

Back stage actors: Tales of Young Women living with HIV

JOIN THE GLOBAL CAMPAIGN!

Are you a young woman living with HIV? The International Community of Women Living with HIV Eastern Africa (ICWEA) is calling on you to take part in the global campaign that will enable young women living with HIV to be active participants at the 21st International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2016) to help ensure we reach the people who are left behind in the HIV response. Together, we are aiming to meaningfully engage young women living with HIV in coming up with solutions to the challenges they face, to be part of the implementation process too and in the long run reduce new HIV infections in young women and adolescents.

How to get involved!

- Take part by writing and sharing a detailed experience about a time, anywhere when your rights were either respected regardless of your status or abused because of your HIV status while for example accessing HIV care, treatment and any other services.
- Mention the gaps in HIV prevention, care, treatment and support.
- Tell us what you would want to be put in place to ensure access and enjoyment of these rights by everyone especially young people and adolescents.
- Give recommendations on what can be done to reduce the number of new infections among young women and adolescent girls.
- You can share any related good photographs that you are comfortable sharing with us.

Terms & conditions:

- Deadline for submission is April 11, 2016. All submissions must be sent electronically to admin@icwea.org
- Participants must be young women living with HIV and aged between 18 – 30 years. ICWEA will respect the wish of participants who would like to be anonymous if they indicate so in their submission
- Stories should not be in more than 800 words. The compelling essays will be published in a book that will be launched and shared at AIDS 2016
- The ideas will further be developed into a programme by and for young women. The writers will be part of the implementers
- The writer of the best story of all will be sponsored to attend the AIDS 2016 conference in Durban from July 18 to July 22

Background:

Over the years women have remained at a much higher risk of HIV infection than men. Today, young women and adolescent girls in particular, bare the most burden. Young women account for most new HIV infections and there are an estimated 380,000 new HIV infections among young women and girls aged 18-24 every year. But even then, young women are not being brought to the forefront in the HIV response. Let's work together to turn this around and bring young women living with HIV from the back door to the front seat.



**International Community
of Women Living with HIV
Eastern Africa (ICWEA)**

