. For Cynthia, for Carla and for millions of Mother's Voices around the world -- I am honored to introduce to you today, our Commander-In-Chief in the global battle against AIDS, the President of the United States.

Richard Socarides 12/01/98 04:04:37 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Sandra Thurman/OPD/EOP, Todd A. Summers/OPD/EOP

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 1, 1998

PRESS BRIEFING BY
SANDY THURMAN, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY

The Briefing Room

1:56 P.M. EST

MR. TOIV: Next on our program, as you know, the President today announced an ambitious series of funding measures to combat AIDS, today being World AIDS Day. And to talk further about that is Sandy Thurman, who is the Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy.

MS. THURMAN: Thank you. We are delighted today to announce some new initiatives to address the epidemic, primarily on

the global level, but on the domestic level as well. The President just announced that we will have a new \$10 million initiative to look at the issue of AIDS orphans globally.

As many of you may know or may have heard today, the U.N. AIDS program has projected that we'll have more than 40 million AIDS orphans by the year 2010. That is equal to every child living in the United States east of the Mississippi. Huge numbers of children with no one to care for them. So we're going to look at how we're going to be able to support infrastructure in the countries that are hardest hit by this epidemic. And the President has directed me to go on a fact-finding mission during the first of the year to take a look and see how we can be more supportive of those children in the countries hardest hit by this epidemic.

Secondly, we announced today that we are going to invest \$200 million in AIDS vaccine research. That's a 33 percent increase over last year. Unless we find a vaccine to stop the spread of this disease, this epidemic stands to make the plague of the Middle Ages and the flu epidemic in the early part of this century absolutely pale in comparison to this pandemic.

I think it's important to note that we're at the beginning of this epidemic as we reflect today on the needs of people in the developing world, not in the middle of an epidemic and not at the end of an epidemic. So this investment in vaccine research is extraordinarily important.

And lastly, we're going to invest another \$164 million in research at the NIH to deal specifically with issues relative to the international epidemic. So I think today, as we pause and remember all of those that we've lost, and particularly, all those children who are affected by this disease, that we sort of do a little heavy lift today and remember those people in the rest of the world.

But in addition to that, let me add that the Vice President will announce this afternoon more than \$200 million in housing grants for people living with AIDS. And that's particularly important because, as we hear the good news about this epidemic, that we have dropping rates of AIDS in this country and drops in the AIDS deaths in this country, that means

we have more people living with HIV. Those people are poorer; they're people living on the margins, increasingly those most vulnerable in our society, and they really need services like housing to allow them to access the wonderful treatments that we have available in this country.

So let me just stop with that and answer some questions.

Q Is all of this money money that was approved in the FY'99 budget?

MS. THURMAN: Yes.

Q So this is all money that's been previously approved.

MS. THURMAN: Yes, it is.

Q And designated for these things?

MS. THURMAN: That's correct.

Q So why the announcement today?

MS. THURMAN: Well, because the emergency funding was designated for an emergency fund, but we're specifically targeting the emergency money to look at this issue of AIDS orphans globally. The theme of today's World AIDS Day is youth. And more than 50 percent of all new infections around the world and in this country, for that matter, are in people under 25 years of age. So we thought it was particularly fitting to focus on young people and particularly orphans.

Q The \$200 million for the AIDS vaccine, was that money set aside specifically for that in the FY'99 budget?

MS. THURMAN: Yes.

Q It was.

MS. THURMAN: That's a 33 percent increase over last year.

Q How close are you to getting an AIDS vaccine?

MS. THURMAN: We're actually not very close, unfortunately. We thought in the early days of this epidemic that by now we would have a vaccine, and unfortunately, HIV is a retro virus. It's particularly difficult to develop a vaccine for, and there are other complicating factors. We have many strains of HIV, which makes it even more difficult. More than likely, we'll have vaccines, and not just a vaccine. So that's why the effort to develop vaccines is so important and why we have to continue and to focus on the research piece.

Q You said that, in fact, what you were telling us today is what was included in the omnibus bill at the end of this last Congress in approving the FY'99 budget?

MS. THURMAN: Yes, but they're being announced for the first time today.

Q We didn't know this, people didn't know this was in the bill?

MS. THURMAN: No, I think we focused on it, though, for the first time today. I think if we'd looked carefully in the fine print we could have found them. But they're being announced for the first time today.

Q Are there other things tomorrow in the bill -- (laughter.)

