

*Explanation*

Serving the needs of the expanding number of centers, as well as maintaining accurate records and data concerning those centers requires more than the current number of personnel. Funding should be made available for the addition of one additional staff person in the Jubilee Ministries Office.

**Resolution A044 Jubilee Practicum for Seminarians**

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the Jubilee Ministries Program expand its internships
- 2 and practicums to include the seminaries of the Church such that there is training of seminarians in the
- 3 theology and organizing principles of Jubilee, while working in hands-on ministry.

*Explanation*

There is a Service/Learning Internship and Practicum available through the Episcopal Colleges across the country. This same type of program should be tailored and instituted as part of the requirements of those attending Episcopal seminaries.

**I. BODIES CREATED BY GENERAL CONVENTION, REPORTING TO COUNCIL AND THROUGH COUNCIL TO GENERAL CONVENTION**

**The Executive Council  
Commission on HIV/AIDS  
(1994-1997)**

MEMBERSHIP

*Bishops*

The Rt. Rev M. Thomas Shaw (Massachusetts) *Chair*

*Clergy*

The Rev. Lucy Talbott (East Carolina)

The Rev. Jennifer Walters (Michigan)

The Rev. Richard Younge (Olympia)

*Lay Persons*

Mr. Warren W. Buckingham, III (Washington)

Barbara Cambridge, PhD (Dallas)

Mr. Benneville Strohecker (Massachusetts)

Ms. Esther Walter (Iowa) *Secretary*

Ms. Jane Wilson (Colorado)

*Liaisons*

Episcopal Church Center: Dr. Diane M. Porter

Executive Council: The Rt. Rev. Frank Turner (Pennsylvania)

National Episcopal AIDS Coalition: The Rev. Ted Karpf (Washington)

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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### SUMMARY OF THE COMMISSION'S WORK

#### **The Continuing Crisis**

AIDS is the leading cause of death among men in the United States aged 25 to 44. It is the third leading killer of women in the same age range. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that 40,000 more men, women, and children in the United States are infected each year. By the turn of the millennium, 80,000 children in the United States will have been orphaned by AIDS. World wide, it is estimated that upwards of 10 million people are infected with HIV. **Every single infection is preventable.** The truth, and changed behavior, can stop AIDS. Telling the truth and calling people to changed behavior is the model set for us by Jesus Christ. We dare do no less.

#### **Goals and Objectives**

In response to resolutions passed at the 71st General Convention, the Commission on HIV/AIDS at its 1995 meetings adopted the following statement of purpose and broad goals to guide its work.

**Purpose:** Jesus commands us to love God with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We insist that the Episcopal Church live out these commandments -- the Gospel Imperative -- in responding to HIV/AIDS. We work to focus the continuing resources, energy, and attention of our church on achieving these imperatives through four explicit goals

**Goal 1:** *Advise the church on the policies and procedures needed to respond to the epidemic in accordance with the Gospel Imperative.*

**Goal 2:** *Confront the church and individual Episcopalians with the personal reality of AIDS to provoke action in love.*

**Goal 3:** *To know AIDS and to make AIDS known to the church.*

**Goal 4:** *To announce God's love in the HIV/AIDS epidemic and call the church to lead and inspire responsible and effective programs and policies on HIV/AIDS in the world.*

#### **Actions**

The commission is pleased to report that the following work was completed:

- presented two sessions of extended anti-racism training for commission members;
- consulted with the AIDS National Interfaith Network, National AIDS Fund, AIDS Action Council, and other secular bodies in our work and deliberations;
- engaged the Union of Black Episcopalians, the Office of Government Affairs and its Public Policy Network, and other church associations in a more complete response to the AIDS/HIV pandemic;
- helped secure national church support of Episcopal leadership of the AIDS National Interfaith Network;
- prepared and updated a report on the "State of the HIV Epidemic" and delivered same to Executive Council on two separate occasions;
- surveyed all Episcopal seminaries on ways they prepare seminarians to engage in HIV/AIDS ministries; prepared and disseminated a report on the survey results;
- participated in the October 1995 meeting on the structure of the church;

