

18th May

HIV Vaccine Awareness Day

According to the latest UNAIDS report, 35 million lives have been lost to the HIV/AIDS epidemic since the emergence of the first case in 1981. By 2015, there is an estimated 36.7 million people worldwide living with HIV, but only 17 million have access to antiretroviral therapy. In addition, in 2015, there were 2.1 million new HIV infections and more than 1 million people died of AIDS-related diseases.

35 years have passed since the first case of HIV/AIDS and, although there has been important and significant progress in the fight against the epidemic, the data shows that further research - with the aim of having better tools for the prevention and treatment of the virus - is still needed.

One of the most promising tools that is creating the highest expectations on an international level, both in the scientific community and among the populations most at risk of acquiring HIV, is the vaccine. Vaccines are vital part of the global response to the HIV/AIDS, including efforts to educate, raise awareness and sensitize communities on the importance of an effective HIV vaccine. A successful preventive vaccine would mean the addition of a new and powerful tool in the fight against the spread of the virus, and represents the best hope for ending the epidemic affecting many members belonging to the most vulnerable communities.

Therefore, every 18th of May, HIV Vaccine Awareness Day is celebrated, in an effort to recognize the thousands of volunteers, community members, researchers, health professionals and scientists involved in research related with HIV vaccine. This annual commemoration also seeks to focus the attention of citizens on the search and the promise to achieve powerful vaccines to protect us effectively against HIV.

From the Asociación Civil Impacta, as a pioneer institution in Peru in research related to HIV, we join this international celebration. We reaffirm our commitment to continue working to make the vaccine a reality and continuing to educate and raise awareness within our communities on its importance and in the prevention and non-discrimination against people living with HIV.

We want to thank, from the bottom of our hearts, the thousands of volunteers who joined this fight with us and those who will come for future trials. Without you, none of our efforts would yield any results, and you are the spirit and hope of millions of people around the world for end to this epidemic.

Thanks for your support!

WE PARTICIPANTE IN...:



Film forum group "Vayamos"

On Saturday, May 7th, we were invited to participate in the film forum of the group "Vayamos", comprised by young agents of change in the district of San Juan de Lurigancho, who work with the support of the center of the peruvian woman "Flora Tristán". The film shown was "Prayers for Bobby", an acclaimed biographical work that headlines on important and poignant aspects of life, focusing on the respect and appreciation of sexual diversity. The session ended with comments from Gonzalo Meneses, social psychologist and community educator from our institution.

5th COREMUSA Callao Assembly

On Wednesday, May 11th, the 5th general assembly of the Coordinadora Regional Multisectorial de Salud (COREMUSA) of Callao was held, where we participated as members. In this fifth meeting, the arrangements for the swearing in of the new board were made, and activities in May and June, including the 5th LGBT pride march in Callao, were scheduled. Finally, the plenary was closed by thanking the participation and support of the various municipalities in the district of Callao for the different activities proposed.



Campaign "I'm not a Disorder"

We were invited to participate in the campaign "I'm not a disorder", organized by the Centro Psicológico de Estudios en Sexualidad (CEPESEX), on Friday, May 13th, in the auditorium of the School of Psychology of the Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal. Gonzalo Meneses, social psychologist and community educator for our institution, presented the theme "Social Barriers and Challenges of Transgender Women in Lima and Callao".

Thanks for the invitation!



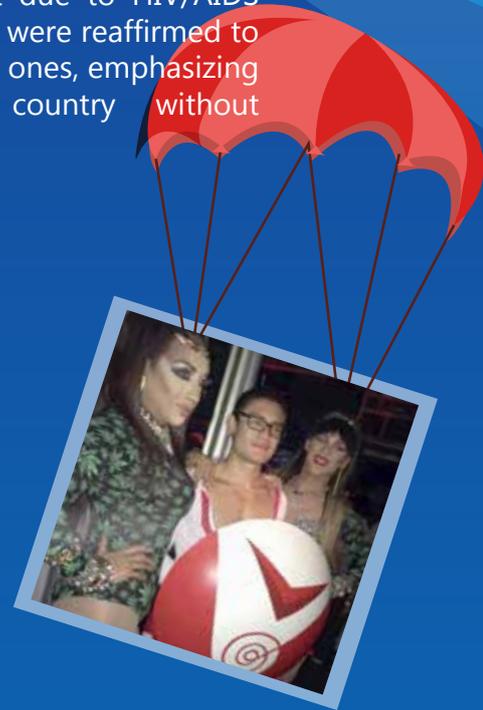
Candlelight 2016

For the third consecutive year, we were invited to participate in the organization of the "Vigilia Internacional por las Personas que han fallecido por VIH/Sida – Candlelight 2016". On Sunday, May 15th, the ceremony was held in the church "La Recoleta" in downtown Lima, where the commemoration of lives that were lost due to HIV/AIDS began. Hope, solidarity and commitment were reaffirmed to those now living with HIV and their loved ones, emphasizing the importance of achieving a country without discrimination.



