



Dedicated to eliminating the barriers to global access to affordable life-sustaining medicines for people living with HIV/AIDS

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"At some point in the future, historians are going to look back at this period and ask, quite simply, how in God's name the world allowed this to happen? Over twenty million people have already perished, the vast majority in the developing world... There seem to be these historical moments, these historical periods when moral resolve either freezes or evaporates. It's not just unconscionable; it's inexplicable."

- Stephen Lewis, UN Special Envoy, HIV/AIDS in Africa

Dear Friend,

This year has seen real progress in the war against AIDS, but we're still not winning. More people with AIDS are receiving treatment than ever before, but the number of additional people who need care and medications is outpacing the number who are receiving them. The apocalypse rages and the death toll continues to mount—more than 3 million in 2005 alone.

Despite yet another challenging year, Health GAP (Health Global Access Project) continues to be a leading force in the struggle to secure universal HIV treatment access, to eliminate barriers to effective HIV prevention, and to bring about an end the global AIDS crisis. Undaunted by the task ahead, we will not let our “moral resolve freeze or evaporate.” We will not stand by and allow this apocalypse to continue.

Your support with a generous tax-deductible contribution will help us keep fighting to speed up the provision of life-saving HIV treatment and defend the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS worldwide.

Even in the difficult political environment of 2005, we won significant victories. Here are some highlights of our progress this year:

- Health GAP's organizing and activist efforts helped force the United States and the other G8 donor countries to deliver on their promises to cancel 100% of debts owed by Heavily Indebted Poor Countries. Health GAP will work with people with AIDS to ensure these new resources will fund life-saving healthcare programs based on local priorities, including HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.
- Our efforts also pushed G8 countries to agree to work for "universal access to HIV treatment for all those who need it by 2010."¹ This dramatic, historic commitment was made possible through coordinated international advocacy and pressure on powerful G8 politicians.
- Health GAP also worked to ensure access to life saving prevention tools like condoms, by challenging barriers to comprehensive HIV prevention in Africa. Health GAP and its allies challenged a politically motivated, artificial shortage of condoms in Uganda which resulted in international media attention and direct pressure on Ugandan policy makers ending more than 10 months of inaction by the government of Uganda.
- Health GAP is collaborating with activist organizations—led by people living with AIDS—in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and elsewhere to break open the bottlenecks that are obstructing universal access to treatment and prevention.

¹ “G8 Gleneagles 2005: Africa.” Gleneagles, Scotland. June 2005

- Health GAP launched our fight to end the massive shortage of trained, compensated health care workers in Africa. We're working to change donor policies that restrict funding for recurrent costs like salaries, and the policies of the International Monetary Fund that result in poor countries capping health sector spending. Investment in health means not only the difference between life and death for millions people with HIV, but also the viability of African communities and economies.
- Health GAP strengthened the response of grassroots activist leaders in the United States by training and supporting hundreds of students, people of faith and health care professionals, helping these compassionate Americans move from AIDS awareness to effective AIDS action.

But we cannot keep fighting on these fronts without your «Line4».

Six years ago, when Health GAP began advocating for access to effective HIV treatment for all those who need it, many dismissed our demands as utopian. But by coordinating our work with other activist groups around the world, Health GAP waged a creative, compelling and ultimately successful campaign in the United States and in the international arena to transform the perception that treating AIDS in poor countries was impossible, into global commitment to the achievable goal of universal treatment by 2010.

To finally turn the tide on the epidemic, we must broaden and strengthen our relationships with allies and grassroots AIDS groups all over the world. These are the courageous people on the front line of the fight against HIV/AIDS in their countries. They mobilize in their communities and bring pressure on their governments to prioritize prevention and treatment; they need Health GAP to continue to compliment their work here.

This remains the challenge for you and for me: to move the world from rhetoric to real action. We will dedicate all our energies to fighting AIDS in 2006 with absolute integrity, but we cannot do it without your support. Being such a small, efficient yet powerful, 'lean and mean' organization, your dollars really have a direct impact. Please send a tax-deductible donation payable to "**Mobilization Against AIDS International**" today, noting that it is for "**Health Gap**" on the memo line. You may also donate to Health GAP with your credit card online at www.healthgap.org. One person can really make a difference.

We are definitely making progress in mobilizing the resources we need to bring the AIDS epidemic under control. Let's not let future historians say, "How did the world allow this to happen?" Winning the fight against the global HIV/AIDS pandemic is not impossible; it is imperative. Please help us to win this fight.

Sincerely,

National Steering Committee
Health GAP (Global Access Project)

P.S. We'll send you a "Stop Medical Apartheid" Health GAP T-shirt for your contribution of \$100 or more. Make sure to indicate desired size and include your mailing address on the reply card. Thank you again for your contribution to our important work.

**Health GAP is a project of Mobilization Against AIDS International,
a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.**

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