- participated in the October 1995 consultation of some 20 Episcopal organizations and agencies who are potential partners in HIV/AIDS ministry;
- provided consultation to program personnel at the Episcopal Church Center; actively promoted use of the Episcopal Guide to Teen AIDS Prevention (TAP); supported National Episcopal AIDS Coalition leadership in conducting Provincial TAP training;
- established partnerships with other church bodies to secure General Convention action on fairness in the church workplace, health care quality and access issues, and others; and
- developed a Theological Reflection describing how our Christian faith, Anglican tradition, and human reason inform the Episcopal response to the AIDS pandemic.

### Meetings

The Commission met five times during the Triennium, including a meeting in conjunction with the October 1996 display of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt and the *In Returning and Rest Retreat* of the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition (NEAC). Meetings of the full membership and/or the executive committee took place at least once each quarter by teleconference, and a joint meeting with the NEAC Board of Directors was held in January, 1997.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMING TRIENNIUM

In celebration of the work of the Joint Commission on AIDS, and that of the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition, and in recognition of the continuing AIDS crisis, this commission calls for sustained action in six broad areas of witness and ministry. In each area, we call the whole church to special intentions and actions with regard to populations more recently ravaged by HIV: women, adolescents, people of color, substance abusers, and the poor. For them, and for all God's people, we must continue to work for **Justice, Care for Bodies and Souls, Prevention Education, Sound Public Policy, Fairness in the Church Workplace, and Collaboration**. Summary statements on each of these areas are as follows:

*Justice:* The sin of racism directly contributes to the transmission of HIV and to inadequate care of those who are ill. We must address the political, social, and economic injustices which put poor and disenfranchised people at grave risk for HIV. We live in a culture that practices punishment and mean-spiritedness before prevention and socially responsible investment. As Christ's own, and as a Christian church, it is imperative that our response be rooted in the Gospel Imperative to love one another as God loves us.

*Care of Bodies and Souls:* We must continue our good works with those we have served since the beginning of the epidemic, as we face new challenges as well. Spiritual and practical needs of those newly encountering AIDS require our response. We must also develop new ministries to care for the souls of those who grieve, of those who are challenged to live into the promise of restored health, and of those who care for the sick and dying. We must develop and expand practical and spiritual ministries which respond to the special needs of care givers, and on the emerging and -- with God's help, the growing -- population of long-term survivors of HIV infection and AIDS.

*Prevention Education:* We must be active and vocal participants -- in the church and in the larger community -- in efforts to stop the transmission of HIV. We must advocate continuing and ever

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greater use of effective prevention education programs that speak candidly, accurately, and with a Christian voice about *all* behaviors that contribute to infection or that reduce risk of infection. We must confront and repent of our participation in any actions or attitudes that increase the vulnerability to HIV infection of women, people of color, children, and the poor in this nation and around the world.

*Sound Public Policy:* We must advocate, in collaboration with others wherever possible, for public policies at the national, state, and local levels that reduce both the transmission of HIV and the isolation of all people and families affected by HIV/AIDS. We must honor the extensive and positive legislative tradition of past General Conventions of the Episcopal Church, seeking full implementation of prior resolutions which endorse sound public policies in response to the pandemic. We must develop and pursue Christian responses which protect the well-being of people with HIV and AIDS by engaging in emerging public policy debates about managed care, welfare reform, and changes in Medicaid and Medicare.

*Fairness in the Church Workplace:* Despite resolutions passed at three General Conventions of this church (1988: D020, 1991: A007 and A008, and 1994: A003s and B028a), lay and ordained employees of our church continue to lose jobs or health insurance or both as a result of disclosure of their infection with HIV. ***Every congregation, diocese, province, and agency of the church must repent of this sin and act affirmatively to end it.*** These actions must include adoption and consistent application of policies which prohibit such discrimination, and appropriate training of all individuals responsible for personnel actions at every level of the corporate life of our church.