MS. THURMAN: No -- yes, yes, yes. No, no, they're here to stay.

Q -- going on the air tonight with it.

Q Well, I was dumb enough to think that you were somehow anticipating the President's next budget request --

MS. THURMAN: And we certainly are looking at that at this point in time, and looking at where we need to focus our efforts and how we need to allocate our funds for next year's budget as well. But we just finished this one, so this is what we have and what we're going to focus on. And I think it's a bit of a shift and I'm excited about that. I think it's very telling of where we are in this epidemic with 30 million people infected, 6 million new people each year, 10 percent increase in numbers of people infected in 1998. And that's significant -- it's not insignificant.

Q Who is going with you on your trip to Sub-Saharan Africa, has that been determined yet?

MS. THURMAN: We're going to take -- I don't know exactly who is going, but we're going to take people from USAID; we're going to take colleagues from the Congress; and we're going to take members of the press as well.

Q Sandy, this fact-finding mission at the beginning of the year, what specifically are you going to look for? I mean, we know that -- you're saying that the majority of the AIDS orphans are coming from Africa, but what specifically are you looking at?

MS. THURMAN: We're going to look at what works and what doesn't work. I mean, there's a tendency to think that the way to deal with a problem like this is to build institutions, to build orphanages. And what we found long-term in caring for people in communities around the world is that we need to do just that -- look at community-based strategies that support people in foster homes and other homes and communities around the globe.

So that's what we're going to be looking at -- what works and what doesn't work.

Q So, okay, Africa is the first place; what's the second place?

MS. THURMAN: Asia. India, specifically.

Q As far as next year's budget, it's been reported that the administration is looking at increasing Medicaid coverage to include the disabled particularly affected with HIV virus, that they're planning to return to work --- health benefits.

MS. THURMAN: Well, we certainly looked at a proposal offered by Senators Jeffords and Kennedy last year that supported giving people the option to keep their health coverage when they went back to work. I don't think any decisions have been made on the budget so far this year that I know of.

Q How would that affect -- is that a major problem within the HIV community?

MS. THURMAN: It is, it is a major problem in the HIV community. There are a lot of obstacles to people going back to work. And now that we have people living longer and better lives as a result of the new therapies that are available, we need to make sure that people can keep their health care coverage or keep their benefits, or have access to the drugs while they go back to work.

That's important for a variety of reasons. It's important emotionally for the patients, but it's also important economically.

Q -- going to India?

MS. THURMAN: Yes, actually, I'm going to India next Monday, and we'll be there for a week with the U.N. AIDS program to talk about programs specifically in Asia, to do some site visits. So we're on our way on Monday.

Q -- in India?

MS. THURMAN: About 7 million at this point in time that we know of, and probably more, as we begin to do better surveillance. I think that India and the rest of Asia will very likely be a second epicenter of the epidemic as we move farther into the 20th century.

Q -- working on a vaccine on AIDS and they have come up with something.

MS. THURMAN: There are a variety of vaccine

candidates that have been developed around the world -- India certainly has capability to produce and do research on vaccines, and that's part of the collaborative effort at NIH with other countries to make sure that we're not duplicating efforts international he development of vaccines.

Q Sandy, why be so gracious abroad when there's a deep problem here in America?

MS. THURMAN: Well, I think -- twofold -- I mean, I think we are focusing on the epidemic here and we have consistently increased our funding. We had the largest increases in AIDS funding ever this past year. But when you look at the numbers and you look at economic issues and you look at security issues in addition to the humanitarian impact that this epidemic is having on our global family, then I think we have an obligation as the richest country in the world to not just look at home, but to look abroad and see what kind of support we can provide.

Q There's got to be tons of agencies on the ground in all these places -- U.N., CDC. Why is it necessary to go over there and how much of this is PR versus actual science or investigation?

MS. THURMAN: Most of this is investigation. I don't think any of it is PR. I mean, when you see the nonprofit organizations on the ground like the ones that I have run for many years that are actually producing and providing direct services to people living with HIV and those affected, I think

it's not about PR. A little money goes a long way in a developing nation. Seventy percent of all the money that USAID is giving in grants out of their AIDS program is going to very small nonprofit organizations that are providing services on the ground. And I think that's significant.

Q Sandy, you've mentioned Africa and Asia. How do you see the problem in Latin America?

