



AAA e-NEWS BRIEF – JUNE 2012

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION – ERADICATING MALARIA

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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's work is based on 3 programmes:

“JUST KNOW” Campaign emphasizes:

- Knowledge of one's body
- Knowledge that leads to behavior change
- Knowledge that helps to visualize a future without AIDS

“Health before Wealth” Concept promotes:

- Testing for HIV
- Clean hands (hand washing stations)
- Clean water (drinking stations)
- Dignified toilets
- Fighting against Malaria (treated mosquito bed nets)
- Vaccination
- Anti worms medicine

“Women's economic autonomy” through our Scholarship Programme. This scholarship enables each teenage orphan girl to complete at least a secondary, general or technical education that will lead to financial and economic autonomy, greatly reducing the risk of being infected with HIV through sexual abuse and violence.

MC-CCAM: MALARIA PRESS RELEASE

Written by: **Alexandra LaViola and Colleen Berger, Interns from Dickinson –In- Cameroon**

The work of African Action on AIDS (AAA) is not only focused upon the eradication of HIV/AIDS but also malaria by working to promote preventive health in order to save lives. “Sustain Gains, Save Lives: Invest in Malaria” was the theme for this year's World Malaria Day which took place on Friday, April 20, 2012. On this internationally recognized day, the Malaria Consortium- Cameroon Coalition Against Malaria (MC-CCAM), a non-governmental organization based in Cameroon, hosted a “Launch and Award Ceremony.” in Yaoundé. After opening speeches by Dr. Esther Tallah, the Manager of MC-CCAM, and Professor Rose Gana Fomban Leke, the Executive Director of MC-CCAM, Dr. Tallah presented an evidence-informed policy brief entitled, “Policy Brief for Scaling Up Malaria Control Interventions in Cameroon.” The brief described problems facing the deployment and access to malaria services and proposed solutions including **new governance arrangements**, primarily through reducing the size of the anti-malarial market and enforcing regulation, **delivery arrangements**, through effective distribution of products and by promoting public private partnerships, **financial arrangements**, providing subsidies for products and incentives for pharmacists, and **implementation considerations**, which proposed effective strategies for breaking the health care deployment barriers. Following this policy brief, Professor Leke presented her extensive research on malaria and specifically, her research on malaria in pregnant women, who are among the highest at risk for infection. This research focused primarily on how difficult it is to diagnosis women with placenta malaria due to the fact that malaria may not be detected in peripheral blood smears. However, if detected, treatment during pregnancy is very effective. In addition to the contributions of Dr. Tallah and Professor Leke, prizes were awarded to the winners of the Rainbow Book Competition “Malaria told by Children.” The Rainbow Book is a compilation of short stories, poems, and drawings about malaria written by the children of Cameroon. **Professor Leke was also recognized for the 2011 African Union Kwame Nkrumah Prestigious Award**, which acknowledges the outstanding achievements of women in science and technology. Ruth Bamela Engo, president of AAA, presented Professor Leke with a gift from orphans sponsored by AAA, and the MC-CCAM also presented her with a symbolic gift in the celebration of her work.



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