

November 16 Kazakhstan joins the World Campaign "Global Solidarity, Shared Responsibility"

The campaign initiated by UNAIDS “Global Solidarity, Shared Responsibility” is being carried out on the eve of World AIDS Day, in our country it will run from 16 to 24 November.

The COVID-19 pandemic around the world has demonstrated that health is closely intertwined with other important issues - reducing inequality, rights, gender equality, social protection and economic growth - no one can stay safe until everyone is protected. If we all want to succeed together, no one should be left behind.

“Global solidarity and shared responsibility require us to rethink the global health response, including the response to HIV. To stop the spread of HIV infection, it is necessary to eliminate stigma and discrimination, public activity and solidarity should become a guarantor of providing people affected by HIV with information, services, social protection, - believes the director of the Kazakh Scientific Center of Dermatology and Infectious Diseases of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan (KSCDIZ) Bauyrzhan Baiserkin ...

Various events will take place throughout the country as part of the campaign. Most of them are online. Employees of the NGOs of the Kazakhstan Union of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and members of communities of key groups will release videos about solidarity with PLHIV on social networks; in the regions of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, activists will distribute masks with the campaign slogan. Bakhtiyar Artayev, Olympic champion, UNAIDS special envoy for sports, will speak out against stigma and discrimination against PLHIV in the social video of the Central Asian Association of PLHIV. During the campaign days, the Center for the Study of Global Health in Central Asia will present a new project on self-testing for HIV among sex workers and attaching them to medical care after a positive rapid test result.

Almaty doctors will hold the Show Solidarity Almaty challenge to hand over a red ribbon - a symbol of the fight against AIDS, which is designed to draw the attention of all people in white coats to the inadmissibility of stigma and discrimination towards people living with HIV. In Nur-Sultan, a challenge "My contribution to HIV prevention" is planned, as a reminder of the importance of knowledge of the ways of HIV transmission and measures to protect against infection for everyone. Online drawing contests "I choose life!" will be held in Almaty, Karaganda and North Kazakhstan regions, as well as in Semey. Journalists of Akmola region will be able to take part in the competition for the best publication "HIV infection: prevention, diagnosis and treatment", and outreach workers from Kostanay will be able to participate in a challenge to popularize their work. In the West Kazakhstan and Atyrau regions, trainings and intellectual games for students "Know to live!" Are planned.

Among the partners of KNCDID and regional AIDS Centers for the World Campaign are UNAIDS, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, WHO, the Kazakhstan Union of People Living with HIV, the Central Asian Association of PLHIV, the Center for the Study of Global Health in Central Asia, the Office health care and others.

The relevance of the World Campaign is underlined by the figures and trends in the development of the HIV epidemic in the world. According to UNAIDS data, over the next ten years, the main increase in new HIV cases will be registered in the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The same trend is observed in our country. More than 27,000 people living with HIV live in Kazakhstan today, and all of them can receive treatment free of charge immediately after diagnosis.

There is a steady trend towards an increase in the sexual transmission route. In the dynamics of the epidemic process of HIV infection, as a result of the measures taken, the parenteral route of transmission through intravenous drug use has halved from 72% in 2006 to 33% in 2019. Over the past ten years, the mortality rate of PLHIV has decreased by 1.5 times. 80% of PLHIV die from diseases associated with HIV - infections, not AIDS. Another achievement of the country over the past decade has been a fourfold reduction in mother-to-child transmission of HIV. Pregnant women with HIV in 98% give birth to healthy children.

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