

2007 AUXILLIA CHIMUSORO AWARDS WINNERS

1. MEDIA, ARTS AND CULTURE

Winner _ Patsimeredu Edutainment Trust – Has used forum theatre for developing strategies to engage rural communities to discuss the implications of culture and religion on HIV and AIDS issues.

Runner Up – Bhingi Werks Unlimited – Has engaged various audiences by using entertainment to effectively communicate and educate on topical issues related to HIV and AIDS.

Mention

The Awards Secretariat and Selection Panelists acknowledge the sustained contributions made by the media. This year the organisers felt that there is need to also acknowledge and award other forms of media, and in this instance theatre productions such as those selected as winners and runner ups.

Mass media sector has been recognised as a key success factor in the fight against HIV and AIDS. It encouraging that several community based journalists have now taken a keen interest in reporting HIV and AIDS. Whilst the selection panel recognised the increasing efforts by the print and electronic media, a lot still needs to be done in ensuring that the media communicates non stigmatising or sensational HIV and AIDS messages. The selection panellists recognised the need for media also to show diversity and grasp of HIV and AIDS issues.

2. COMMUNITY AWARD

Breakers of Silence:

Winner – Pastor Maxwell Kapachawo – His actions and interventions have significantly contributed to breaking the silence around HIV and AIDS within the church. He has gone the extra mile by disclosing his status to the nation through the media thus becoming becoming the first religious leader to openly acknowledge his HIV positive status.

Runner UP – Davis Mazodze – His actions have been consistent around breaking the silence on HIV and AIDS. He is one of the few people in strategic positions who have used their professions to effectively communicate and disclose his status especially among young adults in tertiary colleges.

Advocacy:

NIL Award -

3. LEADERSHIP

Community Empowerment–

Winner – Batsirai Group – Has contributed significantly to HIV and AIDS prevention and support of the infected and affected in Zvimba district. Established in 1988 as an Aids Service Organisation, Batsirai Group has since grown to be the Provincial Aids Service organisation for Mashonaland West Province. They have also selflessly built the capacity of smaller community based groups in an effort to scale-up community based HIV and AIDS interventions in Mashonaland West.

Runner up – Sister Itayi Marembo – She has selflessly worked to empower girls in her community, using creative and sustainable ways such as poetry and drama to provide information on HIV and AIDS.

Greater involvement and Empowerment of people living with HIV and AIDS. (GIEPA)

Winner – Rebecca Chiroodza

Selected for her outstanding and consistent contribution to mitigating the pandemic. Her personal testimonies and positive attitude have significantly reduced stigma and discrimination among the people whose lives she has touched.

Runner UP – Mwema Adam

She is a visionary leader who has defied all gender stereotypes. She has established many support groups and built their capacity to provide psychosocial support. She is tirelessly working to establish a supportive environment for people living with HIV and AIDS.

OVC and Youth

Winner – Sister Pia Chikava - She has gone beyond the normal call of duty for the past 40 yrs to provide humanitarian assistance especially around HIV and AIDS services to orphans and vulnerable children including the youth in the Midlands province. SR Pia has gone a long way in providing holistic care and support to people suffering from AIDS related conditions and their families and allowing them to die in dignity. She works around the clock and she still manages to balance her multiple roles as a nun, humanitarian and role model. Balancing all these roles makes her truly amazing personality.

Runner up – Farm Orphan Support Trust (FOST)- for its commitment to finding sustainable ways to reducing the impact and mitigating the effects of HIV and AIDS on children and young people in farm communities.

Gender Equality - should have been some of the categories receiving an award, however after careful consideration of the limited submissions, none met the minimum criteria for this award.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

Winner – Zimbabwe Platinum Mines

In recognition of **Zimbabwe Platinum Mines (Zimplats)**'s significant contribution in mitigating the HIV and AIDS crisis in their workplace and the community by putting in place a comprehensive work-based policy and programme. However the panellists encourage Zimplats to strengthen the sustainability and community reach of the program through a deliberate public private partnership.

Runner UP – Royal Harare Golf Club

The Golf club has taken the unique initiative of raising awareness on HIV and AIDS for its staff particularly, the Caddies .Expertise from the club membership is utilised to impart knowledge to this group of people. The caddie HIV and AIDS program is highly innovative and yet lacks funding. The Club is encouraged to secure partnerships for expansion of this laudable program.

4. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Winner – Dr Geoff Foster – He is a consultant Paediatrician with the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare based at Mutare Provincial Hospital.

He formed Family AIDS Care Trust – Mutare in 1987 after noticing that medical responses to HIV and AIDS were not enough, and that communities needed to become more involved in meeting the broader needs of children infected and affected by HIV.

During the past 15 years, Dr Foster has researched and consulted in the area of orphans and vulnerable children, resulting in numerous publications. He has been an inspirational leader and has guided the National Action Program for OVC. His tirelessness has indeed changed the face of OVC in Zimbabwe.