# WORLD AIDS WEEK 2012 CAMPAIGN KIT

November 27<sup>th</sup> through December 7<sup>th</sup>

# THE WORLD IS WATCHING It's our chance to tell our elected officials:

- 1. No budget cuts to domestic and global AIDS programs
- 2. A Robin Hood Tax on Wall Street to end AIDS
- 3. Increased investment in global AIDS programs in President Obama's FY2014 Budget





#### Dear Activists,

For one day every year, the whole world pays attention to the AIDS pandemic. We often feel that governments and corporations turn a blind eye towards our efforts – but on World AIDS Day, we have a unique opportunity to make our voices heard. AMSA and SGAC are mobilizing for an 11 day period of action surrounding World AIDS Day (December 1<sup>st</sup>), from November 27<sup>th</sup> until December 7<sup>th</sup> 2012.

We have all the tools needed to end the AIDS pandemic for good - yet it continues to devastate communities and bankrupt health care system, with millions of people denied access to lifesaving medications every day. Misplaced policy priorities and inadequate resources continue to hinder our progress in fighting this pandemic.

Right now, both domestic and global AIDS programs are at risk of seeing huge budget cuts. As the U.S. approaches the "fiscal cliff," automatic budget cuts to federal programs threaten to undermine all of the progress that has been made in fighting the AIDS epidemic throughout the world.

This World AIDS Day, we are campaigning to stop budget cuts to AIDS programs through direct action and strategic political advocacy. We are encouraging all activists to **organize and participate in legislative lobby visits, legislator call-ins,** and **strategic media use** to ensure that policy makers hear our message loud and clear.

While many students and youth engaged in work around AIDS are already planning educational and remembrance events for World AIDS Day, we urge you to take one step further and actively change the course of this pandemic. Throughout the history of the AIDS movement, legislative visits and call-in days led by students have changed the course of AIDS programs. Now it's YOUR turn to change the course of AIDS history.

This campaign kit includes a list of action and event ideas for World AIDS Week 2012, detailed fact sheets on the budget cuts that will result from budget sequestration and the robin hood tax, instructions on how to set up and conduct a meeting with your legislator, tips and a sample script for hosting a legislator call-in, and a guide to using local media to get your voice heard.

Activists have the power to change history and save lives – we just have to make our demands heard. Let's do that this World AIDS Day!

In Solidarity,

Student Global AIDS Campaign AMSA AIDS Advocacy Network

#### What Can You Do for World AIDS Week?

## 1. Join other AIDS activists in Washington, DC on Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> for a rally and march to oppose budget cuts to AIDS programs

Are you close to Washington DC? Do you want to join a bus of activists coming down to DC from New York or Philadelphia? Or would you like to organize your own van or bus to come join this rally? Email Amirah at <a href="mailto:amirah@studentglobalaidscampaign.org">amirah@studentglobalaidscampaign.org</a> to get involved!

If you can't get to Washington DC, get involved by joining our media team, and make media calls from wherever you are to help us out!

#### 2. Set up a legislative lobby visit with your local senator or representative.

Lobby visits with your senator/representative or their staff are the most efficient way to advocate our vision to the people who have the power to change things. Check out our guide to legislative visits on page --- or watch the AMSA webinar on lobbying visits: <u>AMSA AAN</u> Legislative Lobby Webinar

### 3. Have a call-in to key legislators.

In addition to meeting with your legislators, organize more students and youth to call their offices and tell them your demands. We have tips to hosting an effective call-in, and a sample call-in script that you can use on page 10.

## 4. Send out an opinion piece or letter to the editor to your local newspaper or campus publication.

Check out our sample opinion piece on page 12.

## 5. Educate your community, host a screening of How To Survive A Plague, and recruit new activists!

Recruit new activists by hosting educational events, and then convince the attendees to get involved further. The documentary "How To Survive A Plague" is a great way to educate your peers about the AIDS movement, and inspire them to get involved with activism. Try to schedule your educational events before your legislative lobby visits and call-in days – this way, new recruits can participate in activism right away. Want to have a screening of How To Survive A Plague? Email amirah@studentglobalaidscampaign.org

## 6. Interested in making a bigger splash? Try doing a press stunt!

Be creative! In the past, people caroled by changing the lyrics to Christmas carols and had medical students in white coats sing them in front of a politician' office building. Make sure you send a press release to local media (newspapers, local TV) and have a fun and visible event. Sample caroling lyrics and a press release is on page 18.

