



December 1 is **World AIDS Day**, a day to increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education on the subject of HIV/AIDS. This year's global World AIDS Day theme is "**Getting to Zero**" – zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths.

World AIDS Day reminds us that HIV is a continuing health concern and that there is still much to be done globally.

- Globally over 34 million people are currently living with HIV
- 22.5 million people are living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa
- HIV transmission is increasing in a number of European countries
- About one out of five Americans who are living with HIV do not know they are HIV positive
- Almost five million people are living with HIV in Asia
- Over two million people are living with HIV in Latin America

[Click here for facts on HIV/AIDS from UNAIDS](#)

Colgate and HIV/AIDS

As part of Colgate's Sustainability commitments of Promoting Healthier Lives and Contributing to the Communities Where We Live and Work, Colgate recognizes the continuing seriousness of the global HIV/AIDS epidemic and its impact on the workplace and society. Our global [Colgate HIV/AIDS strategy and policy](#) focuses on non-discrimination and confidentiality, prevention, access to treatment, partnerships with third parties, and proactive organizational support.

Colgate HIV/AIDS Program Highlights

- C-P Brazil holds educational programs on HIV/AIDS for employees throughout the year. This World AIDS Day, the subsidiary is spreading awareness about the importance of HIV/AIDS testing with materials from the Brazil Ministry of Health. This poster says, "Fique Sabendo," "You Should Know."



- The 300 Park Avenue office in New York is recognizing World AIDS Day this year with guest speaker Jeanne White-Ginder, also known as "Ryan White's Mom," to share her family's story of suffering, prejudice, courage, and parenting in times of crisis. In the 1980s, Ryan White was infected with HIV after a contaminated blood treatment. Media coverage of the family's legal battle with the school system over Ryan returning to school made him a national celebrity and the face of AIDS research and public education. A section of the AIDS Memorial Quilt is also on display in the building lobby.
- Hill's Pet Nutrition in Topeka is highlighting the efforts and milestones of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's Global HIV/AIDS campaign, "Working Together for an AIDS-Free Generation."
- In Mission Hill's Mexico, a guest expert is speaking at the site.
- In Venezuela, Colgate is holding workshops on HIV/AIDS, promoting awareness and providing free, confidential testing.
- In the Dominican Republic, Colgate holds information sessions on HIV/AIDS every year.
- Children living with HIV/AIDS have special needs that are different from those of adults. Under the 'Positive Step' program in India, the Company supports a group of children by providing special nutrition and sponsoring their school fees. Employees also have an opportunity to donate to the program. Children who have gone through the program are healthier, more confident and do better in school. This year for World AIDS Day, C-P India is hosting some of the children in the Positive Step program to meet employees, have lunch, play, and share a memorable day together.
- South Africa has one of the highest HIV prevalence rates in the world. To ensure continued awareness of the disease, reduce stigma and provide testing, C-P South Africa holds an AIDS Week in early December each year. The site organizes events such as performances by singers and a local drama group, testimony from an HIV-positive public speaker, a candle-lighting commemoration, a "Family Day," and free, confidential testing.
- At C-P Fiji, the Ministry of Health is conducting two sessions to educate employees about HIV/AIDS and discuss new Fiji legislation on confidentiality and non-discrimination.
- At C-P Papua New Guinea, Colgate is holding a "Wear Red Day" to promote HIV/AIDS awareness, and the Site Nursing Officer is conducting education sessions.