

2008 The Work of **AVERT**

AVERTing HIV and AIDS

*AVERT is helping this grandmother
to look after her orphaned
grandchildren*



Our aim is to AVERT HIV and AIDS worldwide, through education, research and care.

From AVERT's Director

In 1986 when I helped to start AVERT we were already aware of the women in Africa who were infected with HIV and whose babies were being born with the virus. We had no idea that twenty years later there would be a massive HIV and AIDS epidemic that would affect so many people in southern African countries and in particular South Africa.

In the last few years millions have died, each death a tragedy for the family involved. The people needing help include not only infected adults who need drugs, but children who need families to care for them and who need to go to school, and mothers who want to prevent their children from becoming infected.

At AVERT we have again increased the number of projects we have in South Africa, other African countries and India, encompassing many different cultures and faiths. These projects are helping an increasing number of people and are making a real difference.

We have also continued our work with the website www.avert.org and it is now the most popular HIV/AIDS website in the world. Through the education provided by the site, we not only directly prevent people from becoming infected but we also educate those who can, in their own way, contribute to the urgently needed global response to the epidemic.

I would like to thank those who support us, as without their help the work of AVERT would not be able to go on. We will continue to spend any money we are given as efficiently and effectively as we can, as we continue AVERTing HIV and AIDS worldwide.

Annabel Kanabus



How We Do This

We have a growing number of HIV/AIDS projects, run by local people, in countries where there is a particularly high or a rapidly increasing rate of HIV infection and AIDS.

We also provide education through our highly successful website, www.avert.org, which is visited by over 200,000 people each week.

AVERT Makes A Difference

“There are literally thousands of people, who although unknown to you, are nevertheless finding new hope and solutions because of the contribution of AVERT. These people are living and dying with HIV, but are being helped to find significance, greater health and hope. Thank you for this. It means more than I can actually ever tell you.”

*Tony Schnell, Director of DSR,
Diocese of Grahamstown, South Africa*

Our Projects

AVERT has projects in the African countries of Zambia, Uganda, Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa, all of which are greatly affected by HIV and AIDS. AVERT also has two HIV/AIDS projects in India in Tamil Nadu State, where the rate of HIV infection is increasing rapidly.

Most of our projects help people to obtain HIV/AIDS treatment, education and care. We also provide help for the children most affected by HIV/AIDS. A very large number of children have already been orphaned as a result of AIDS.

Details of some of our projects can be found over the next few pages. These include some of our ongoing successes as well as our newer projects.

Monitoring

All the projects are carefully monitored, and visited regularly to ensure the money that you provide is spent as effectively and efficiently as possible, in order that the maximum possible help goes to those in need.



South Africa

Sisonke

Sisonke means 'coming together' and that is what this project is all about. Based in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa, this is a large community based project that AVERT has been funding for nearly three years. The project is working with more than a dozen community groups to help them to provide education and care in their own communities.

Their response has already included cooking for the most vulnerable members of the community and making sure the children, including 800 orphans, get to school and have homework supervision. AVERT also provides some of the tools for this community response to HIV and AIDS such as cooking stoves, large pots and gardening tools.

Tholulwazi

Another of AVERT's long-running projects is Tholulwazi. This project serves a rural area in the South African province of KwaZulu Natal. This area has a very high HIV infection rate and an estimated 3,000 orphans. AVERT's funding helps in a variety of ways including assistance with obtaining government grants, provision of emergency food and school help for the neediest children.



AVERT's director visiting Missionvale township with some AVERT funded home based care workers.

Zambia

SAPEP (Simalelo AIDS Peer Education Project)

SAPEP uses peer education to mobilise communities in the rural southern areas of Zambia, such as Monze, into becoming HIV competent. As a local charity SAPEP realises the importance of Tonga traditions and customs and includes village leaders, local chiefs and local language in its work. The peer educators are local people and their activities include working in antenatal clinics and schools and initiating talks and role-play about HIV and AIDS. They have also set up anti-AIDS youth groups and buddy-up systems to encourage the use and proper taking of treatment.

AVERT's funding is helping this important work to be extended to even more remote and vulnerable areas.



Uganda

Saint Francis Healthcare Services

St. Francis Healthcare Services in Jinja, Uganda, provides treatment and support to 9,500 people living with or affected by HIV and AIDS. This includes 800 children who are suffering with severe infections such as TB and skin disease. Before AVERT's funding St. Francis could only provide for 370 of these children. Now with AVERT's help, all the children can be provided with treatment to reduce their suffering.

India

RWO (Rural Welfare Organisation)

In India, where the HIV infection rate is rapidly increasing, RWO provides community care in the rural parts of Perambalur, Tamil Nadu. Many people in this area are migrant workers and have limited information, support and health services relating to HIV and AIDS. This makes them and their partners very vulnerable to the disease.



AVERT funds RWO's peer education and income generation programme which provides people living with HIV and AIDS with education and training. These people then go on to lead counselling and advice groups, and to organise events that promote safe sex within their communities. The programme also provides goats for rearing or vegetables to sell in order to provide an income for those affected by HIV/AIDS. In addition AVERT is funding RWO's new programme to establish a mobile medical unit that will help increase access to treatment and testing.

avert.org

AVERT's website continues to be a highly successful HIV/AIDS information and education resource.