*Collaboration:* We must forge creative and productive partnerships with other faith communities, government at all levels, and all people and organizations of good will. We must maintain the network of Episcopal AIDS ministries supported through the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition, and we must also actively support the interfaith and ecumenical ministries in which many individual Episcopalians, congregations, and dioceses are engaged.

### RESOLUTIONS

#### **Resolution A045 Continuation of the Commission on HIV/AIDS**

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the Commission on HIV/AIDS be continued
- 2 for the 1998-2000 Triennium due to the expanding and changing HIV pandemic and its effects on
- 3 individuals, the Church, and the World, and be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That the Commission on HIV/AIDS report at least annually to the Executive Council of
- 5 the General Convention on the state of the Church's response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, with
- 6 particular attention how General Convention resolutions are being implemented, and be it further
- 7 *Resolved*, That the following amounts be included in the budget of the Executive Council for
- 8 support of the Commission on HIV/AIDS: \$12,500 for 1998, \$12,500 for 1999, \$12,500 for 2000.
- 9 this totals \$37,500 for the Triennium

#### **Resolution A046 Program for the National Church: AIDS and Racism**

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the Episcopal Church Center, in collaboration
- 2 with the Commission on HIV/AIDS and the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition convene
- 3 consultations during the Triennium to (1) examine in depth the impact of HIV/AIDS in

4 communities of color, (2) clarify the role of racism in AIDS among these communities, and (3)  
5 identify specific actions which Episcopalians in communities of color and in the majority  
6 community must take in response to HIV/AIDS; and be it further  
7 *Resolved*, That the sum of \$40,000 be appropriated for the conduct of these consultations and  
8 distribution of the results of their work.

**Resolution A047 Program for the National Church: Prevention**

1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the life-saving work of prevention education in  
2 the Episcopal Church be continued by providing further Provincial training in the use of the  
3 *Episcopal Guide to Teens for AIDS Prevention (TAP)*; and that the ministry of prevention be  
4 expanded to young adults, a population at especially grave risk for infection, through development  
5 or adaptation of existing resources, to include emphasis on abstinence as well as on proven harm  
6 and risk reduction strategies; and be it further  
7 *Resolved*, That \$15,000 per year be appropriated for further Provincial training in Teens for AIDS  
8 Prevention, with such sums to be matched by at least one dollar in funding from other sources for  
9 every five dollars from the budget of the Church; and be it further  
10 *Resolved*, That the sum of \$25,000 be appropriated for development and publication of a  
11 prevention resource for young adults.

**Resolution A048 Continuing Witness to God's Love**

1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That each congregation, diocese, province, and  
2 agency of the Episcopal Church reaffirm its continued commitment to a Christian response to the  
3 AIDS/HIV pandemic in our nation and world by signing "The Council Call: A Commitment on  
4 HIV/AIDS by People of Faith" as endorsed in Resolution B028a of the 71st General Convention;  
5 and be it further  
6 *Resolved*, That during the 1998-2000 Triennium our Church and its members will with special  
7 intention preach, pray for, and pursue Justice, Care for Bodies and Souls, Prevention Education,  
8 Sound Public Policy, Fairness in the Church Workplace, and Collaboration in our individual and  
9 corporate responses to HIV/AIDS.

## The Executive Council Committee on the Status of Women

### MEMBERSHIP

Patricia S. Castillo (West Texas) 1997  
Rebecca Crummey (Springfield) 2000 replaced  
Linda B. Grona (Dallas) *R.I.P.*  
Ginny Doctor (Alaska) *Executive Council Liaison* 1997  
Carol Gallagher (Pennsylvania) *Co-Chair* resigned  
Thais Gordon (Connecticut) 1997 replaced  
Antoinette Daniels (New York)  
Jessica A. Hatch (Arizona) 2000