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Do you have questions? Please feel free to contact the Student Global AIDS Campaign and the AMSA AIDS Advocacy Network:

<u>Student Global AIDS Campaign:</u> Amirah Sequeira, National Coordinator: <u>amirah@studentglobalaidscampaign.org</u>

> AMSA AIDS Advocacy Network: aan.chair@amsa.org

## The Facts: Budget Sequestration and Funding for AIDS Programs

#### Background

In 2011, Congress passed legislation (the Budget Control Act) that requires \$1.2 trillion in budget cuts over the next 10 years, if Congress does not reach a debt-reduction deal by December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. On January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013, the U.S. government will go over the "cliff", and automatic spending cuts will be applied to all aspects of the government budget, in the form of sequestration of parts of the budget. It is estimated that sequestration will result in an 8.4% cut in federal spending across the board.

Cuts to global and domestic HIV/AIDS programs will have very real consequences to human life in the next year if sequestration is enacted.

#### How Will Sequestration Affect Global HIV/AIDS Programs?

- Global health programs will see a cut of nearly **\$689 million** in the first year, which is a reduction of nearly 10% from the fiscal year 2012 budget.
- More than 350,00 people will be denied AIDS treatment
- More than **62,000 people will die of AIDS**, who would have otherwise survived.
- 122,500 more children will be orphaned
- **111,000** fewer HIV-positive pregnant women will receive treatment to prevent transmission to their newborns and **21,000** more infants will be infected with HIV.

#### **How Will Sequestration Affect Domestic AIDS Programs?**

- Domestic HIV/AIDS programs will receive budget cuts of \$538 million in the first year of sequestration.
- **9,400 patients** receiving treatment through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) could lose access to their medication with a \$77 million cut to ADAP
- 5,000 households will be affected by the \$27 million cut from the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS Program
- **460 AIDS research grants** will be eliminated due to a \$251 million cut to the NIH AIDS research budget
- 400 people living with HIV will not be diagnosed because of a \$65.2 million cut to HIV prevention services

#### Sources:

American Foundation for AIDS Research, "The Effect of Budget Sequestration on Global Health: Projecting the Human Impact in Fiscal Year 2013" amfAR Issue Brief: July 2012

American Foundation for AIDS Research, "Estimating the Human Impact of Budget Sequestration on HIV/AIDS in the United States in Fiscal Year 2013" amfAR Issue Brief October 2012

#### The Facts: A Robin Hood Tax to end AIDS

#### What is the Robin Hood Tax?

The Robin Hood Tax, or the Financial Transaction Tax, would be a 0.5% tax on speculative financial transaction on Wall Street (e.g. stocks, bonds, derivatives, and foreign currency exchange). The tax will generate as much as \$350 billion a year that could solve some of the world's most pressing issues, and end the AIDS pandemic.

#### Why do we need a Robin Hood Tax to end AIDS?

We have all the tools we need to end the AIDS pandemic, but we need the funding to implement treatment and prevention across the globe. **8 million people are still in immediate need of HIV treatment,** and the revenue from a Robin Hood Tax would provide enough funding to meet this need, and many others.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, believes "if you don't put in the money now, sooner or later you are going to have to pay." We need the money NOW to invest in global AIDS programs.

#### The Robin Hood Tax Helps All!

Revenue from the Robin Hood Tax would also go towards housing, education, global poverty and health, job creation, research and innovation, domestic healthcare, infrastructure, and ecological recovery, among others!

#### Legislation for the Robin Hood Tax

In September 2012, Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN) introduced HR 6411: The Inclusive Prosperity Act in congress. The bill calls for a Robin Hood Tax on Wall Street transaction to raise revenue for important programming.

#### Dispelling myths about the tax

"This tax would hurt the middle class"

The size of the tax proposed is too small to hurt the middle class, and would only affect high frequency traders on Wall Street.

"Traders would move to other countries"

Traders would only move to other countries if the tax was not in existence in other countries. The U.S. is actually behind many other countries in enacting the tax. 11 European Countries including France, Germany, Italy and Spain are moving towards implementing the tax.