Tour of Heroes

On Saturday, May 27th, we returned to the best clubs in Lima with our popular Heroes Impacta, who lit the night up by dancing and partying with the public, while carrying important messages of prevention and care for the community. VACUMÁN and PUMAX provide us new ways of prevention to fight HIV, through a special type of antibody and a new prophylactic drug. Stay tuned, because soon they will be appearing around the country.



See you next month!

Informative routes to Hotels and Cinemas

We conducted our first outing of Informative Routes of the year, with the aim of spreading our HIV prevention studies in the main hotels and cinemas for the LGBT community in Lima. Vacuman, our hero that paves the way for HIV vaccine studies, distributed information material to the audience of the 7 visited locals.



Until next time!

"Sí da Vida" Anniversary

We were invited to the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the association "Sí, da Vida", which was commemorated on Tuesday, the 31st May. "Sí, da Vida" is an organization that works on issues related to self-management, prevention at all levels, defense of human rights, dignity and awareness of HIV in the fight against stigma and discrimination. Daniel Alva, Luis Vidal Castro and Yolanda Vidal were our representatives in this activity.



Congratulations for the anniversary!



SPECIAL:

CAMPAIGN "JOIN THE TEAM VACUMAN"

In the context of the "HIV Vaccine Awareness Day", commemorated every 18th of May, we conducted the "Join the team VACUMAN" campaign. We invited the general population and our employees, volunteers, medical staff, members of the Community Advisory Committee and Community Based Organizations, to raise awareness in our communities about the importance of volunteering and joining the efforts to make the HIV vaccine a reality. Through a photo with the shield symbol of our hero "Vacuman", the pictures were shared on our social networks in order to reach more people.

Thanks to everyone for making this campaign a success!



Thursday Plus:
"Prevention and Intervention in Depression"



Impact Thursday:
Conversation: "RuPaul's Drag Race"



Diversity House, Together towards Equality Community Space for Gay Men in Lima Este

The creation of organizations, groups, collectives, spaces and platforms formed by Lesbian, Gay, Trans, and bisexuals (LGTB), is necessary and urgent to strengthen the community web in a region. They draw attention to the demands and needs faced daily, due in part to the constant violations of their rights by different sectors of society and the state itself.

In Lima and Callao, there are no more than 20 community organizations. Some of them with more work experience, thanks to their efforts, struggles and perseverance, others most in need of support or impulse to grow. But they still stand to make themselves known to society, authorities and policy makers, and to make manifest their needs in all areas: health, education, labor, human rights, justice, etc.

In Lima Este, in August 2014, the community group "Diversity House" was created. Composed of gay and bisexual men, they joined with the aim of working for equal rights and integral human development of populations in situation of vulnerability, with emphasis on the LGBT community.

Diversity House aspires to achieve an egalitarian society, where human rights are respected and vulnerable populations are included and visible in programs and public and private services, with emphasis on LGTB people.

Activities of training and health prevention are held in this space. "Diversity Conversation" is a space of information and awareness on different topics that help to strengthen community members. Issues related to health, sexual diversity, human rights, stigma, discrimination, among others are addressed, in order to empower the community and facilitate their participation in other bigger spaces, like public and private institutions, together with local authorities and others political agents.

We have HIV testing services and free medical consultations. Unlike traditional spaces we provide care in times of greater availability of users, with a team of professionals from the LGBT community that provide greater confidence.

We participate in local and national spaces of dialogue with the intention of being part of the integrated block for respect to sexual diversity, and for our demands to be included in the political agendas of the state. In addition, we try to get involved in planning public policies, programs and services, and have a more active participation and proactive management.

You can find us on Facebook on the following link: www.facebook.com/Casa-Diversa.

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