

Annual Report Summary, 2008-2009

1. Awareness raising and public outreach

1.1- Event organization and commemoration of AIDS victims' day, Children's day, World AIDS Day, 10th Anniversary of SPASDI.

1.2- HIV positive single mothers attend public awareness events in schools and universities to share their experiences and to educate students and public about HIV-AIDS challenges.

1.3- Distribution of over 20,000 brochures, pamphlets, newsletters, reports and posters for raising awareness on AIDS and related social issues.

1.4- Short film production on the social impact of AIDS.

1.5- Interviews with local newspapers , radio & TV on HIV-AIDS related issues.

1.6- Writing articles in the bi-weekly magazine "Healthy Family".



2. Community support, engagement & empowerment

2.1- Hotline and free counseling services to more than 1000 recipients ; since its inception in 2002, our hotline has offered free advice to those in need of help through 5 telephone lines, all year round. About 80-100 calls are received every week, to receive advice on a wide range of issues ranging from AIDS, Hepatitis, relationship problems, family issues, marriage counseling, psychological disorders and addiction.

2.2- Special services to widowed mothers infected with HIV and their children, including regular financial support, weekly classes and group therapy sessions, home visits and counseling services, group trip to the city of Mashad, handicrafts classes and organization of show-case exhibitions of their products on special occasions.



2.3- Ashiane Art Gallery to become operational in 2010; a license for operating an art gallery on the 3rd floor of SPASDI building was approved by the Iranian government in Aug 2009. The art gallery is being constructed and designed as part of the reconstruction effort of SPASDI to house the Support Family Program (24-hour nursery) in order to provide space for art training and exhibitions to support HIV-AIDS victims. Children and single mothers will attend art classes, both as a means for art therapy and for producing artifacts to be exhibited and sold. Also, artists who are willing to donate their works to financially support SPASDI will be able to hold exhibitions in the gallery.

In 2008-2009 more than 350 well known Iranian painters have donated above 400 pieces of their paintings. A large exhibition was hold with the help of the Municipality of Tehran in the Imam Ali Museum in December 2008, coinciding with the International Day for combating AIDS and many of the paintings were sold to support SPASDI's services for AIDS victims. An international exhibition is also being planned for May 2010 in Europe.



3. Network development and partnerships

3.1- Receiving "Special Consultative Status with the Economic & Social Council of the United Nations" in July 2008.

3.2- Partnership with the local city council; cooperation with the local city council and the district municipality has expanded in 2009. SPASDI was provided a stand at a local exhibition for charity and the municipality has also given space on billboards for public outreach and raising awareness on AIDS related issues.

3.3- Partnership with the social support organization of Iran (Behzisti) and the Ministry of Health in setting up the "Support Family Program"; SPASDI has started a dialogue with relevant government bodies to get permission to set up its new initiative for HIV positive children and single mothers.

3.4- Collaboration with Tajik NGOs/CBOs through an invitation of 7 representatives from six organizations in Tajikestan to visit Iran in May 2008 and to exchange experiences.

4. Learning, research & development

4.1- A new reorganization and team learning process in SPASDI on all levels, including changes in the management and board of directors, regular bi-weekly management meetings starting from March 2009, regular participatory meetings/workshops with staff and volunteers starting from Sep 2009, a new strategic planning process, improving volunteer relations, redesigning and reconstruction of physical space, redefining services and improving office infrastructure to increase service capacity, quality and productivity.

4.2- Participation in workshops organized by UN agencies (namely UNICEF, UNODC and UNAIDS).

4.3- Participation in a regional conference in May 2009 in Turkey on the issue of street children, with representative NGO's from Turkey, Tajikestan, Afghanistan and Iran.



Children who are AIDS victims, make a group painting on World AIDS day, in Roodaki Hall of Tehran, Dec 2009.



Celebrating Children's Day at SPASDI, 2009