## **Guide to Lobby Visits**

#### How to set up a meeting with your legislator:

- Decide which legislator(s) you'd like to meet with you have two senators and a representative. Contact Amirah at SGAC or the AMSA AAN steering committee (<u>aan.chair(@amsa.org</u>) if you want help choosing.
- 2. Call your legislator's office to schedule a meeting. You can find their phone number on their website make sure to call their local district office, unless you are planning on meeting with them in Washington DC. Try to call a week or more in advance.
- 3. The staff person to whom you speak on the phone may give you an email address of a scheduler to send your meeting request to in writing. After you send in a request for a meeting, follow-up with the office by phone to make sure the meeting is scheduled. Keep following up as often as you need to!
- 4. If you are having trouble scheduling a meeting, contact SGAC or AMSA AAN to see if they have any contacts with staffers in the office of your legislator, to speed up the process.

#### How to prepare for your meeting:

- 1. It is important to be as relaxed as possible during your visit. Expect to be a little nervous. Have everyone who is planning on attending get together at least 1 hour in advance of the meeting to plan out who is handling each agenda point. Decide who will "chair" the meeting based on familiarity with the issue and speaking skills.
- 2. Bring a leave-behind kit with you to hand the staffer after your meeting this should include the fact sheets on pages 5 and 6, and the sample letter to President Obama on page 13. Bring extra copies of your fact sheets.
- 3. Dress appropriately for your visit. Some lobbyists may try and create a grass-roots image for themselves by dressing down, but it is usually a safe to dress business casual.
- 4. If possible, try and form a delegation by bringing friends who are also from your district. If they are not from your district, you have no obligation to divulge this fact if you are not asked, but also do NOT lie if asked.

#### Sample Agenda for the meeting

1. Introductions –if you are affiliated with an organization, introduce the mission of that organization, and what your college chapter focuses on. Then do individual introductions of each person in attendance. You may want to provide more details and background on who you are, and why you are interested in working on global health disparities and HIV/AIDS. Acknowledge your member of Congress for any previous actions on the issue. Connect with your member of Congress and/or staff by asking specific questions, such as, "What are your main priorities in Congress this year?"

- **2. Presentation of Issues and Requests:** When discussing the issues with your members of Congress or their staff, focus on engaging them in the conversation as well as making requests.
  - a. Make specific requests and ask for their answer right then. If they are unwilling to make a commitment, set a date to follow up.
  - b. Also, carefully record any objections, questions, or concerns. If you can't address a specific question, tell them you will get back to them with an answer. One person should take notes during the conversation, being sure to write down any commitments made by the legislator or aide.
  - c. Set a plan for following up with the appropriate congressional staff.

#### 3. Current State of the AIDS Pandemic:

- a. Opportunity to end AIDS
  - Treatment is prevention NIH-funded research from June 2011 shows that receiving treatment prevents a person from passing HIV on to their partners (reduces the transmission rate by 96%)
  - Mathematical models show we can end AIDS using treatments & prevention tools we already have (condoms, preventing mother-to-child transmission), we can drive new infections down and save lives
  - Economic benefits HIV treatment results in return to full employment (Bor, Health Affairs 2012), cost-savings in the long-term (UNAIDS Investment Framework, Schwartlander et al, Lancet 2011)
  - Personal connection if you have them, consider telling stories of friends/acquaintances with HIV or successful programs you've witnessed

#### 4. Risk of Sequestration (automatic budget cuts of "the fiscal cliff")

- a. Sequestration presents an absolute crisis for our fight to end AIDS
- b. AMFAR briefing (in this packet) shows the devastating toll cuts will take, both in the US and abroad an 8.2% cut would lead to...
  - o 62,000 deaths due to untreated HIV
  - o 21,000 infants being born with HIV, due to cuts in prevention of mother-to-child-transmission (PMTCT) programs
  - o 6,000 deaths from malaria and 8,000 deaths from TB
- c. Global health spending has to be preserved. We're too close to winning to retreat now. A budget that cuts global health must be a deal-breaker. The British were able to ring-fence global health even in their austerity budget -- will Senator/Congressman \_\_\_\_ lead that charge?

#### 5. Robin Hood Tax as a Solution

- Enacting a financial transaction tax on speculative financial transactions could yield up to \$350 billion a year in the U.S. alone, which would provide more than enough revenue each year to fully fund AIDS programs.
- b. 11 European Countries are on track to pass a financial transaction tax.

c. HR 6411, introduced by Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) calls for a financial transaction tax that would generate revenue for AIDS programs – the legislator should consider signing on to the bill or introducing a similar bill in the Senate.

