



## **World AIDS Day**

World AIDS Day started on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1988. The day is about raising money, increasing awareness, fighting prejudice and improving education. World AIDS Day is important in reminding people that HIV has not gone away, and that there are many things still to be done.

According to UNAIDS estimates, there are 34 million people living with HIV. During 2010 some 2, 7 million people became newly infected with the virus, including an estimate 390.000 children. Despite a significant decline in the estimated AIDS-related deaths over the last five years, there was still 1, 8 million AIDS-related deaths in 2010.

HIV today is a threat to men, women and children on all continents around the world.

**Disabled persons are as affected and infected by HIV as everyone else. It is therefore very important that disabled persons practice safe sex and go for a HIV test so that they get to know their status.**

## **World AIDS Day Theme**

The theme for World AIDS Day 2011 is “Getting to Zero”. After 30 years of the global fight against HIV/AIDS, this year the global community has committed to focusing on achieving three targets:

- Zero new infections
- Zero discrimination
- Zero AIDS-related deaths

If we as South Africans would like to achieve the “Getting to Zero” all organisations need to work together to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care.

World AIDS Day provides an opportunity for all of us –individuals, communities and political leaders – to take the challenge of getting to zero.

**What can I do – Wear a red ribbon to raise awareness.**

**What is happening in our country on World AIDS Day?**

World AIDS Day Activity will be celebrated at Wolfson Stadium, Kwazakhele, in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape. The National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS and TB 2012-2016 will be launched on 1 December 2011. The President Jacob Zuma will deliver the key note address at World AIDS Day Event in the Eastern Cape.

Ravensmead Disability Forum in partnership with the City of Cape Town is celebrating World AIDS Day on 1 December 2011 at the Ravensmead Civic Centre, Florida Road, Ravensmead.

Gauteng Province is celebrating World AIDS Day on 1 December in Tshepong.

Kwa Zulu Natal will be having an event on 7 December at the Gamalakhe Clinic, Gamalakhe, Ugu District.

**DPSA HIV and AIDS and Disability Programme**

The programme focus on awareness raising and prevention of the spread of HIV amongst disabled persons and seeks to mobilise disabled people go for HIV testing.

If you need further information about HIV and AIDS and Disability you can contact **Gillian Burrows**, National HIV and AIDS Coordinator @ 021-422 0357.