



## Global Campaign News – Issue #64 27 March 2006

Welcome to the *Global Campaign News*! The *Global Campaign News* is a forum for international exchange on microbicide activities and information with an aim to build a more informed and integrated movement for microbicide development and other prevention options against HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). This and previous issues of *GC News* are available online at <http://www.global-campaign.org/gcnews.htm>

---

### In this issue:

*California state resolution on microbicides introduced*  
*Review shows male circumcision may protect women partners*  
*Microbicides 2006 conference in Cape Town*  
*Two job announcements with the Global Campaign*  
*Exhibit sparks media attention throughout California*

### California state resolution on microbicides introduced North America

On 6 February 2006, California State Senator Jackie Speier introduced Senate Joint Resolution, SJR22, the Microbicide Development Act. SJR22 is the first state level resolution on microbicides. As stated in the introduction, “This measure would memorialize the United States Congress and the President to enact the Microbicide Development Act [S. 550 and H.R. 3854] to facilitate the development of microbicides to prevent the transmission of HIV and other diseases.” The full text of the Bill is available at: [http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb\\_0001-0050/sjr\\_22\\_bill\\_20060206\\_introduced.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb_0001-0050/sjr_22_bill_20060206_introduced.html)

Joint resolutions in California are a measure that express the Legislature's opinion about a matter within the jurisdiction of the federal government, which is forwarded to Congress for its information. Such resolutions require the approval of both Assembly and Senate but does not require signature of the Governor. Hearing are expected to be held in mid-March on the Senate side.

If you live in California, you can support SJR22 by writing a letter of support to the Chair of the Senate Health Committee, Sen. Deborah Ortiz, State Capitol, Room 5114, Sacramento, CA 95814 or <http://www.aroundthecapitol.com/memberemail.php?district=SD06>

We would like to commend Senator Jackie Speier for her leadership in the women's health. We would also like to recognize Bethany Young Holt of the California Microbicide Initiative, Dawn Kinsel of the Junior League of California and Jennifer Sigafos from the California Family Health Council, and all of their colleagues, for their amazing work to build awareness about microbicides, which was instrumental in generating this important legislative action.

For more information on the *Federal* level Microbicide Development Act, please visit [www.global-campaign.org/legislativeadvocacy.htm](http://www.global-campaign.org/legislativeadvocacy.htm)

### Review shows male circumcision may protect women partners Global

A new review of data from more than 300 sero-discordant, heterosexual couples (in which the man was HIV positive and the woman was HIV negative) in Uganda has revealed that male circumcision may help reduce the risk of infection among women. Male circumcision was also shown to reduce rates of trichomonas and bacterial vaginosis in female partners. The study may be the first to demonstrate the benefits to female partners of male circumcision. The full release about this statistical study is available from the Hopkins Medicine website: [http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/Press\\_releases/2006/02\\_08\\_06.html](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/Press_releases/2006/02_08_06.html)

## Microbicides 2006 conference in Cape Town

### Africa



The bi-annual microbicides conference will take place from 23-36 April in Cape Town, South Africa, marking the first time the conference has been held in the global south. The Global Campaign for Microbicides is involved in a number of activities around Microbicides 2006--co-hosting a Pre-Conference Workshop with the African Microbicides Advocacy Group (AMAG) on 23 April, the screening of our film, and several panel and poster presentations. In partnership with the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW), the Global Campaign is also organizing a roundtable presentation at the conference entitled, "HIV Positive Women and Microbicides: Moving Research Forward" at which positive women and key scientists will be discussing the research questions of greatest importance to positive women and what is required to answer them.

Both AMAG and the Global Campaign have been overwhelmed by the positive response by the level of registration for the Pre-Conference Workshop. Due to the number of responses we have received, **registration for the AMAG/GCM Microbicides Pre-Conference Workshop on April 23<sup>rd</sup> is now closed.**

The Global Campaign will also be hosting a screening of the film *In Women's Hands* at the Cape Town International Convention Center on Tuesday, 25 April from 16:30 to 18:00. If you plan to be in Cape Town, please come join us for the film screening before heading to the gala dinner at Moyo.

