

C · A · R · F
Catholic AIDS & Response Effort



Who Are We?

VISION:

Be a sign of God's love in restoring the dignity of PLWHAS, accepted by society without prejudice or discrimination.

MISSION:

- To advocate and cater to the spiritual, psychological, financial and physical wellbeing of People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs).
- To provide direct care and support to PLWHAs.
- To help raise the level of public awareness of HIV/AIDS, and to promote greater compassion and understanding towards PLWHAs.
- To give PLWHAs hope and help them live a fulfilling life.

Who Are We?

PROGRAMMES:

- The only AIDS Shelter in Singapore
- Non-residential support for PLWHAs living on their own and their children
- Advocacy and outreach

"IF YOU ARE HIV POSITIVE OR
THINK YOU ARE AT RISK,
REMEMBER THAT GOD LOVES YOU
AND YOU ARE NOT ALONE.
HE CAN SET US FREE."

DUM SPIRO SPERO

While I breathe, I hope
While I hope, I hope in my Lord
With hope, my faith in my Lord
Remains steadfast

Dum Spiro Spero is an initiative to celebrate the work of our hands and the joy of work for those of us living with HIV/AIDS.

The craft items include candles, rosaries, crucifixes and comfort crosses.

When you take home one of the craft items, you acknowledge our work, affirm our self-worth, assure us we are not forgotten and give us hope.



How Should We Respond as Disciples of Christ?

Christ commanded: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself" (Matthew 22:39)
He also made clear who our neighbour is and what it means to love.

Moved by the sufferings of the diseased, poor and outcasts of society,

Jesus cured, embraced and lived amongst them. Beyond the physical healing, He restored their dignity as persons made in God's image and loved by Him.

He freed them with love, acceptance and forgiveness. He spoke against discrimination and judgment.

How Should We Respond as Disciples of Christ?

"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." (John 8:7)

Jesus was the only person who could have condemned the woman and thrown a stone, but instead He offered her life.



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What Can I Do as a Catholic?

Prevent the spread of HIV by:

- Practising abstinence and being faithful
- Preserving God's gift of sex within the sanctity of marriage
- Advocating chastity and Christian moral values with loved ones, especially the young.

Act in support of People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs) and speak up against labelling and discrimination.

"GOD PUTS RAINBOWS IN THE CLOUDS SO THAT EACH OF US – IN THE DREARIEST AND MOST DREADED MOMENTS – CAN SEE THE POSSIBILITY OF HOPE. EACH ONE OF US HAS THE POSSIBILITY, THE RESPONSIBILITY, THE PROBABILITY TO BE THE RAINBOW IN THE CLOUDS."
(MAYA ANGELOU)

What Can I Do as a Catholic?

Provide support, show compassion, accept and treat them with dignity through:

- Normal social interaction like sharing a meal. You cannot get HIV in this way.
- Dispelling your own fears – learn how it can be prevented and managed.
- Volunteering your time.
- Pray for and with them



This is one of many stories of the people
staying in the Shelter run by CARE

Why Me?

One Man's Story –
Get Out And Don't Come Back!
You Shamed Us All!



*I SHAMED MY FAMILY ...
WHAT IF THEY FIND OUT?
I AM WORTHLESS ...
HOW CAN I GO ON?
PERHAPS I SHOULD END IT ALL!
NO ONE CARES ANYWAY ...*

Why Me?

Yes, I am HIV positive. Finally, the truth is out!

I am 42. My parents and siblings whom I had supported threw me out of the house. I sheltered them, fed them, helped educate them and now I am left with nothing.

I lost my job when my employers found out. I have no money to live on or to pay for medication.

Finally, I was forced to live on the streets, the beaches ... I became homeless!

My worst fears have come true!

I realise this situation arose by my own actions but the emotional pain and loneliness that I experience is far more painful than the disease itself!

Contact Us

Telephone: 6353 5440

Email: administrator@care.org.sg

Website: www.catholicaidresponseeffort.com

Other Contacts:

AIDS Hotline - 1800 2521324

Action for AIDS - 629 39648

Information on AIDS testing -

<http://www.dsc-sexualhealth.com.sg>

