

**WORLD
AIDS
DAY**

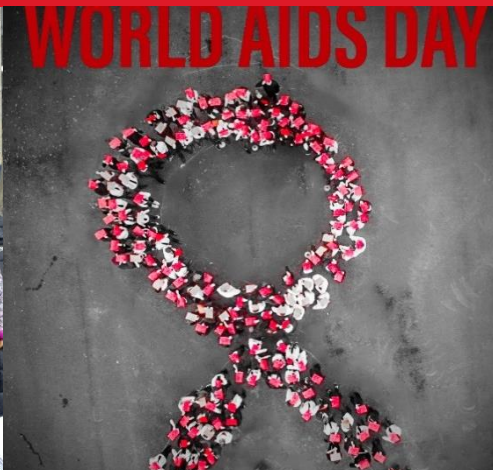
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TRANSFORMING
THE UK'S
RESPONSE
TO HIV



World AIDS Day 2017

Half a year on:
What your support has achieved



World AIDS Day 2017

Thank you. You raised

£88,141

Just over six months ago, thousands of you came together – in classrooms, universities, offices and bars – to rekindle the national conversation around HIV.

As someone who cares about the rights of people living with HIV, you made World AIDS Day an overwhelming success. Thank you.

I wanted to update you on what we've achieved in the six months since World AIDS Day.

We successfully campaigned for NHS Digital to end their agreement to share data with the Home Office, protecting patient confidentiality for the future. You helped us to meet with insurance providers and persuade them to change their guidance on insurance access, helping people living with HIV to buy financial products fairly. And, after we campaigned on the issue for several years, the Welsh Government will now make relationships and sex education statutory.

We've achieved so much, but lots still needs to be done. **A recent study showed that 40% of young people are not sure if kissing spreads HIV.** To counter this lack of knowledge, we're working on expanding our range of school resources. The money you've raised will help us to send them to even more schools, so that every child knows how HIV is transmitted.

1st December 2018 marks the 30th World AIDS Day campaign. It's an incredible time for remembrance, and for reversing lack of knowledge and stigma around HIV. We are humbled and grateful for the support you've given so far, and would be thrilled if you took part again in this historic year. Thank you.

Ollie Nicholls

Individual and Community Fundraising



**1,000 fundraisers
held across the UK**



**120,000 ribbons
handed out**

What we've achieved with your support

NHS Digital will stop sharing migrants' contact details with the immigration authorities, meaning all NHS patients enjoy the same level of protection for their confidential data

Four years ago, it emerged that NHS Digital were sharing confidential patient data with the Home Office for immigration purposes. This broke the principle of trust and confidentiality between doctors and patients, and even deterred people from seeking access to healthcare.

We heard one story of a pregnant woman who wasn't attending her appointments, because she feared immigration enforcement. The policy was putting the health of mothers and their unborn children at risk.

We were worried that this policy would mean that people living with HIV would be afraid to see their doctor. Staying on treatment is essential for people living with HIV, so they can look after their own health and not pass the virus on to others.

We pushed for a hearing with the Health Select Committee, where a group of cross-party MPs shared our concerns. Finally, the Government has agreed with our arguments, and this data-sharing agreement has ended.

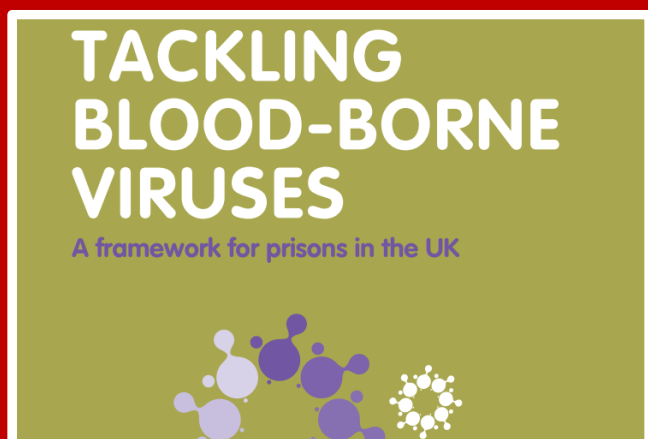
People living with HIV are one step closer to fair access to insurance

When we looked at industry guidelines for critical illness cover, we were shocked to find that you can only make a claim for HIV if it was "caught from a blood transfusion, a physical assault or at work in an eligible occupation".

People living with HIV should not be treated any differently because of the way they contracted the virus.

With your help, we spoke directly with the body who drafts the guidelines, explaining why this was bad. We helped them to write new wording, which didn't discriminate based on how somebody acquired HIV.

Other highlights



December 17

We published [guidance](#) on how to prevent transmission of blood-borne viruses in prisons. This will help healthcare staff in prisons to prevent new cases of HIV and other viruses.



May 18

After you helped us to campaign on the issue, the Welsh Government finally made Relationships and Sex Education statutory.



June 18

We hosted a [lecture](#) with Sir Elton John about the progress we've made, and how social media can be a tool to tackle HIV stigma.



June 18

NHS England announced that they will consider expanding the PrEP trial, to protect more people against getting HIV.