



AAA NEWS BRIEF – NOVEMBER 2009

PREVENTING HIV/AIDS AND CHANGING LIVES

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Learn About African Action on AIDS (AAA)

AAA is a tax exempt non-profit organization registered in the USA and operating under section 501(c) 3 of the IRS code. It is also registered in Cameroon (auth. No 00174/A/MINAT/DAP/SDLP/SAC). It has special consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and the UN Department of Information.

AAA Mission Statement

We believe that no one is alone. We succeed when the youth we serve become agents of their own change and use their knowledge to change their communities.

We reach the youth of sub-saharan Africa whose lives are affected by AIDS.

We affirm that tomorrow's responsible parents are the knowledgeable youth of today.

We educate youth with the knowledge they need to stay alive, and teach them to share that knowledge with their peers

We build extended family support networks in local villages and communities to deliver security, food, education and healthcare to children orphaned by AIDS

We create healthcare awareness by funding women and children's health.

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On 28 October 2009 African Action on AIDS (AAA), in partnership with MTN Foundation, Sightsavers International and Cercle des Jeunes Aveugles Handicapés du Cameroun organized a hand washing and insecticides treated mosquitoes bed nets Day at the **Bilingual Integrated School for blind and non blind children**, Louis Braille School of EKOUNOU, Yaoundé.

In its substantive message, The Country Director of Sightsavers Cameroon drew the attention of participants on the following: If properly and systematically performed, hand washing with soap and the use of insecticides treated mosquitoes bed nets could have a great impact on public health. Indeed, several handicaps and cases of death are linked to dirty hands and malaria in our country. Moreover, polio, intestinal worms, diarrhea, cholera, active trachoma, epidemic conjunctivitis commonly known as "appollo" and other infectious diseases are transmitted by dirty hands. These diseases could, directly lead to death or indirectly through the immune system breakdown opening the door to opportunistic diseases and worsening HIV/AIDS cases.

Also, as many studies show, the presence of intestinal worms and malaria in pregnant women is associated to a high risk of transmission of HIV from mother to child. Furthermore, anemia caused by intestinal worms and malaria reduces the strength and efficiency of antiretroviral treatments. Based on above-mentioned reasons, Sightsavers International Country Director believes that AAA is right to suggest a multi-dimensional approach to the struggle against HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Joseph ENYEGUE OYE – Country Director, Sightsavers International, Yaoundé



Dr Oye with co-founders of Louis Braille School

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