



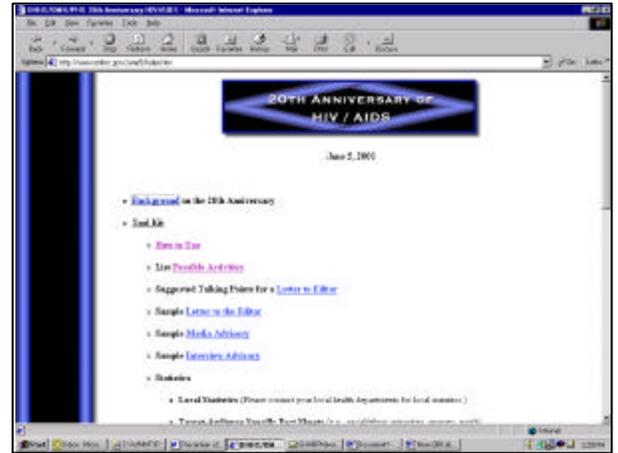
SHARP News

June 5th 2001

20th Anniversary of HIV-AIDS

"On June 5, 1981, the CDC published a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) account of a new disease that was hitting gay men. This report ushered in what we now know as the AIDS pandemic. In the United States alone, almost 900,000 people are infected with HIV. Worldwide, tens of millions are believed to be HIV-infected, and untold millions have already died of AIDS.

The Department of Health and Human Services has developed a Web site to assist organizations and individuals wishing to mark **June 5** as the **20th commemoration of AIDS**. The site includes a "tool kit" for tailoring community activities as well as a host of other resources."¹



This tool kit contains:

- Possible **activities** which could be undertaken within your community.
- Suggested **talking points** which could be used in writing a letter to the editor.
- A **sample letter to the editor** incorporating many of those talking points.
- A sample **media advisory** to alert the media to an upcoming event.
- A sample **interview advisory** to alert the media to your availability to participate in radio, television, or print interviews.
- Links to **HIV/AIDS statistics** for specific populations, including global AIDS statistics.
- **WEB based public service announcements** which can be heard on the Internet and used by local radio stations for broadcasting.
- A link to the **first Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report** which reported on the first cases of a new disease that would later on be named "AIDS".
- **Links** to the Surgeon General's Leadership Campaign on AIDS, to the Office of Minority Health Resource Center and the Surgeon General's web pages.
- Links to other **Federal and non-federal web sites** with information about the 20th anniversary of HIV/AIDS.

SHARP Leaders and Instructors are encouraged to use the 20th anniversary of HIV/AIDS as an opportunity to remind our people of the continuing risk of HIV transmission. To date, over 4600 active duty Sailors and Marines have been infected – **95** more in 2000.

1. 20th Anniversary commemoration homepage;
<http://www.omhrc.gov/June5/index.htm>, 30 May 2001

Sexual Health and Responsibility Program (SHARP)

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