

# African American Prevention Intervention Network SANKOFA FACT SHEET

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## 20 YEARS OF AIDS IS ENOUGH.

*Prevent. Care. Remember.*

### HIV/AIDS: The Facts

#### Prevent

Until a cure for AIDS is found, the “magic bullet” is prevention.

Polling data from the Kaiser Family Foundation and independent healthcare advocacy groups show that a majority of Americans think that the government should invest more in HIV prevention and in finding a vaccine.

Effective prevention efforts must address issues of self-esteem, stigma and substance abuse. Frank and open discussion and relevant information must be a part of AIDS education campaigns.



#### Care

Access to care continues to be problematic for many living with HIV/AIDS in the United States. As the epidemic continues to grow in communities of color, lack of adequate health care and treatment compounds the problem.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, 25.3 million people are living with HIV/AIDS. Treatments that have changed the course of the epidemic in the developed world are still unaffordable for most people in Africa despite significant reductions in price. Wealthy nations and multinational corporations must step up their efforts to provide funding and infrastructure that will make these medications accessible to millions who will surely die without them.

Many with AIDS still face a world of stigma, discrimination and hatred. Compassion and caring for those who are sick must be a priority.

#### Remember

Nearly a half-million Americans have died of AIDS. Today, it still claims two lives every hour in this country. We must never forget the contributions of those who have gone before us. They are the heroes of this war.

Worldwide, 3 million lives were lost in 2000 alone. Most of them died without adequate medical care or treatment for even the most common and treatable infections that accompany the disease.

22 million lives have been lost to AIDS since 1981.

[www.20yearsofaids.org](http://www.20yearsofaids.org) 800.342.AIDS



For more information, call the technical assistance analyst at the Mississippi Urban Research Center, 1-866-JSU-MURC (578-6872).