#### 6. Asks

- a. Issue a public statement in support of protecting global health funding in the sequestration negotiations
- b. Write a letter to your party's leadership demanding that global health funding be protected
  - Senators: Harry Reid for Democrats, Mitch McConnell for Republicans
  - House of Representatives: Nancy Pelosi for Democrats, John Boehner for Republicans
- c. Write a letter to the president demanding that global health funding be protected in sequestration AND preserved in his next budget request
- 7. Follow-Up: Fax or mail a "Thank You" letter and follow up with the appropriate aide(s). Without follow up, your effort in scheduling a meeting and speaking powerfully about our issues could be wasted. If your representative does what you asked, then be sure to thank them and let them know you appreciate their continued efforts.
- 8. Benefits of the visit: Your visit will not only help to persuade your representative, but it will also be an educational experience for you. During your visit, you will get an inside look at the political climate, and get insight on how to better promote your issue. Never be afraid to ask a question about the actual mechanics behind government.

#### Call-In Guide

#### Why do a Call-In?

- It impacts decisions made my legislators they actually do pay attention to the calls they get!
- 2. It's an easy way to engage A LOT of students and youth in activism and then recruit them to get involved more!

#### Tips for a great call-in:

- Call your legislators from both your home state and your home district and your school's district if they are different. Plus, make sure to call the House and Senate leadership.
- Set-up a table on your campus or in a public place, and make it attractive with signs and free food. (People love free food!) When people approach your table, explain who you are and the work that you're doing, and ask them if they would make a call to their legislator (or your legislator of choice) to urge them to support funding for AIDS programs. Have many copies of your call-in script printed our and ready to go, along with fact sheets about your demands, so that people calling-in feel prepared and confident in their engagement. Make sure to get the names and contact information for everyone you talk to, so that you can stay in touch with them for future actions!
- Send out the call-in script and your plans through all of the email listserves and social media channels that you have access to.
- Keep track of the number of calls you make, and let us know! That way we can monitor our progress!

You can find information on your representatives here:

http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/

And their DC numbers here: http://www.house.gov/representatives/

You can find information on your senators here:

http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\_information/senators\_cfm.cfm

#### Information on the House and Senate leadership:

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV): (202) 224-3542

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY): (202) 224-2541

Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-OH): (202) 225-6205

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA): (202) 225-4965

### Call-In Script

"Hello, my name is ---- from -----

Please inform Representative/Senator ---- that I strongly oppose any budget cuts to domestic and global HIV/AIDS programs that will result if sequestration occurs at the beginning of January. Specifically, I urge you to support full funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, Ryan White Care programs, and Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA).

Fighting HIV/AIDS is a fully bipartisan issue with strong support from the highest levels of leadership in both the Republican and Democratic parties. At a time when we have the tools and expert consensus to foresee an end to the HIV/AIDS epidemic due to breakthrough science, America cannot afford to go back on its pledge to realize an AIDS-free generation. Cutting foreign assistance for global health will not help us balance our budget but will instantly compromise the lives of millions around the world. Scaling back on our cost-effective programs will weaken global economic development while threatening our national security. A decade of critical investment and American leadership cannot fail now after significant evidence-based progress. We ask that you speak out publicly against any potential cuts and commit to fully funding these life-saving programs."

### Example of an Op-Ed for Local/School Newspaper

#### The following is an example of an op-ed about the Financial Transactions Tax.

At a time of unparalleled polarization in American politics, one of the few notions both parties agree on is the need to find new sources of revenue to solve our country's most looming problems. When it comes to solving the AIDS crisis, no statement could be closer to the truth. Last year, scientific findings published in the New England Journal of Medicine showed that when people with HIV get treatment they are 96% less likely to transmit the virus on to their sex partner. But putting medicines in the hands of those who need them requires concrete investments to scale-up treatment. At a moment in history when even without a vaccine we have the tools the turn the tide of the AIDS pandemic, politicians are still throwing a lifeline to big banks and state debtors while giving HIV funding the axe. Thanks to Rep Keith Ellison, new revenue to end AIDS could be just one House Resolution away.

This year on December 1st, World AIDS Day, members of the American Medical Students Association are recognizing the leadership of Minnesota Congressman Keith Ellison, who, with the introduction of HR 6411—The Inclusive Prosperity Act, has ushered in a new forward: a financial transaction tax (FTT) [to end AIDS].