Run by a dedicated team of researchers, writers and web experts, avert.org aims to provide high-quality information on HIV/AIDS and related issues to young people, adults, students, academics, health professionals, journalists and anyone else who needs it.

Since its inception in 1995 avert.org has grown to become the most popular HIV and AIDS website on the internet, attracting an average of 200,000 visitors per week.

Continuing development

AVERT regularly reviews and updates both the website content and design, ensuring the information it provides is always accurate and appealing.

Recent improvements to the site include a revamp of the ever-popular quizzes, with questions covering everything from the history of AIDS to treatment and care. The photo gallery has been redesigned and expanded to feature more than a thousand images from 74 countries. Furthermore to extend the sites reach even further, several of the most popular articles have been translated into Spanish, attracting thousands of new visitors from Latin America.



"I have been researching for a BBC documentary on AIDS in Africa and I just wanted to say thanks for an excellent site, extremely comprehensive and balanced. You are doing a good job informing people about the issues."

Andrew Bryson, BBC 4 Current Affairs

Campaigns

Alongside the project work and the website we also run campaigns to draw attention to issues that we feel are being neglected and on which practical action can be taken. Our current campaign is to **Stop AIDS in Children**. Every year 270,000 children die of AIDS. If nothing is done 1 million more children will have died by 2010.

Most are infected by their mothers during pregnancy, birth and breastfeeding. Any baby that is born to a mother with HIV risks becoming infected. The chances of the baby becoming infected can be **massively reduced** by giving HIV infected mothers and their babies anti-HIV drugs and, **where appropriate**, by feeding the baby using formula rather than breast milk.

Where these drugs are comprehensively provided to all women who need them, almost all babies are born free from HIV.

Many women in developing countries do not have access to drugs, education or other facilities. In some countries the drugs are available but are not reaching the women. We believe that women should be able to get access to this treatment to stop the next generation of children being born HIV positive and dying of AIDS.



For more information on mother to child transmission please visit our website and join our campaign. www.avert.org



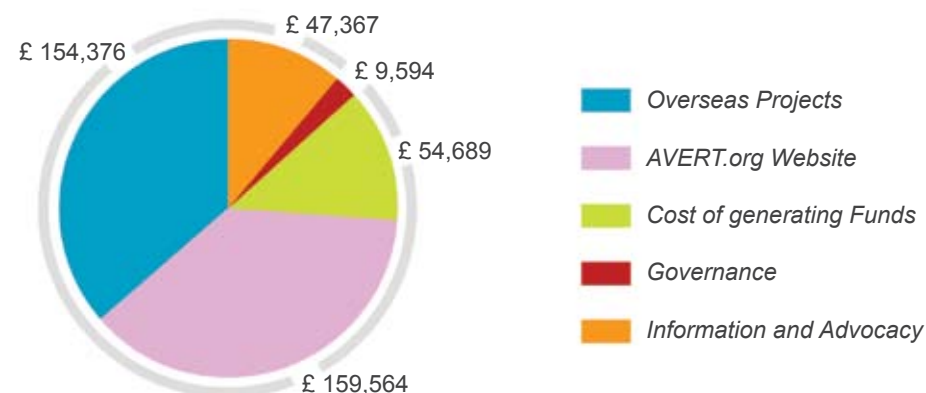
Summary of Income and Expenditure 2008 & 2007

	2008 £	2007 £
Incoming Resources		
Donations	66,357	104,413
Legacies	211,639	660
Investment Income	105,691	125,448
Rental & Other Income	37,198	38,820
Other	605	401
Total Incoming Resources	421,490	269,742
Cost of Generating Funds	54,689	42,171
Charitable Expenditure		
AVERT.org Website	159,564	145,212
HIV/AIDS Overseas Projects	154,376	119,249
Information & Advocacy	47,367	39,663
Governance Costs	9,594	10,498
Total Charitable Expenditure	370,901	314,622
Total Resources Expended	425,590	356,793

The small difference between income and expenditure was taken as planned from AVERT's expendable endowment. The endowment comes from a donation given to AVERT by Peter and Annabel Kanabus in 1989 to provide for certain of AVERT's long term costs such as administration.

This summarised financial information taken from AVERT's audited accounts may not contain sufficient information to gain a complete understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. The full 2008 Trustees' Report and Accounts can be downloaded from www.avert.org or to obtain a copy you can write to the address opposite.

Total expenditure 2008



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Company Registration Number: 3716796



HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you are a UK tax payer and if you also complete and return this form to us, the government will add 28p to every £1 you donate.



Make a donation by credit or debit card. Visit www.avert.org to make a donation or for help with fundraising ideas.



Name :

Address :

Email :

Signature & Date :

Make a donation by post
Send a cheque or postal order to:

AVERT
4 Brighton Road, Horsham
West Sussex RH13 5BA
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- I am a U.K tax payer and would like AVERT to claim back the tax on my donations until further notice. Please tick, sign opposite and fill in your address.
(To qualify for gift aid you must pay enough income or capital gains tax in the financial year to cover the amount we will reclaim on your gift)