# **CARES AWARD**

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ANNUAL AWARD RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO HAVE IMPROVED THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

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# RECOGNISING THOSE WHO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY

The Beckman Coulter Life Sciences CARES Award celebrates the vision and endeavor of an individual whose humanitarian work, combined with their own commitment, has significantly improved the lives of local people impacted by HIV. The goal of the award is to recognize dynamic individuals whose commitment and work serve as inspiration for communities affected by high burden HIV prevalence. Potential winners can be nurses, healthcare workers, national coordinators, lab scientists and even clinicians; or lay people who are active in community outreach work. This could include a social worker providing HIV counselling. Nominations will be made via the CARES website (https://www.beckman. com/about-us/cares), or direct via paper or online form.

The annual CARES Award is designed to recognize ordinary people who have shown care, dedication and commitment in their communities as part of the fight against HIV. It is sponsored by Beckman Coulter Life Sciences as part of the company's global CARES Initiative dedicated to helping people who are living with HIV. Once a name has been added to the list of nominations, an independent judging panel will vote for recipients to win the annual award. Recipients of the award receive \$5,500 as a donation to be used for one of three charities in the awardees name.

## UGANDAN HIV YOUTH CAMPAIGNER WINS PRESTIGIOUS CARES AWARD

The campaigning work of a 27-year-old Ugandan biomedical scientist has won Africa's first CARES Award, in recognition of her community work with young people and women to dispel the stigma of HIV. Ms Evah Namakula is a global youth ambassador for Reach Out Integrity (ROI) Africa, where she helps to promote health and sexual responsibility to youth people.

The "first annual" award was presented in Kampala, Uganda by Mr Samuel (Tony) Boova, Director Alliance Development. As part of the Award, a donation of \$5,500 was made in her name by Beckman Coulter Life Sciences and directed to the Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust in Evah's name. Mr Boova said: "Evah is an inspirational young woman - exactly the kind of youth leader that President Obama wanted to encourage to develop the Africa of the future."

Evah is part of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) set up by President Barack Obama to empower leadership skills in African youth. As a volunteer, she works as a leadership mentor in local communities and schools, helping to develop public speaking skills. She has recently founded her own charity, IGNITE, to carry her work forward. Inspired as a child by the determination of her mother and siblings, Evah says: "I had already become a campaigner but it was while I was working in the hospital laboratory that I realized how I could use my medical knowledge to help reduce the myth young people had about HIV."



## NOMINATION PROCESS — KEY QUESTIONS

The CARES Award recognizes humanitarians whose work, while inspired by personal commitment, is of benefit to people living with or impacted by HIV.

The Award accepts nominations in all areas of humanitarian endeavor across a broad spectrum of disciplines. Recipients may have distinguished themselves through their work in genetics, the environment, medical education, humanitarian relief, the transformation of public education and human rights.

Nominators from the HIV community and the public are encouraged from a region of the world most stricken by HIV. In turn, judges of the Award will be privileged to consider candidates from across the continent – young women and men whose specific body of work has had social impact in the field of HIV. While most have sought to make change through non-profit mechanisms, the social good of others may have been achieved through other avenues. An internationally recognized panel of judges selects the Award recipient(s) and bestows an award of \$5,500.

The money is donated to one of the approved charitable organizations supporting patients living with HIV.

What is your nominee's vision for change to improve outcomes fighting HIV in their community?

How has your nominee impacted their community and lives of PLHIV by enacting his/her vision and what have been the measurable results?



## THREE AFRICA CHARITIES QUALIFY AS RECIPIENTS FOR CARES AWARD DONATIONS

#### HILLCREST AIDS CENTRE TRUST (HACT)



Beckman Coulter Life Sciences has honored an HIV charity that cares for some of the poorest and disadvantaged people in Africa, the Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust (HACT). The main part of the \$5,500 grant is being used for HACT's 24-bed Respite Unit. This provides life-saving medical care and treatment to adults and children suffering from late stage AIDS and or cancer. The remaining part of the grant is used to develop the support skills of the staff working in the unit.

As Claire Hodgkinson, the Centre's Marketing & Fundraising Manager, explained: "HACT cares for the poorest of the poor in South Africa, and those that are very sick and dying. It takes an extraordinary individual to provide care in this way, which is why every member of our small team has been handpicked to ensure they have the right mix of skills and dedication." 'Othandweni' means 'a place of love', and there could not be a more fitting name for the Centre's Respite Unit.



Most of the unit's patients are bedridden and suffering from opportunistic infections such as meningitis, TB and pneumonia. It also takes palliative cancer patients who have no one to care for them at home. "For those in the final stages of AIDS or have terminal cancer the unit provides an environment where these patients can die peacefully and with respect," added Claire. The charity has an active HIV prevention and education program and also aims to support the local community with training to help them gain economic empowerment.



#### KICOSHEP-K

KICOSHEP-K (Kibera Integrated Community Self-Help Programme – Kenya), is a nongovernmental organization founded in 1991 in Kibera slums as a small clinic providing health care support and HIV services to the local population. KICOSHEP mission is to improve the lives of the marginalized people particularly those affected by HIV, life limiting illnesses, emerging and re-emerging diseases. To achieve its mission, KICOSHEP implements treatment care and support, integrated HIV, Sexual and reproductive health, secure livelihoods, Gender, maternal health and family planning programs.

For over 20 years KICOSHEP has implemented health and HIV programs targeting Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), people living with HIV, youth, female sex workers and the general population through its national and branch programs. Based on these documented challenges, Beckman Coulter has provided a \$5,500 grant to KICOSHEP to implement home based palliative care program that will help improve the welfare and quality of life for home bound HIV/Cancer patients.

This project targets both children and adults with palliative care services outside the hospital setting, as well as the support of terminally ill patients at KICOSHEP hospice in Kibera slums. KICOSHEP uses the funds from Beckman Coulter Foundation to implement palliative care services aimed at improving the quality of life of children and adults suffering from cancer/HIV.



#### **IGNITE INTERNATIONAL**

IGNITE INTERNATIONAL is a registered youth led organization comprised of young people from different backgrounds that are passionate and interested in addressing key issues affecting their own communities. IGNITE's vision is to contribute to the advancement of key population such as youth, women and girls people living with HIV/AIDS through income generating activities. Its mission is to increase the capacity of key populations to make ethical moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of their life through innovative programs and initiatives.

Beckman Coulter has provided a \$5,500 grant to support their objectives to strengthen the capacity of key populations in income generating activities, mentorship & career Guidance, leadership and health, to provide income generating starter packs to key populations for improved livelihood and to reduce sexual and domestic violence to women by providing ways in which they can sustain themselves.

"We empower and encourage youth to engage in income generating activities through integrated sustainable agricultural programs, vocational training programs, leadership and mentorship trainings." Advocacy for improved education through career guidance and mentorship, infrastructural development, inspiration and motivation talks, Leadership trainings and recognition of all excelling students without discrimination. Raising awareness on HIV/AIDS, advocating for improved health services and rights through conducting guidance and counseling for infected and affected persons.

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To apply for the CARES Award, you can either apply online or download an application pack

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https://www.beckman.com/about-us/cares/award





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