



november 2007

e-bulletin

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Int'l Women's Summit: July 4-7, 2007  
Women's Leadership on HIV and AIDS

workshops

submit your proposal today

**'Women are 2... Finding Solutions': a documentary**

**Did you know?**

Every day, another 7000 women and girls become newly infected with HIV. Current responses to AIDS prevention are failing women and girls, and unless we find solutions, this figure will continue to rise.

Around the world, women are providing leadership in finding these solutions. At the local and the global, in governments and in grassroots communities, women are leading change to reduce HIV infection rates. They have ideas and opinions that should be heard. They have solutions that could change the course of this epidemic.

'Women Are 2... Finding Solutions', a new World YWCA and monodragilis network co-production, brings together leaders from various backgrounds and walks of life to share these solutions. By discussing and debating, this 52-minute documentary seeks to arrive at clear strategies for how we can reduce infections rates among women and girls over the next five years. It includes high profile women leaders such as the former President of Ireland, **Mary Robinson**, as well as the Deputy President of South Africa, **Phumzile Mlambo Ngcuka** who is heading up the AIDS response in her country, where one in five adults is estimated to be living with HIV. **Kathleen Cravero** from UNDP, **Purnima Mane** from UNAIDS and **Marina Mahatir**, Malaysian AIDS Activist also feature in the film, along with many women working in the heart of local communities to halt the spread of HIV. 'Women Are 2...' will be launched on World AIDS Day, December 01, in London at a lunch time reception at the YWCA Central Club.



Women are 2  
DVD cover

'Women Are 2...' can be viewed at [www.worldywca.org](http://www.worldywca.org) (from December 01) or ordered from [worldoffice@worldywca.org](mailto:worldoffice@worldywca.org)

**World council**

**Registration Reminder**

Please remember that you need to register for all World Council related events in good time. This includes participation in the International Women's Summit and pre-council events.

**African Partnership Safari**

The World YWCA African Partnership Safari has invited YWCA members and guests from around the world to visit YWCAs in one of 22 African countries en route to Nairobi.

The three day field trip offers participants a chance to meet and share with women in African countries, to learn about their communities and the challenges they face especially in the context of HIV and AIDS, and to visit YWCA programmes implemented in response to these challenges.

**Submit a workshop proposal**

The International Women' Summit, July 4-7, 2007, is expected to draw over 1500 women of all ages and HIV statuses to develop a new vision for women's leadership on HIV and AIDS.

Workshops are the ideal platform for addressing critical issues for women and girls, and will enable learning and training opportunities to strengthen the capacity of organisations and individuals to provide a more effective and comprehensive response to HIV and AIDS.

Topics will be based on five streams: women's leadership in response to HIV and AIDS; policy and advocacy; prevention, treatment, care and support for women and girls; lessons learnt from changing communities; and positive living.

The workshop form can be downloaded from the website or requested by emailing [iws@worldywca.org](mailto:iws@worldywca.org)  
Please submit workshop proposals by **November 30, 2006**.

**Nominate a Leader**

The **Women Leading Change Awards**, one of the highlights of the IWS, will recognise and pay tribute to some of the least recognised actors in the effort to stamp out this global epidemic – the outstanding women and young women who are championing HIV and AIDS in their communities by demonstrating innovative and effective leadership.

The awards will celebrate exceptional leadership in the areas of prevention, care and treatment, advocacy and policy making as well as addressing gender inequality, stigma and discrimination.

Organisations and individuals can submit a nomination for these awards by completing the nomination form (available from the website) and forwarding it to the World YWCA no later than **December 8, 2006**.

An international review panel is being established to review nominations and select award recipients.

news

**World YWCA, UNICEF join forces**

The World YWCA and UNICEF announced in October the establishment of a new partnership to promote gender equality, youth leadership and the meaningful involvement of young women and girls in creating a more gender sensitive society.

World YWCA and UNICEF will make special efforts to address the needs of children and young women in marginalised and excluded communities with a focus on:

- Promoting basic education and gender equality
- Responding effectively to HIV and AIDS
- Counteracting violence against women and girls

**World YWCA facilitates business women visit to Kenya**

A four-day immersion in HIV and AIDS programmes enabled a group of American businesswomen to come to terms with the reality of the AIDS epidemic in Kenya. A delegation of nine business women led by Mary Robinson, chair of the Business Women's Initiative on AIDS (BWI), visited Kenya from November 4 to 9, 2006.

The visit, facilitated by Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro, General Secretary of the World YWCA, focused on understanding the contextual dynamics of HIV and AIDS in Kenya, with particular emphasis on women and children.

photos



Attendees at the YWCA -YMCA Week of Prayer worship service

"The visit has changed my understanding of Africa and of HIV and AIDS," said Alison Deans, a Wall Street businesswoman, "the strength of the women and their communities is inspiring". Deans revealed that she was determined not only to share her newly acquired knowledge, but to decisively raise funds in her home country to support African women's initiatives against HIV and AIDS.

#### **YWCA-YMCA worship service urges all to be agents of change**

The World YWCA and the World Alliance of YMCA held an inspiring worship service on November 13, 2006 to launch the YWCA-YMCA Week of Prayer. "Each of us can be an instrument that can move mountains, people and communities," Natalie Fisher-Spalton, Deputy General Secretary, World YWCA, said as she welcomed some 40 participants to the service in Geneva, Switzerland.

The theme for the Week of Prayer 'Changing Lives, Changing Communities' explores what we can learn from the Bible to guide us in our work and to bring about change at the community level, explained Natalie Fisher-Spalton.

#### **More news on our website:**

Visit World YWCA web site for more news on World YWCA and YWCA associations: [www.worldywca.org](http://www.worldywca.org)

#### **From the Women's News Network**

Visit the Women's News Network for articles, reports and features on women's issues from around the globe. Currently on the network:

- **New HIV and AIDS figures show urgent need for increase of female controlled prevention methods**
- **United Nations Focus on Indigenous Women; Mothers' Health at Risk**
- **Israeli and Palestinian Women Demand an End to Attacks on Civilians**

more news: [women's news network](#)

#### **Visits to the world YWCA**

photo

**Rosemary Machicado**, from Bolivia, World YWCA staff from 1988 to 1991



Rosemary Machicado

#### **international day in solidarity with the Palestinian people, november 29**

The World YWCA will present a statement to the United Nations in Geneva, on behalf of Geneva-Based NGOs, on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

The statement will be available on our website on November 29.

For further information on any of the items contained within this bulletin, please contact: [worldoffice@worldywca.org](mailto:worldoffice@worldywca.org)  
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