

FACTS

(All facts below pertain to the year ending 2002.)

- * 28,136 people in Pennsylvania are infected with HIV or have AIDS.
- * An estimated 38.6 million adults and 3.2 million children were infected with HIV at the end of 2002.
- * Approximately half of all people who became infected with HIV did so before they were 25.
- * 8,629 children were infected with HIV at birth.
- * The top three states reporting the most AIDS cases were New York, California, and Florida. Pennsylvania was seventh.
- * There were 336,738 cases of AIDS reported among people aged 15-34.
- * 240,268 of people who had AIDS obtained it from injecting drugs.
- * 3.1 million people died of AIDS in the year 2002. Of those people, 610,000 were children younger than 15.
- * 3.5 million people were infected with HIV during 2002 in Sub Saharan Africa, 75,500 were infected in high-income countries.
- * Approximately 50 percent of adults living with HIV or AIDS are women.
- * The AIDS epidemic has left 13 million children as orphans.

Sources:
www.worldaidsday.nih.gov
www.avert.org

Stigma and Discrimination

Stigma and discrimination is the theme of the 2003 World AIDS Day. In many parts of the world discrimination prevents people who are known to have HIV from securing jobs and caring for their families.

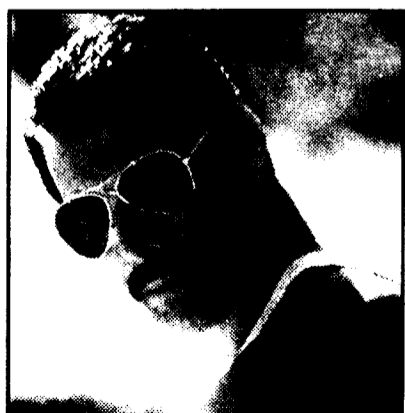
Discrimination can cause isolation and marginalizes people who have HIV and AIDS. This can prevent people from being offered or seeking the treatment which could save their lives.

Source: <http://gbgm-umc.org/programs/hiv/wad/html>

With AIDS, it doesn't matter who you are...



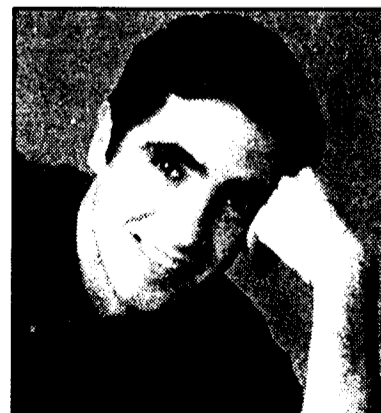
Rapper
Eazy E



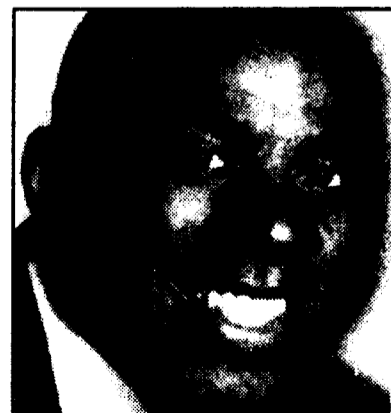
Queen singer Freddie
"Mercury" Bulsara



Designer
Tina Chow



Real World Season III
Pedro Zamora



Basketball star
Earvin "Magic" Johnson

Treatment Centers for HIV and AIDS

PA Dept. of Health Research and
Info Clearinghouse Columbus
Square Floor, 652 W. 17th St.
Erie, PA 16502
1-800-582-7746

