PROJECT inform
Information, Inspiration and Advocacy for People Living with HIV/AIDS

WHAT'S NEW?

April 2002

Excerpts from Hotline Memos of March, 2002
From Project Inform

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Urge Congress to Support Emergency Supplemental Appropriation for Global AIDS Fund

Last April, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan announced the creation of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. This international fund is intended to help treat and prevent HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria for those without access to medicine, healthcare, and adequate prevention programs.

While the United States was asked for a $2 billion contribution to this fund, the final appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2002 contained an inadequate $200 million. This amount lowered the bar on donations made by other countries and funders and momentum slowed dramatically.

Some Members of Congress, including Senators Arlen Specter (R-PA) and Richard Durbin (D-IL) are pushing for an emergency supplemental appropriation of $750 million for this fund, which would make the contribution by the United States roughly $1 billion for this fiscal year. This emergency request might be attached to an upcoming emergency spending bill related to funding the war on terrorism, homeland security, or relief for Afghanistan. $750 million is a tiny fraction of the billions of dollars being considered for those programs, and would make a strong statement that the United States intends to play an important role in fighting the global HIV/AIDS pandemic.

You can help with this effort by encouraging the Bush Administration and your Members of Congress to support this emergency supplemental!

How you can help:

Congress may consider this emergency request very soon. Please take a few minutes to contact the Bush Administration and your federal elected officials and urge them to support this effort!

1 Call or email the White House with the following message: "I urge President Bush to ask Congress for a $750 million emergency supplemental appropriation for the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. The United States should make a meaningful contribution to this effort to prevent infections and provide access to treatment and care to those in need around the world."

Contact information: (phone calls recommended over email) **Phone:** 202-456-1414 **Email:** *president@whitehouse.gov*

2 Then, call or email your U.S. Representative and two U.S. Senators with the same message. Phone calls are recommended over email. Ask them to convey their support to members of the Appropriations Committee, who will be the key decision-makers about this issue.

Contact information: You can find local and D.C. phone numbers, along with email addresses, for your Representative at *www.house.gov*. Contact information for your Senators can be found at *www.senate.gov*.

3 You can get more information about efforts to secure adequate funding for international HIV/AIDS programs—including more ways you can involved—by visiting HealthGAP's website, *www.healthgap.org*. HealthGAP is a coalition of U.S.-based activists working to increase access to care and treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS worldwide.

Ron Wilmot Bike Ride

Saturday, May 11, 2002; Golden Gate Park

Here comes the Ron Wilmot Bike Ride! Join dozens of other bicyclists from around the Bay Area—and beyond—on **Saturday, May 11, 2002** for a seven-mile ride through Golden Gate Park for fun, for health and to support a great cause.

Your participation in this "small-but-mighty" event ensures that accurate and up-to-date HIV/AIDS treatment information is available for all who need it, free of charge. Now in its eighth year, the Ron Wilmot Bike Ride continues to be a fun, effective community ride in which cyclists of all abilities can participate. And thanks to the enormous dedication and help of community volunteers, generous contributors and local businesses, the Ron Wilmot Bike Ride continuously delivers 95 cents of every dollar raised directly to HIV/AIDS programs and services. Last year, riders helped us raise over $70,000 to support Project Inform programs. But with increasingly scarce resources for HIV/AIDS, we rely on you to show your support.

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You can make a real difference—register as a rider, and encourage others to do the same. All participants receive plenty of snacks at the Ride, a thank-you bag of goodies and a chance to win a Grand Prize drawing for a fabulous vacation getaway (like last year's trip to the Virgin Islands)!

Promotional Opportunities for Company Teams

Collaborate with at least 5 of your co-workers to set a group goal of $5,000 or more. As an added perk, your company can get special recognition on Bike Ride promotional materials, a special feature on Project Inform's website, and more! The sooner your company team registers to participate, the more recognition your company can receive.

So please don't delay. We're counting on you to join us on May 11 at Peacock Meadow in Golden Gate Park. Register as a rider—encourage others to ride—and help to support Project Inform, the nation's leading resource for HIV/AIDS treatment information.

For additional information about starting a company team, sponsorship opportunities, and how you can become involved this year, please visit our website: *www.projectinform.org* or contact Julie Doherty: 415-558-8669 x223 or *jdoherty@projectinform.org*.

SUPPORT PROJECT INFORM BY BECOMING A PLEDGE PARTNER

As a Project Inform Pledge Partner, you can spread your tax-deductible gift into monthly payments. Pledge Partners and Partners in Hope receive *ìWhatís New?,î* our monthly treatment newsletter.

ADDRESS INFORMATION

Yes, I want to help Project Inform remain at the forefront of providing critically important HIV/AIDS treatment information!

Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. **Mr. / Ms. / Mrs.**

Address

City **State** **Zip**

Email **Phone** **Fax**

☐ **This is a new address. My (Our) old address was: Address**

DONOR FORM

Enclosed is my . . .

☐ **Pledge Partner pledge of:** $_____ per month for _____ months
($40 or more per month for a year entitles you to Partners In Hope membership)

☐ **Donation of:** ☐ $35 ☐ $50 ☐ $100 ☐ $250 ☐ Other $_____

I would like to join Partners in Hope with a donation of:
☐ $500 ☐ $1,000 ☐ $2,500 ☐ Other $_____

In Honor of / In Memory of: (circle one) _____

☐ **Please omit my name from any public listing of donors to Project Inform.**

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Circle One: **CHECK** VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS MasterCard

Credit Card #

Exp. Date

Print Name as Shown on Card

Signature

Phone Number

WNEW

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