MS. THURMAN: It's growing very quickly in Latin America. I mean, this epidemic is growing very quickly all around the world. And one of the interesting things here is with all the good news we seem that the epidemic is over, and in North America we're holding steady at about -- or in the United States we're holding steady at somewhere between 40,000 and 60,000 new infections a year. We don't see a drop in our infection rates, we see a drop in our AIDS rates, as a result of the new drugs. So certainly, we have to look to South and Central America where we have very rapidly rising rates of HIV infection as well.

Other questions? Thanks so much.

HIV Prevention Trials Network

Q: What is the Prevention Trials Network (PTN)?

A: The HIV Prevention Trials Network is a new research program supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and other NIH Institutes to conduct studies of promising biomedical and behavioral strategies for the prevention of HIV transmission among adults and children, both domestically and internationally.

Q: What kinds of studies will be supported in the PTN?

A: Research will include the following: (1) evaluation of a broad range of interventions designed to reduce adult and perinatal transmission of HIV; (2) basic laboratory studies that address viral and host factors related to risk of transmission, mechanisms of transmission and/or modes of action of successful prevention strategies. Types of interventions may include: (1) antiretroviral drugs; (2) microbicides; (3) behavioral approaches; (4) barrier methods; (5) immunologic strategies; (6) chemoprophylaxis; (7) treatment of sexually transmitted diseases; and (8) combined approaches.

Q: How is the PTN structured?

A: The PTN is supported through a cooperative agreement mechanism (U01). A single Prevention Leadership Group will guide the development of the scientific agenda of the PTN in cooperation with individual study sites (called HIV Prevention Trials Units, or HPTU) in the United States and internationally. The PLG and the HPTUs will be selected through the NIH's competitive application procedure. Applicants must assure broad community participation at both domestic and international sites--including opportunities for education and training of researchers and community members.

Q: What is the current status of the PTN?

A: A Request for Applications (RFA) for the Prevention Leadership Group was released on October 30, 1998, and applications are due by February 12, 1999. It is anticipated that the PLG will be awarded in September 1999. A subsequent RFA for the sites (HPTUs) will be released shortly, with applications due in September 1999. Sites will be selected and funded in March 2000.

Q: How many sites will be selected?

A: The number and location of sites selected will depend on the applications received; however, it is anticipated that about 20 sites will be funded, half in the U.S. and half in other countries.

Q: How much funding is available to support the PTN in FY 1999 and beyond?

A: Approximately \$8 million will be available in FY 1999 and another \$15 million in FY 2000. The bulk of funds will come from NIAID, with additional support from other NIH Institutes, including the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and the National Institute of Mental Health. The NIH Office of AIDS Research will continue to play an active role in facilitating multi-Institute collaboration in this research effort beyond FY 1999.

TALKING POINTS BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE
WORLD AIDS DAY
Tuesday, December 1, 1998

(Acknowledgments from advance)

- I want to offer a special word of thanks to my wife, Tipper. She has worked tirelessly to raise the awareness of AIDS, to help those who hurt, and to help end this epidemic.
- Today, in America and around the world, we are commemorating world AIDS day -- a day for remembrance and reflection. A time to think about the massive toll AIDS has taken on our country and our world. When we look at the daunting numbers associated with HIV and AIDS -- 33 million people infected worldwide, 60,000 people in the United States infected every year, and half of all new infections occurring in people between the ages of 15 and 24 -- it is hard to believe, but this year, World AIDS day is also a day for hope.
- In the long and bitter struggle against AIDS and HIV, I believe that there has never been a more hopeful moment. New drugs and therapies are providing health and optimism. The estimated number of new infections has slowed. We are making strides in education and prevention. Deaths from AIDS are dropping for the first time ever. And for the first time, we can see -- maybe not immediately, but sometime within our view -- the prospect for a vaccine and even a cure.
- We know how much more remains to be done. That's why I'm proud of the work President Clinton and I have done to fight this terrible disease: increasing Ryan White AIDS CARE grants by over 240 percent. Increasing the AIDS drug assistance program by 450 percent. Launching a historic initiative to eliminate racial disparities in health -- with HIV and AIDS a major target. Now we're working to pass a strong and enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights to provide the critical protections -- like direct access to specialists and continuity of care -- that are so essential to HIV and AIDS patients. And we will continue to fight this epidemic and help all whose lives have been touched by it.
- Today, the President is taking a historic step to stem what will be a coming epidemic of children orphaned by AIDS -- with emergency funding for USAid and NIH to support programs for the staggering 40 million children are expected to be orphaned by this disease by the year 2010. *the smallest victims - those children orphaned by AIDS.*
- The advances in HIV and AIDS therapies also mean that more and more people are living with HIV and AIDS -- and living fulfilling and productive lives. That is why, even as we fight this disease on the molecular level -- as we fight to

