

AIDS crisis is already upon us. Government negligence, society's homophobia, racism and sexism, and corporate greed have severely impaired our ability to create a health care system responsive to our needs as people living with AIDS and HIV (PLWA/HIV). **AIDS Action Now!** believes that AIDS is a chronic, manageable illness but the failure of our society to respond to its challenge means that PLWA/HIVs are still dying unnecessary deaths. It's time to turn up the volume of our protest! Turn your anger, fear and grief into action!

## JOIN AIDS ACTION NOW! TO DEMAND IMPROVED TREATMENT DELIVERY TO PLWA / HIVS!

1. Information Needs: PLWA/HIVs across Canada need access to optimal standards of treatment and care. We need a health care system which is prepared to grapple with the challenge of HIV and AIDS and to transform AIDS from a fatal to a chronic and manageable condition.

#### **DEMAND:**

· that the provincial government develop a process which will define and then implement standards of care for PLWA/HIVs in the health care system, based on the model of accelerated rather than palliative treatment · that the federal government bring about national concensus on accelerated care as the appropriate medical response to HIV and AIDS.

· that the Ministry of Health upgrade the education of health care professionals in a manner which reponds directly to the urgency of

the AIDS crisis · more community-based AIDS/HIV information networks like the Community AIDS Treatment Information System (CATIE) project which was initiated by AIDS ACTION NOW!

 that the Federal government stop dragging its feet on TISAH (the national Treatment Information System for AIDS and HIV) and move ahead on it immediately, maintaining the access features which link it to the HIV community.

TURN YOUR ANGER INTO ACTION!



2. Access: PLWA/HIVs are working in the face of government neglect to save their own lives. We need to protect our rights to do so by acknowledging the catastrophic rights of people confronted with life threatening illnesses for which there is no known cure.

## **DEMAND:**

· that the Federal government move quickly to improve and broaden access to treatments for PLWA/HIVs

- · that the Federal government and pharmaceutical companies facilitate the delivery of the drugs that are necessary to improve and prolong our lives
- · that treatment units within HIV clinics be established to deliver experimental treatments to PLWA/HIVs, thereby expanding our access to treatments and protecting physicians who currently deliver these treatments without legal protection that the provincial
- government develop a coherent plan which assures the availability of treatment and services in all regions across the province

TURN YOUR GRIEF INTO ACTION !



3. Comprehensive Care: The services that PLWA/ HIVs need are currently delivered in a fragmented and uncordinated way. The health care system must respond to the challenge of HIV by providing a system of comprehensive care which includes medical. social, psychological and other support services. Comprehensive care can be delivered through the creation of HIV clinics within hospitals which act as points of coordination in the management of HIV. These clinics should emphasize community input, individual case management, provide a broad range of services, and could also act as sites for the delivery of experimental treatments.

#### **DEMAND:**

- · increased funding for community-based support and care provided through HIV clinics
- · a continuum of care for PLWA/HIVs which provides a comprehensive and coordinated range of services

TURN YOUR FEAR INTO ACTION!



4. Payment: AIDS **ACTION NOW!** continues to demand full funding by

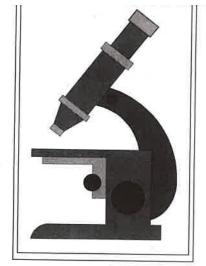
the province of all treatments for PLWA/ HIVs. The province has covered the cost of AZT but we have no assurances of, for example, ddI, which is soon to be marketed, or any other of the vast number of drugs which will be used increasingly to manage AIDS.

### **DEMAND:**

- · a provincial policy of full coverage of all Health Protection Branch (HPB) and Emergency Drug Release Program (EDRP) approved treatments for PLWA/HIVs
- · that alternative treatments with proven effectiveness be publicly funded
- · the ODB (Ontario Drug Benefit) formulary expand the range of people eligible for financial assistance

TURN YOUR ANGER INTO ACTION!





## JOIN AIDS ACTION NOW!

# TO DEMAND IMPROVED RESEARCH INTO HIV/AIDS!

1. The National Research
Agenda: Amongst countries in
the developed world, Canada
lags far behind in the funding it
has committed to AIDS research.
The National AIDS Strategy,
announced a year ago by the
Minister of Health and Welfare,
committed no new funding to
AIDS. The major national
research bodies are unresponsive
to the AIDS crisis.

#### **DEMAND:**

• that the federal government allocate substantially more AIDS dedicated treatment research funding to support clinical research and clinical trials •collaboration and coordination between organizations that currently fund AIDS research in Canada



# 2. The Rights of PLWA/HIVs to Treatment

PLWA/HIVs want access to a broad range of treatments which manage or prevent opportunistic infections. They want their doctors to be able to prescribe these drugs with the aim of enhancing their individual health. Clinical trials provide treatments to PLWA/HIVs but not with the aim of enhancing the individual PLWA/HIV's health, Clinical trials are designed so that researchers can understand the effects of the drug being administered on a certain population. Unless treatments are available from a source other than a clinical trial, PLWA/HIVs are forced to enter trials to receive treatments. This coercion must end!

#### DEMAND:

that all AIDS clinical trials
ensure an alternative way of
accessing the treatment, so that
PLWA/HIVs can get treatment
when they want treatment, and
enter a trial when they want to
participate in AIDS research
 more community-based research bodies like the Community Research Initiative of
Toronto (CRIT) which respond
with ethical trials to the research
demands of the HIV community.

#### TURN YOUR FEAR INTO ACTION!



# JOIN AIDS ACTION NOW!

Come to an AAN General Meeting Thursday, July 4, 8:00 p.m. 519 Church Street Community Centre A Report on treatment developments from the 7th International Conference on AIDS in Florence

or

Come to an AAN
Orientation Meeting for New Members
Sunday, July 7, noon to 3:00 p.m.
519 Church Street Community Centre
For information,
phone Jamie at (416) 516-1762

Response Address: AIDS ACTION NOW!
Suite 321-517 College St.
Toronto, Ontario M6G 1A8

# Yes! I do want to support AIDS ACTION NOW!

I would like to be on your mailing list	
I would like to become a member of AAN!	
V I mould like a series	72
I would like to contribute some time to AAN!	
(please contact me)	
I would like to support the work of AAN!	
with a denation of \$	
(Make cheques payable to AIDS ACTION NOW!)	
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Name:	
Address:	
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# TURN UP THE VOLUME

How much longer must we wait?

