

Breaking the Silence

Advocacy
Sheet
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Preventing HIV/AIDS in Latin American and Caribbean Adolescents and Youth

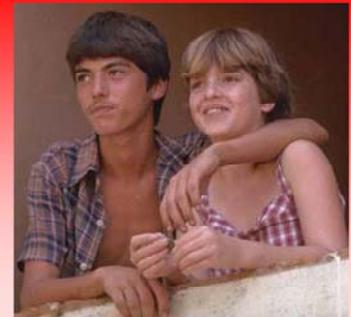
New PAHO/SIDA/NORAD Projects in Prevention of AIDS in Adolescents and Youth

What are the projects?

- ▶ "Breaking the Silence" and "Building on Lessons Learned in Youth Development and Sexuality," a three-year collaboration between the Pan American Health Organization's Adolescence and HIV/AIDS programs, NORAD and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, to **prevent HIV/AIDS/STIs** and pregnancy in adolescents and youth
- ▶ A call to recognize HIV/AIDS and youth as a **priority in Latin America**; this initial advocacy sheet will be followed by three more in 2003, along with PAHO's quarterly "Youth AIDS Action" newsletter; we invite you to join the *Latin American and Caribbean Youth HIV/AIDS Network* by sending an e-mail to singlets@paho.org
- ▶ An opportunity to support **capacity-building in Latin America and the Caribbean** to prevent AIDS in adolescents and youth through training, research and communication
- ▶ A **fight against the stigma of HIV**, the central theme of World AIDS Day 2002

Why are the projects necessary?

- ▶ Improve information gathering, monitoring and evaluation of interventions
- ▶ Include sexual and reproductive health, and AIDS/STI/pregnancy prevention strategies and programs, in national policies and the public agenda
- ▶ Improve access, availability and quality of health services for youth
- ▶ Improve social communication strategies concerning AIDS/STIs and pregnancy in youth
- ▶ Improve the ability of health professionals to work with youth and their families through training and the development of networks
- ▶ Improve research in adolescent and youth sexuality



How will young people benefit?

- ▶ Country data disaggregated by age and sex will help create and improve youth programs and policies
- ▶ Greater chance of accessing programs that will help them develop skills to prevent HIV/AIDS/STIs and unplanned pregnancy
- ▶ Greater access to youth-friendly health services
- ▶ Greater chance of reaching adulthood healthy and ready to contribute to their society

For more information...

Send name, profession, organization, mailing and e-mail address to Sylvia Singleton, to sign up for the *Latin American and Caribbean Youth HIV/AIDS Network*

singlets@paho.org

Adolescent Virtual Health Library:

<http://www.adolec.org>



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