

HIV/AIDS updates in Malawi

This part of the booklet presents figures of HIV/AIDS prevalence in Malawi. If we look at the magnitude of the prevalence rate, it calls for action before the figures reach deadly proportions. In other areas ahead, this booklet expounds how we can control the HIV/AIDS pandemic, whether we are positive or negative: there is a part we ought to play to alleviate the impact of the pandemic.

The statistical figures below are quoted from the UNAIDS 2006 Report on the global HIV/AIDS Epidemic. Efforts were also made to cross check the figures with other organizations that are engaged in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

- 12,158,924 population of Malawi July 2005 estimates.
- 940,000: estimated number of people living with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005.
- 14.1%: estimated percentage of adults (ages 15-49) living with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005.
- 500,000: estimated number of women (ages 15-49) living with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005.
- 91,000: estimated number of children (0-15) living with HIV/AIDS by the end of 2005.
- 78,000; estimated number of death due to AIDS during 2005.
- 550,000: estimated number of children who have lost their mothers or fathers of both parents to AIDS and who were alive and under the age of 17 end of 2005.

- HIV prevalence in Malawi is significantly higher in urban areas (20.4%) than in semi-urban (17.0%) and rural areas (13.0%).

- The primary mode of HIV transmission is unprotected heterosexual sex. Mother- to- child HIV transmission is the second major mode of HIV transmission.

Looking at the above figures, what do you think would be the churches and church, civil society and government leaders' responsibility towards the fight against HIV/AIDS?