The concept of an FTT isn't novel. Often referred to as a micro-tax or the Robin Hood tax, present day examples can be found in more than 40 countries. Rep Ellison's bill calls for a tiny fee to be imposed on financial services transactions confined to the speculative market. Projections estimate that a tax of only 0.05% per transaction would generate \$409 billion annually (AIDS Alliance, '11).

Beyond the raw proceeds, an FTT offers the benefit of reducing market volatility by discouraging excessive speculations. This is the same objective that periodically drive European and Asian authorities to halt short-selling, which is one way for traders to make money off of falling share prices (..BBC, '11). Instead of banning short-selling, what regulatory bodies should be doing is taxing those sales! A miniscule fee on the transfer of a rapid turnover share means nothing to the average investor of Main Street; whereas professional traders, who turn profit off the sheer quantity of shares with only incremental value increases, might be somewhat dissuaded from re-investing those gains. By creating a disincentive to excessive risk taking, experts predict ripple effect of stabilization on all corners of the global marketplace.

As was mentioned countless times on the campaign trail, fiscal harmony requires not only cutting expenditures but also generating revenue. According to many analysts, the financial sector is under-taxed compared to the rest of the economy. Data published by the Austrian Institute of Economic Research estimate that foreign exchange transactions, compromising trillions of dollars each day, occur at 70 times the volume of goods and services traded; and yet we have no current system of taxation for transactions (Schulmeister 2009). This is money that should be funneled into desperately needed AIDS treatment and other global health

#### programming.

All over the world, inadequate health care resources preclude people from accessing medications that we now know not only save lives but prevent infection. Barely half of the people in immediate need for AIDS drugs are getting them, and in the United States over the past few years we have witnessed AIDS Drug Assistance Program wait lists of up to 10,000 people waiting to get the treatment they need. At a time when we need to be expanding treatment programs globally, we are cutting them.

Yet with daily headlines related to the sluggish recovery, deficit reduction and budget sequestration, public sector spending cuts are par for the course. Analysts of the global financial sector point out that amid the current turmoil, austerity measures are a no-brainer. Although the links between an international health emergency like AIDS and an impending financial crisis are complex, there is no doubt that these twin challenges are reinforcing. In the case of HIV and AIDS, treatable illness among the most productive members of the workforce fuels economic insecurity in areas of the world already under strain.

Just as these problems share the similar economic roots, their solution is also one in the same. In fact, fiscal conservatives and public health advocates have more in common than either party might guess, as support for HR6411--a financial transaction tax (FTT) to fund global health initiatives is quickly gaining momentum.

Many would agree that the best place to debut the FTT for health is within the European Union, where like-minded officials could pioneer what should ultimately be applied globally (AIDS Alliance). French and German leaders have long been supporters of the idea, but clearly their voices are not enough to tip the scales. What's needed is the weight of the United States to join in a coalition of governments angling to create an FTT in 2013. Instead of sending more health services programming to the chopping block, the US should follow economic leaders who have for years been recommending that we put in place a system of taxation now that will provide for the health needs of communities into the future. AIDS is the pandemic of today—with scourges on the rise from influenza to monkey pox, it is difficult to predict what health challenges may arise tomorrow. Right now we have the means to finance a solution, let's not let this opportunity pass by.

## Sample letter for a Legislator to send to President Obama

November 14, 2012

President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, D.C. 20500

#### Dear President Obama,

On December 1, 2011, you committed to continue the fight to end HIV/AIDS. You set a goal of 6 million people on treatment by 2013. You committed an additional \$15 million funding to the Ryan White Program and an additional \$35 million to support states to carry out ADAP. I write you today to remind you that the End of AIDS will only be realized with continued funding for these effective programs and to urge you to protect AIDS funding from looming cuts.

This year marks a true turning point for people living with HIV/AIDS and for those working to end the pandemic. Decades of increased funding coupled with programmatic changes made in light of evidence that treatment is prevention have been hugely effective. Support of programs in Kenya, for example, have made it the first high-prevalence country that has reached the tipping point: last month the ratio of new infections to new ART enrollees in Kenya was 1:1, marking the beginning of the End of AIDS in that country.

But these victories will prove only transient if AIDS funding is not explicitly protected during ongoing debates about sequestration and spending cuts. There exists real, human impact to potential cuts, both domestically and globally.

