

Nova Scotia

PWA Coalition

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COMMUNICATION SENT TO:

FAX NUMBER: 454 - 4766

COMPANY: Oxfam

ATTENTION: Kim Bernard

COMMUNICATION RECIEVED FROM:

FAX NUMBER: 422 - 6200

COMPANY: Black Outreach Project

CONTACT NAME: Deena Masenworthy

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Kim,

I toned the letter down
a bit, let me know what
you think.

Deena

A Member of the Canadian AIDS Society



Dear Friends and Colleagues.,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Black Outreach Project, sponsored by the Nova Scotia Persons With AIDS Coalition. The Project started in 1991 as a result of a growing need to address the issue of HIV/AIDS in the Black community of Nova Scotia. Through a process of providing culturally specific information, education, and support services, the Black Outreach Project strives to decrease HIV infection, specifically within the Black Community.

The needs assessment which was completed in Phase I of the Project's operation, brought to light some very disturbing conclusions. Some of those conclusions were that the awareness of HIV/AIDS in our community is low, that there is a significant denial of AIDS and its effects, and that many people feel that AIDS does not affect Black people in Nova Scotia. **AIDS does affect our community, and together we must address this issue.**

I would urge you to raise the awareness of HIV/AIDS in your community, at your workplace, in your organization and at home. The only way we can protect ourselves, our friends, family and loved ones, especially our children, is by talking about it, educating ourselves, and raising the awareness so that people will take the necessary precautions.

I am available to talk to you, your friends and family, or your organization about this issue. My accessibility also applies to areas outside of the Metro area but within the province. The Black Outreach Project is developing materials and methods for the purpose of others to be AIDS educators in their perspective communities. Also, Irondale Theatre Ensemble in conjunction with the Black Outreach Project and AIDS Nova Scotia, is currently developing a culture-specific theatre piece with six of our Black youth. This theatre piece will be travelling throughout the province to the Black communities. This will be an excellent means of HIV/AIDS education, please take advantage of it. Irondale will be available to perform the last week of July and the first two weeks of August. These performances will be free of charge and for bookings please contact either myself at the enclosed number, or Steve Cross at 429-1370.

If you wish any information, presentations, workshops, or just want to talk about a positive response to this problem please call or visit at anytime. **AIDS is a problem for all of us, let's work together to stop HIV infection.**

Sincerely,

Deena Noseworthy
Community AIDS Educator
Black Outreach Project

THE BLACK OUTREACH PROJECT
sponsored by
THE NOVA SCOTIA PERSONS WITH AIDS
COALITION.

wants you to have the resources and opportunity to educate
your community on HIV/AIDS.

The Black Outreach Project is only funded until January
1996, but AIDS education must continue. We will be
developing a resource kit and training manual for you to
carry on this task. We are looking forward to hearing your
suggestions, and getting your input concerning these
materials at the session listed below. We will also be
discussing AIDS and racism, AIDS in our Black Community,
and what the Black Outreach Project can do for your
community. AIDS is a problem that affects us all, let's do
our best to decrease HIV infection.

TIME: _____

DATE: _____

PLACE: _____