State Health Center
900 Water St.
Erie, PA 16335
814-332-6942

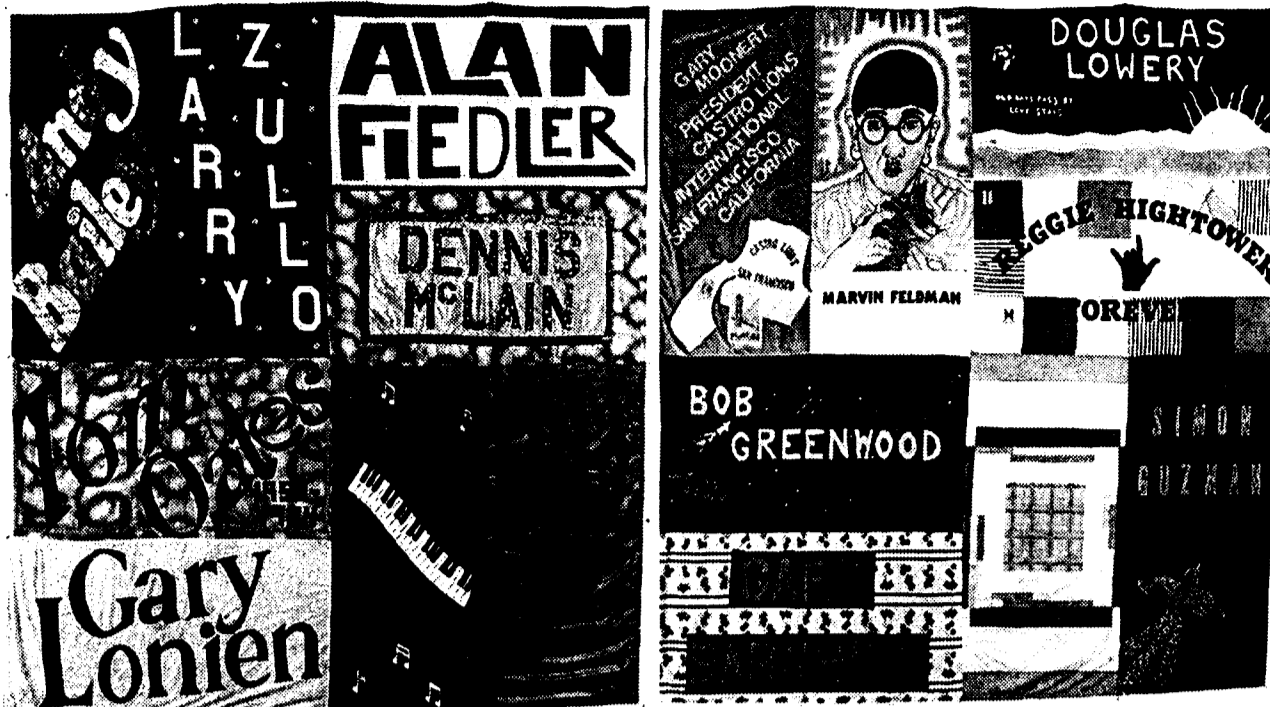
PA Dept. of Health
Choice
606 W. 2nd St. 16507
814-451-6700

To learn more, call your local
AIDS organization or the National
AIDS 24-hour Hotline at
800- 342-2437



In a Minute...

Five people worldwide die of AIDS every minute of every day. HIV has hit every corner of the globe, infecting more than 42 million men, women and children, five million of them in the last year alone.



Source:
www.aidsquilt.org

The Memorial Quilt

*The AIDS Memorial Quilt started in San Francisco, Calif., in 1987 as a tribute to those who have died from AIDS.

*The Quilt is made up of panels 3 feet by 6 feet, which are made by the friends and family who personalize them to remember their loved ones.

*So far, there more than 45,000 panels that make up the Quilt.

*There are more than 82,000 names on the Quilt.

*Portions of the Quilt can be viewed in Erie, at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 134 W 7th St. from Nov. 26 to Dec. 8.

*The Quilt can also be viewed at University Park at HUB-Robeson Alumni Hall from Dec. 1 to Dec. 2.

*Materials used in the Quilt include Barbie dolls, cowboy boots, jewelry, silk flowers, hats, paintings, buttons, car keys, stuffed animals, wedding rings, love letters, champagne glasses, bubble-wrap, afghans and photographs.

*The Quilt is 1,270,350 square feet, equivalent of 30 football fields

*If all 3'x 6' panels were laid end to end, the Quilt would reach 51.3 miles long.

*The total weight of the Quilt is more than 54 tons.

*Portions of the Quilt are constantly being displayed around the country.

*There is absolutely no cost for entering a panel to the Quilt.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AIDSQUILT.ORG

MYTHS

MYTH: HIV is the same thing as AIDS.
HIV is the virus that leads to AIDS, and AIDS is a collection of illnesses.

MYTH: HIV only affects gay men and drug users.
HIV can infect anyone. Babies, women, seniors over 50, teens, blacks, whites and hispanics. At risk behavior can lead to infection in anyone.

MYTH: We don't need a condom for oral sex.
This a very untrue and dangerous myth. A condom should be used during every sexual act including vaginal, anal or oral.

MYTH: I have HIV, so I can't have children.
Women living with HIV can and do have families. While certain steps and precautions have to be taken, women can now have the families they dream about.

MYTH: I can get HIV from a public toilet seat, kissing, sharing food or through germs in the air.
HIV can only be transmitted through or into the bloodstream.

MYTH: HIV can be cured.
While many make claims of miraculous cures, the sad truth is there is no cure for HIV. Be careful of claims of cures.

MYTH: I have just been diagnosed. I am going to die.
People are living with HIV longer today than ever before. Medicines and treatment programs have a better understanding of HIV.
Source: www.aids.about.com/cs/aidsfactsheets/t/hivmyths.htm

AIDS IQ

(yes or no)

1) Is HIV present in sweat?

2) Can you get AIDS by using a phone that was just used by someone with AIDS?

3) People who suffer from sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are much more likely to contract HIV than people that don't have STDs.

4) HIV is the name of the virus. AIDS is the disease caused by HIV.

5) Responsibility towards ourselves and those around us is the only prevention of HIV infection.

Yes (5)
Yes (4)
Yes (3)
No (2)
No (1)

Source: www.sec.org.za/aids/aifamy/html