#### Domestic impact of scheduled cuts

There are 50,000 new infections each year in the US and a record 1.1 million people living with HIV/AIDS, only 25 percent of whom have a suppressed viral load. Scheduled cuts to AIDS programs will top \$500 million. ADAP, alone, will lose \$77 million, ensuring 9400 more untreated patients.

#### Global impact of scheduled cuts

According to a recent report conducted by amFAR, scheduled cuts would restrict treatment for 276,500 people living with HIV/AIDS, and deny a promised 100, 000 additional people treatment, potentially leading to 63,000 more AIDS-related deaths and 124,000 more orphaned children. Scheduled cuts mean 112,500 fewer HIV-positive pregnant women will receive PMTCT services. This shortfall translates into more than 21,000 infants being infected with HIV.

#### Jobs impact of schedule cuts

As you know, limitations to overhead and administrative costs of domestic and global AIDS funding mean that almost all spending translates into jobs. Many low and middle income Americans who are HIV positive find work in peer education, outreach, and treatment. Additionally, the network of workers employed to care for people living with HIV/AIDS is extensive: case managers, physicians, nurses, technicians, social workers, therapists, nutritionists. And thousands more jobs are created through discretionary and non-discretionary

spending outside traditionally conceived AIDS programming: at drug rehabilitation centers, food banks, research facilities, and housing support networks. Clearly, the Jobs impact of cuts would be devastating.

America is hungry for bipartisan action. AIDS spending has historically been championed by leaders on both sides of the aisle. And now is your opportunity to, once again, continue to push forward to realize the AIDS-free generation your administration promised just one short year ago.

I urge you to keep your promise and to ensure that AIDS Programs receive full funding.

Thank you,

## Sample letter for a Legislator to send to the Appropriations Committees

November 14, 2012

Harold Rogers, Chairman The U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations 2406 Rayburn House Office Bldg Washington D.C. 20515

Daniel D. Inouye, Chairman The U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations 722 Hart Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Rogers and Chairman Inouye,

On December 1, 2011, President Obama committed to continue the fight to end HIV/AIDS. He set a goal of 6 million people on treatment by 2013, committing an additional \$15 million funding to the Ryan White Program and an additional \$35 million to support states to carry out ADAP. I write you today to remind you that the End of AIDS will only be realized with continued funding for these effective programs and to urge The Appropriations Committees to protect AIDS funding from looming cuts.

This year marks a true turning point for people living with HIV/AIDS and for those working to end the pandemic. Decades of increased funding coupled with programmatic changes made in light of evidence that treatment is prevention have been hugely effective. Support of programs in Kenya, for example, have made it the first high-prevalence country that has reached the tipping point: last month the ratio of new infections to new ART enrollees in Kenya was 1:1, marking the beginning of the End of AIDS in that country.

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America is hungry for bipartisan action. AIDS spending has historically been championed by leaders on both sides of the aisle. And now is your opportunity to, once again, continue to push forward to realize the AIDS-free generation promised just one short year ago.

I urge you to ensure that AIDS Programs receive full funding in the coming years.

Thank you,

### Caroling Lyrics and Sample Press Release

### To the tune of "Jingle Bells"

Dingell tell
Dingell tell

Tell them what we need

Generic pills Patents kill

Our health before their greed

#### To the tune of "Winter Wonderland"

**ARVs** 

For the masses Access please Don't be asses

We all deserve more,
So on the house floor,
Tell them we want global AIDS money

Global AIDS kills 8,000 people daily, We have to stay committed to the cause, So listen to the folks who voted for you, And help us write more global access laws

#### To the tune of "White Christmas"

I'm dreaming of a cheap medication Just like the ones we used to buy When generics were flowing And access was growing To the drugs we need to stay to alive

## To the tune of "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus"

I saw congress taking Pharma's dough,
And giving them big kickbacks in return,
They didn't seem to think
Monopolies would cause a stink,
They thought that constituents would just
give a nod and wink,
Then I saw biologics prices soar,
And patients unable to get drugs cheap,
What a gift it would have been,

If Congress had only said NO to Pharma this year

#### To the Tune of "Deck the Halls"

Deck the halls with ARVs
Falalala lalalala
Give poor countries what they need
Falalala lalalala
Lack of access's killing many
Falala lalala la la
Congress give PEPFAR more money
Falalalala lala la