For more information about the Microbicides 2006 Conference, please visit the conference website at <http://www.microbicides2006.org>.

## Two job announcements with the Global Campaign North America / Africa

The Global Campaign for Microbicides is seeking two new people to join our team:

**The Global South Coordinator** will work out our Washington D.C. office with significant travel in the region. The duties and responsibilities will include:

- ?? Support work of partner organizations based in Asia, Africa and throughout the global south, through strategic communications, fostering linkages, providing information, resources, and training as appropriate.
- ?? Design, organize, and deliver presentations, skills-building workshops, and advocacy trainings on microbicides in international venues.
- ?? Serve as liaison between Global Campaign for Microbicides secretariat and global south partner groups
- ?? Contribute to information and materials production
- ?? Manage specific project budgets and contribute to fund-raising, proposal-writing, and donor reports as needed.
- ?

For a full job description and to apply, go to: <http://www.path.org/job.php?id=1819>

**The Community Trainer and Facilitator** will be based either in the Washington DC office or at a PATH country or project office in Africa. This person will strengthen the active role of community-based and civil society organizations in microbicide research by:

- ?? Developing and deliver trainings focused on community involvement and ethical reasoning
- ?? Helping organize an international consultation and development of briefing papers on ethical issues in microbicides research
- ?? Collaborating with partner groups engaged in similar work, to maximize effectiveness of work on the ground

The full job announcement will be available at: <http://www.path.org/job.php?id=1818>

## Exhibit sparks media attention throughout California

### North America

The Giving Women Power Over AIDS exhibit has resulted in tremendous public and media attention throughout its California tour in 2006. Members of the California Microbicide Initiative worked hard to ensure that the exhibit travelled throughout the state including stops in Berkeley, touring to Sacramento, San Jose, and Los Angeles. For more information on CAMI, go to: <http://www.cami-health.com/>. Highlights of the tour included:

?? A community event, student panel, and research presentation all accompanied the exhibit at the International House on University of California **Berkeley** campus. Microbicides were covered in local media including: Oakland Tribune, East Bay Express, UC Berkeley Daily Californian (<http://www.dailycal.org/sharticle.php?id=21007>).



?? A two day showing at **Sacramento** State University with a classy dinner and reception. The event was covered by National Public Radio's Capital Radio in Sacramento and KSFM radio's Community Score Board with Ms Wanda (Sacramento's hip hop and R&B station).

?? Planned Parenthood Mar Monte worked with the MOSAIC Cross Cultural Centre at **San Jose** State University to host the exhibit in the Student (pictured at left). Microbicides were featured in the San Jose State Daily Spartan, <http://www.thespartandaily.com/news/2006/02/21/Entertainment/Aids-Exhibit.Educates.Students.On.New.Treatments-1621716.shtml>



?? In **Los Angeles**, the Junior League of California hosted the exhibit, with a panel of researchers and advocates that spoke to an audience of more than 70 people. (presenters are pictured here, Jayne Adams the executive director of Common Ground, Kevin Whaley of Mapp Biopharmaceutical, Inc Nancy Bekavac, the President of Scripps College, and Jessica Cohen, coordinator for the Northwest Microbicides Coalition). The Junior League now features microbicide advocacy on their website: <http://www.jlla.org/?nd=microbicide>

?? The American Medical Students Association Global Health Committee of University of California at **Los Angeles** and the International Health Interest Group hosted the exhibit on the UCLA campus.

Hats off and many thanks to all the fabulous California advocates who put together this very successful tour!

We welcome your input and contributions for future issues! Please send emails to: [info@global-campaign.org](mailto:info@global-campaign.org). If you would like to unsubscribe to the *Global Campaign News*, please reply to this e-mail with the subject line: UNSUBSCRIBE.