



Why is access to affordable treatment important for children?

We cannot stop 250,000 children in KZN from becoming orphans — but through affordable anti-retrovirals and treatments for opportunistic infections, **we can help reduce the negative impact of orphanhood.** **Access to affordable treatments through quality health care can make a difference by:**

- Increasing the length of life for children and parents who have HIV.
- Increasing the age at which children become orphans, and so require shorter periods of alternative family care and state aid
- Improving the chance of children to grow into resilient, capable adults:
 - ◆ The longer children can be with their own families,
 - ◆ The better their quality of life and parental care,
 - ◆ The stronger the foundations for their development, the lower their risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Improve opportunities for better preparation by their parents to make provision for their alternative family care.

Get involved – make a real difference in children’s lives:

- Join in or support the global march organised by the Treatment Action Campaign at the International AIDS Conference in Durban on 9 July 2000 at 15h00 outside City Hall.
- Join your local Treatment Action Campaign branch. Contact us to find out how to join.
- Come to the MSF/TAC conference in Durban on treatment access in developing countries on 9 July 2000 from 08h30–13h30 at City Hall.



HIV & AIDS Treatment Action Campaign

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JOIN THE STRUGGLE TO DEFEAT HIV/AIDS!

The government says 4 million people in South Africa are living with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Many South Africans are dying of AIDS, but HIV/AIDS does not have to be a death sentence. There are medicines available that can help children and adults with HIV live longer and healthier lives. These are medicines that have to be taken every day for the rest of the life of a person with HIV/AIDS—in the same way as one takes medicines for diabetes. There are also medicines available that can prevent babies getting the virus from their mothers.

However, drug companies are charging extremely high prices for HIV medicines, so that they can make very large profits. Therefore, most South Africans and poor people everywhere in the world cannot afford to buy treatments for HIV.

What are the aims of the Treatment Action Campaign?

- Educate people about HIV/AIDS treatments
- Pressure drug companies to charge less money for HIV/AIDS medicines
- Urge government to pass laws to lower medicine prices, improve health services and distribute AZT/NVP to pregnant mothers to prevent mother to child HIV transmission.

What can you do?

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LOWER PRICES FOR HIV/AIDS TREATMENTS NOW!