## To the tune of "The Twelve Days of Christmas"

When you go to the House floor, Remember what we need-Funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor, Remember what we need-Access for us all, And funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor, Remember what we need-Pediatric meds, Access for us all, And funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor, Remember what we need-A big ole patent pool, Pediatric meds, Access for us all, And funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor, Remember what we need-Cheeeap ARVs, A big ole patent pool, Pediatric meds, Access for us all, And Funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor, Remember what we need-Healthy moms breast-feeding, Access to clean needles, Cheeeap ARVs, A big ole patent pool, Pediatric meds, Access for us all, And Funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor,
Remember what we needHealthy moms breast-feeding,
Access to clean needles,
Cheeeap ARVs,
A big ole patent pool,
Pediatric meds,
Access for us all,
And Funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor,
Remember what we needTons and tons of condoms,
Healthy moms breast-feeding,
Access to clean needles,
Cheeeap ARVs,
A big ole patent pool,
Pediatric meds,
Access for us all,
And Funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor, Remember what we need-Free and easy testing, Tons and tons of condoms, Healthy moms breast-feeding, Access to clean needles, Cheeeap ARVs, A big ole patent pool, Pediatric meds, Access for us all, And Funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor,
Remember what we needConfidential counseling,
Free and easy testing,
Tons and tons of condoms,
Healthy moms breast-feeding,
Access to clean needles,
Cheeeap ARVs,
A big ole patent pool,
Pediatric meds,
Access for us all,
And Funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor,
Remember what we needPublic education,
Confidential counseling,
Free and easy testing,
Tons and tons of condoms,
Healthy moms breast-feeding,
Access to clean needles,
Cheeeap ARVs,
A big ole patent pool,
Pediatric meds,
Access for us all,
And Funding for global AIDS please.

When you go to the House floor,
Remember what we needLocal health care workers,
Public education,
Confidential counseling,
Free and easy testing,
Tons and tons of condoms,
Healthy moms breast-feeding,
Access to clean needles,
Cheeeap ARVs,
Abig ole patent pool,
Pediatric meds,
Access for us all,
And Funding for global AIDS please!

## ON WORLD AIDS DAY, ACTIVISTS RALLY TO DEMAND OBAMA AND [Insert Congress Member Name] KEEP THEIR PROMISES TO FIGHT AIDS IN THE U.S. AND WORLDWIDE

**WHO** – Students from [SCHOOL NAME]

**WHAT** – We will be singing modified Christmas carols outside the office of [Congressperson Name] to mark World AIDS Day and call for Congressman [NAME] to fight AIDS by opposing any budget cuts to domestic and global HIV/AIDS programs that will result if sequestration occurs at the beginning of January. Specifically, we are urging Congressman [NAME] to support full funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, Ryan White Care programs, and Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA). While caroling, the group will distribute information about sequestration and AIDS funding.

#### WHEN/WHERE - DATE, TIME, LOCATION

**WHY** – In 2011, Congress passed legislation (the Budget Control Act) that requires \$1.2 trillion in budget cuts over the next 10 years, if Congress does not reach a debt-reduction deal by December 23rd, 2012. On January 2nd, 2013, the U.S. government will go over the "cliff", and automatic spending cuts will be applied to all aspects of the government budget, in the form of sequestration of parts of the budget. It is estimated that sequestration will result in an 8.4% cut in federal spending across the board. Cuts to global and domestic HIV/AIDS programs will have very real consequences to human life in the next year if sequestration is enacted.

How Will Sequestration Affect Global HIV/AIDS Programs?

- Global health programs will see a cut of nearly \$689 million in the first year, which is a reduction of nearly 10% from the fiscal year 2012 budget.
- More than 350,00 people will be denied AIDS treatment
- More than 62,000 people will die of AIDS, who would have otherwise survived.
- 122,500 more children will be orphaned
- 111,000 fewer HIV-positive pregnant women will receive treatment to prevent transmission to their newborns and 21,000 more infants will be infected with HIV.

#### How Will Sequestration Affect Domestic AIDS Programs?

- Domestic HIV/AIDS programs will receive budget cuts of \$538 million in the first year of sequestration.
- 9,400 patients receiving treatment through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) could lose access to their medication with a \$77 million cut to ADAP
- 5,000 households will be affected by the \$27 million cut from the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS Program
- 460 AIDS research grants will be eliminated due to a \$251 million cut to the NIH AIDS research budget
- 400 people living with HIV will not be diagnosed because of a \$65.2 million cut to HIV prevention services