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Publications and Material

The following materials are available in electronic, downloadable format from our web page at www.caan.ca.

NAS Phase I - II

Skills Building 1998

Joining the Circle: An Aboriginal Harm Reduction Model

Final Report 1998

Skills Building Report 1999

Hands Across the World Indigenous Peoples Forum Report

Round Table Discussion Report

If you would like to request paper copies of any of these reports and papers, please send your request to the address listed here:

Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network

251 Bank Street, Suite 602,
Ottawa ON K2P 1X3

or fax your request to CAAN at

613-567-4652.



Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network Inc.



251 Bank Street, Suite 602,

Ottawa ON K2P 1X3

Phone: 1-888-285-2226

Fax: (613) 567-4652

www.caan.ca



Our Mission

The Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network Inc. (CAAN) is a non-profit coalition of individuals and organizations which provides leadership, support, and advocacy for Aboriginal people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, regardless of where they reside.

CAAN has led the way in being a national voice on issues related to Aboriginal People and HIV/AIDS. Placing or keeping HIV/AIDS on the agenda of many political leaders has been a constant struggle.


Background

- ◆ In 1994, a group of Aboriginal people with HIV/AIDS (APHAs) attended a conference funded by Health Canada and held in Manitoba.
- ◆ This group eventually brought forward 72 recommendations.
- ◆ Out of this group and their recommendations the National Aboriginal Persons with HIV/AIDS Network (NAPHAN) was formed.
- ◆ Faced with too many challenges in trying to become a national group that could speak to many issues, NAPHAN eventually became inactive.
- ◆ In 1997 CAAN formally incorporated and received funding to open an office in Kanasetake. Shortly after the office moved to Ottawa.
- ◆ CAAN adopted many of the principles of NAPHAN, while the name reflected the diversity of its members -- those living with HIV/AIDS and those affected by the disease.
- ◆ CAAN continues to receive funding from Health Canada as a part of the Canadian Strategy on HIV/AIDS.

Current Statistics

Source: Bureau of HIV/AIDS and STD Update Series, LCDC, Health Canada, April 2000.

There is strong evidence that an epidemic is unfolding for Aboriginal people and there seems to be no sign that new cases will level off soon.

- ◆ As of December 31, 1999, a total of almost 17,000 AIDS cases were reported to the Bureau of HIV/AIDS, STD, and TB at Health Canada. Of these, where ethnicity was reported, 371 were recorded to be Aboriginal People.
 - ◆ 15% of AIDS cases had incomplete ethnic information. This means that the data underestimates the number of Aboriginal people with AIDS.
 - ◆ Ethnic information for HIV cases is not collected on 85% of reported cases, so data on Aboriginal people with HIV is more likely to be under-reported. Health Canada estimates that 15,000 HIV infections may not be diagnosed.
 - ◆ The proportion of Aboriginal women with AIDS where the exposure category is reported to be injection drug use (IDU) has increased over time from 5% before 1991 to 58.5% in 2000.
 - ◆ 24.4% of AIDS cases among Aboriginal women and 5.5% of AIDS cases among Aboriginal men report heterosexual contact as the exposure category.
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- ◆ Aboriginal AIDS cases are younger than non-Aboriginal AIDS cases. (28.6% vs. 17.1% were diagnose at less than 30 years of age.)
 - ◆ 14% of Federal inmates in Canada are Aboriginal people, with rates of up to 40% in provincial or federal jails in some provinces. AIDS prevention is of growing concern in Canada's prison population.

What will CAAN address?

We are a national organization dedicated to advocating on behalf of Aboriginal people living with HIV/AIDS, our membership, and finding ways to slow or prevent new infections.

Addressing the many and complex issues that are contributing to the spread of HIV and how Aboriginal people are living with the disease, is at the forefront of CAAN's initiatives.

We will do our best to listen and meet the needs of both our membership and all Aboriginal people, continuing to participate at all levels of government to ensure a proper response and priority is given to addressing these needs.

What can you do?

Share information and strengthen our network.

Encourage all to become involved - locally, regionally or nationally.

Become a member of CAAN.

Full membership in the organization shall be limited to (1) Aboriginal persons living with HIV/AIDS, and (2) Aboriginal groups and organizations interested in furthering the objects of the corporation.

Associate membership shall be granted to (1) any organization whose substantive mandate coincides with the objectives of the Corporation, and whose application as an Associate member has received the approval of the Board of Directors of the Corporation and (2) any individual who promotes the CAAN mandate.

Individual membership is free!

For more information contact the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network at 1-888-285-CAAN (2226).