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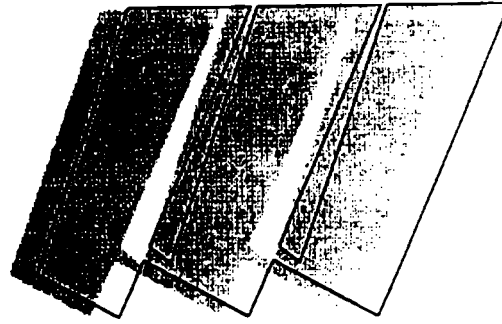
improve the lives of those orphaned by it -- we must also fight to maintain the health, safety, and dignity of people living with HIV and AIDS.

- **That is why I am proud to announce \$220 million in grants from our Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide housing and other critical support services for more than 65,000 people with HIV and AIDS. We all know that AIDS exacts an emotional and intellectual as well as a physical toll -- often making it impossible for people with AIDS to hold a job. This commitment that we are announcing will insure that people fighting AIDS don't have to fight to keep a roof over their heads.**
- I know that the battle against AIDS is far from over. And, like marking a child's growth on the back of a door, each World AIDS Day, we see measurable progress. Today, I have hope. Hope for a better life for people living with AIDS. Hope for the children orphaned by it. And hope for a future in which this epidemic is history. Now I'd like to hear from you...

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FAX



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Heho TODD!
-Donald

November 29, 1998

Dear *Tad*,

Thank you for giving your time this World AIDS Day to help educate our community on the serious issues facing our Youth.

Each of Speakers, Moderators, and Panelists will have approximately 5 minutes to state where you feel we have succeeded, where we have failed, or where we need to focus our efforts on HIV/AIDS issues and Youth. You may choose to share your personal story, or a story that has touched you in the work that you do. I suggest that you choose to explore in depth one of these topics, as opposed to touching on all of them.

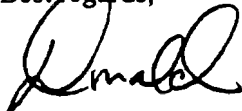
In order to facilitate the conversation and cohesion of the panel, it has been suggested that we meet prior to Tuesday evening. Monday evening, November 30th, at 7pm there will be a short coffee break for all of those who can attend at the GWU Marvin Center Starbucks. The Marvin Center is located on 21st street, across from Tower Records. After coffee, the planning committee can walk you over to Ross Hall to familiarize you with the location and room. Please RSVP with me as to whether you can attend the Monday evening event.

On Tuesday, December 1st, please report to Ross Hall at GWU no later than 6:30pm. The guard will have your name on a list, however you will still need photo identification to enter the building. Please proceed to Lobby A past the stairwells to check in with the committee. In Lobby A, you will have the opportunity to enjoy refreshments and to relax before the event with the other speakers and panelists.

Please give me a call at 202-223-0554 when you receive this message. I will need to give you last minute information or directions. Also, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Your involvement in this year's World AIDS Day meeting is greatly appreciated.

Best regards,



Donald Hitchcock

Youth Pride Alliance

SHOW FLOW

School Address: George Washington University, School of Public Health
Ross Hall Rm. 227
2300 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Event Sponsors: Advocates for Youth, AIDS Policy Center for Children, Youth & Families, DC Log Cabin Republicans, Food and Friends, Georgetown Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance, GWU Hopes (HIV Peer Educators), GWU Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Alliance, GWU School of Public Health and Health Services, LLEGO, Metro Teen AIDS, National AIDS Fund, National Gay, Lesbian Task Force, National Youth Advocacy Coalition, Population Services International, Sasha Bruce, Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League, Stonewall Democrats, Whitman Walker Clinic, Window Communications, Youth Pride Alliance

6:30-7:00	Informational tables open and refreshments served
7:00-7:05	Welcoming remarks by GWU AIDS Coordinator, Sylvia Silver
7:05-7:20	AIDS 101 by Youth Acting Against AIDS
7:20-7:25	Introduction of Moderators by Sylvia Silver
7:25-7:35	Introduction of Panelist by Bill Barnes and Patsy Fleming
7:35-8:00	Remarks from Panelists
8:00-8:50	Moderators facilitate questions from audience
8:50-9:00	Closing Remarks from Bill Barnes and Patsy Fleming
9:00-9:30	Informational tables open and refreshments served