



GAY & LESBIAN NETWORK

equality | **respect** | **acceptance**
ukulingana | **inhlonipho** | **ukwamukeleka**

NPO NO: 026-854 PBO NO: 930006636

HIV/AIDS and vulnerable groups

“No one left behind”

aidsfocus.ch annual conference 2015

7 May 2015

Bern, Switzerland



health

HIV & AIDS Care, Prevention
& Treatment for LGBTIs –
Addressing Stigma &
secondary victimisation of
LGBTI persons

A Waldhausen



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About Gay & Lesbian Network:

- Established in 2003
- Situated in the Heart of Pietermaritzburg
- 10 donors
- 8 core staff & 9 fieldworkers/volunteers serving uMgungundlovu, uMvoti, uMngeni districts
- Currently 2 Programmes:
 - ❖ Outreach
 - ❖ Creating An Enabling Environment



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The team....



CURRENT CHALLENGES....

- Exclusion of LGBTIs in medical and civil society based research on HIV&AIDS
- Recently the SA National Strategic Plan on HIV, STIs and TB 2012-2016 (SANAC) calls for the inclusion of key populations (LGBTI; MSM, sex workers and drug users)
- Lack of up-to date research on key populations .
- From the workshops we have found that there is a high number of lesbian woman and transmen that believe that there is no transmission of Human Immuno- deficiency virus (H.I.V) if you don't use your fingers whilst engaging in sexual play,
- I quote *"I use toys only. I don't use my fingers so H.I.V and me awubonwa (I won't get it)"*

• A sad reality exists as within the lesbian and transmen community, there is a high rate of unprotected sex with multiple partners, and still people have a misconception that they won't contract H.I.V.



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- Through our engagement it came out that Lesbian, Transman and Bisexual (LTB) woman feel failed and neglected by the organisations that work with LGBTI when it comes to H.I.V barrier commodities.

"Transwoman and Gay guys are covered by ICAP but not us and you promote safe sex but you don't provide, why? "

WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU!

For free counselling
call our Helpline on
086 033 3331
or SMS **HELP** to
079 891 5036
and we will call you back.
Helpline operates from
4 pm – 10 pm on weekdays
and 10 am to 10 pm
on weekends.

Oxfam
International

GAY & LESBIAN NETWORK
equality | tolerance | respect | acceptance
ukulingane | ukubekela | ukhulupha | ukwenketho

185 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg
Tel: 033 342 6165 Web: www.gaylesbianken.org



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- GLN educates and creates awareness about sexual & gender diversity; sexual awareness and treatment literacy **but cannot provide L.T.B participants with commodities that will be protective/barrier methods.**



Background on HIV in South Africa

- Highest HIV rate in the world
- HIV prevalence is currently sitting at an estimated 38%
- Despite access to treatment, people default
- HIV+ people are discriminated against
- LGBTI people are associated with the HIV
- Poverty, alcohol & drug abuse play a role



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Source: Human Sciences
Research Council

What has GLN done?

- INSTRUMENTAL IN RESEARCH:

- Key studies and surveys done on MSM – JEMS and Marang Men's Project - HSRC
- PATH, USA to conduct survey on stigma amongst MSM living with HIV in SA in July 2015

- SERVICE PROVISION:

- Protective & barrier methods
- HIV Counselling & testing (testing on the go)
- Active member of the South African National Aids Council(SANAC) LGBTI sector

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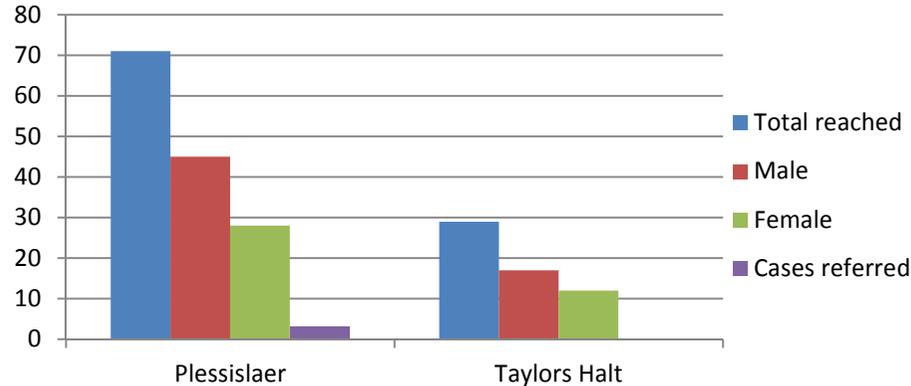
● WITHIN THE COMMUNITY:

- Sexual & Gender diversity trainings
- Awareness Campaigns
- Sexual Awareness workshops
- Treatment Literacy workshops
- Active participation in municipality and events of partners



GLN's OUTPUT

- We have:
 - Contacted 4980 MSM people since 2012 (most 20 – 35 years) **(1 out of 5 = HIV+)**
- Training of Criminal Justice System: 7 Police trainings
Total Reached: 100 (62 males; 38 Females)(in 3months)



- We have risen systemic failures within public healthcare through case documentation

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- GLN has trained Imbalenhle Hospital doctors; nurses; hospital management and clerks.
- Has presence in 4 community based clinics
- uMsunduzi Municipality HIV/AIDS Unit
- Total reached : 83 in 5 trainings



Addressing Stigma and Victimization

- Hate Crime Working Group
- Educational Workshops in Communities (Dialogues; events & trainings)
- Reports of Rights Violations
- Forum Theatre – Rainbow Theatre Group



Addressing Stigma and Victimization

- Sensitization amongst stakeholders
- Support Groups – Zenzele Youth Support Project



Way Forward

- Empowering the marginalized through educational trainings & dialogues
- Increased visibility in media advocacy
- Proposals to fund further GLN activities
- Documenting & Reporting of Hate crimes
- Lobbying Department of Health to provide holistic information & provide protective methods
- Training of police & criminal justice partners



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WE ARE HERE. WE ARE STRONG.

INVITATION

You are cordially invited to attend
SIMUNYE: LIVING POSITIVELY TOGETHER
COMMUNITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN
VENUE: EDENDALE LAY ECUMENICAL CENTRE
DATE: 3RD DECEMBER 2014
TIME: 10:00AM

Join us for a day of learning, sharing, networking and community engagement in the areas of Health and HIV/AIDS.
Striving for the Realisation of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights amongst our most marginalised people.

NB: Two representatives from your organisation. Each organisation is required to purchase 10 candles AT the cost of R5 per candle as part of fundraising.
RSVP BY: 28 NOVEMBER 2014

Contact: Zama Khanyile
Tel: 033 342 6165. E-mail: info@gaylesbianzn.org

AIDS Foundation
South Africa
Working Together to End AIDS



Resources:

- Human Science Resource Council
- The National Strategic Plan
- Gay & Lesbian Network Statistics
- CAPRISA



THANK YOU!

OUR CONTACT DETAILS:

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info@gaylesbiankzn.org

Connect with us on:

www.gaylesbiankzn.org

Twitter:

[@gaylesbiankzn](https://twitter.com/gaylesbiankzn)

[@GLNhealth](https://twitter.com/GLNhealth)

Facebook: **Gay & Lesbian Network**

HELPLINE: 0860 33 33 31

