

AIDS at 20

A National HIV/AIDS Policy Initiative

A Joint Initiative of The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and the Ford Foundation



DESCRIPTION

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and The Ford Foundation are jointly sponsoring a National HIV/AIDS Policy Initiative to help inform the U.S. response to the epidemic both domestically and around the globe. The Initiative is intended to provide objective, non-partisan policy information and analysis to policymakers, advocates, researchers, and the media. It was launched on June 5, 2001 – 20 years to the day after the first reported AIDS case – at a National Symposium held in Washington DC. To learn more about the Initiative and access products, see www.kff.org/AIDSat20.

GOALS

The overall goals of the Initiative are as follows:

- To **raise the profile of HIV/AIDS policy issues on the national agenda** by heightening awareness among a wide variety of stakeholders (e.g., members of the Administration and Congress, other policymakers, the media, community organizations and advocates, etc.);
- To **identify critical HIV/AIDS policy issues** to be addressed over the next several years;
- To **provide policy analysis of and options for addressing these critical issues**, based on independent and objective policy research; and
- To **provide forums for discussing policy issues and refining these options** with key public and private stakeholders. All products will be distributed widely and be made available through the project website.

ISSUE AREAS & ACTIVITIES

International HIV/AIDS Policy: The Initiative will focus its international policy efforts on identifying key issues facing the United States government as it seeks to expand and improve its efforts to address the global AIDS pandemic, such as: analyzing U.S. spending and support for global AIDS efforts; examining the role of infrastructure in delivery of HIV prevention and care services in resource-poor settings; describing the relationship between issues such as U.S. trade policy, debt relief, and HIV/AIDS.

Domestic HIV/AIDS Policy: The Initiative will focus its domestic efforts primarily on low income and minority communities, who continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS. Focus areas will include the role of Medicaid and Ryan White CARE Act in providing access to care to people of color living with HIV/AIDS; the status of efforts to expand Medicaid to people with HIV prior to their becoming disabled; a geographic/regional analysis of the varying impact of the epidemic across the U.S.; and the impact of HIV/AIDS on men of color who have sex with men.

Outreach Activities: The Initiative will use a variety of mechanisms, including Congressional and media briefings, stakeholder meetings, and focused roundtables to ensure that the Initiative's products are widely disseminated.

COORDINATING TEAM

The Kaiser Family Foundation is coordinating the overall Initiative, with assistance from Progressive Health Partners (PHP). For more information about the Initiative, please contact Jennifer Kates, Senior Program Officer, Kaiser Family Foundation, at 202-347-5270 or jkates@kff.org or Todd Summers (PHP) at 202-207-1336 or todd@phpartners.com. Documents are available at www.kff.org/AIDSat20.



The Ford Foundation