



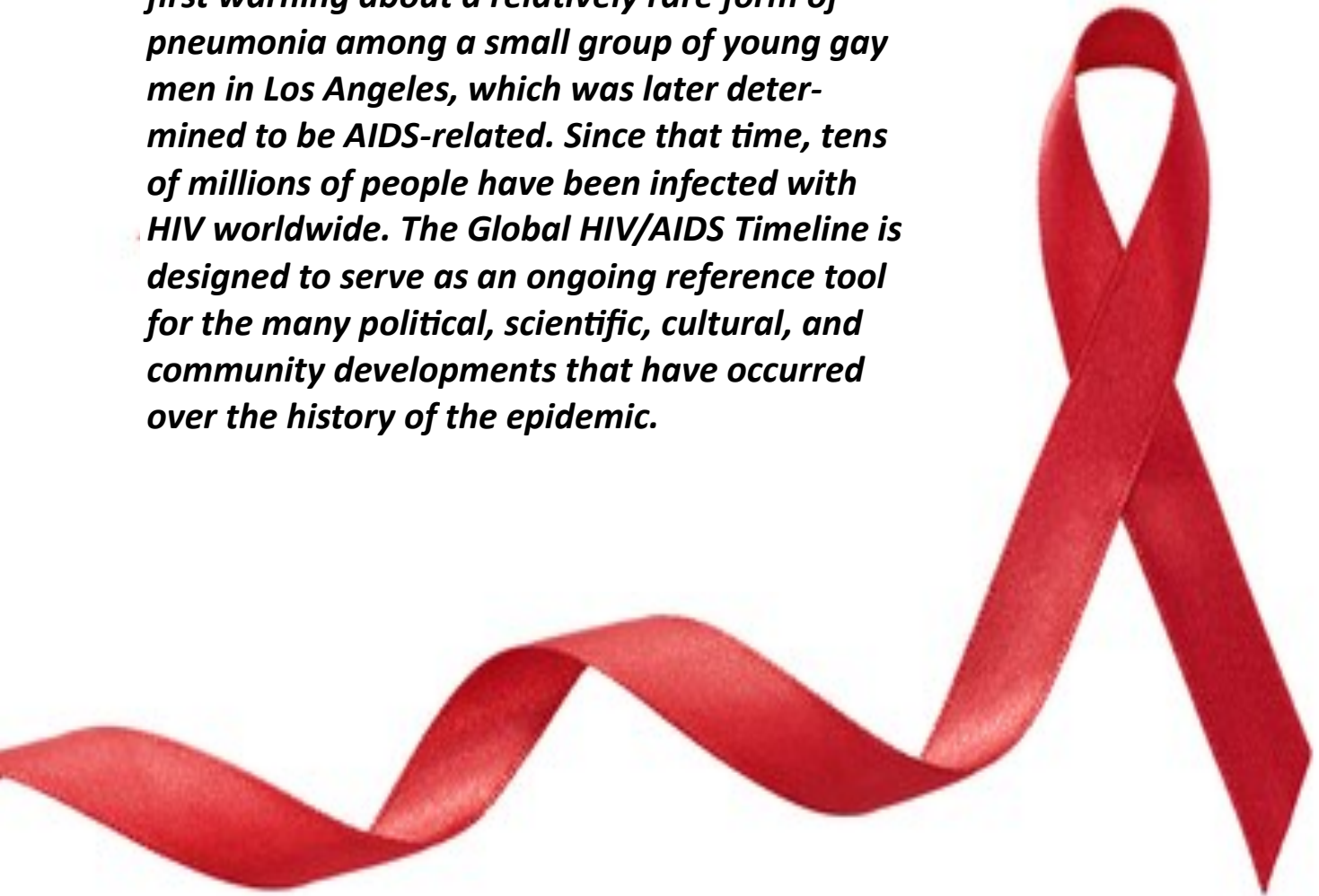
Regional
HIV/AIDS
Connection

A History of HIV/AIDS in North America and the World



Timelines from Project Remember, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and Wikipedia

On June 5, 1981, the United States Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued its first warning about a relatively rare form of pneumonia among a small group of young gay men in Los Angeles, which was later determined to be AIDS-related. Since that time, tens of millions of people have been infected with HIV worldwide. The Global HIV/AIDS Timeline is designed to serve as an ongoing reference tool for the many political, scientific, cultural, and community developments that have occurred over the history of the epidemic.



Started in 1988, World AIDS Day is not just about raising money, but also about increasing awareness, fighting prejudice and improving education. World AIDS Day is important in reminding people that HIV has not gone away, and that there are many things still to be done.
~avert.org, 2006

Before 1981

While 1981 is generally referred to as the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, scientists believe that HIV was present years before the first case was brought to public attention.

In 1959, The first known case of HIV in a human occurs in a person who died in the Congo, later confirmed as having HIV infection from his preserved blood samples. The authors of the study did not sequence a full virus from his samples, writing that "attempts to amplify HIV-1 fragments of >300 base pairs were unsuccessful, . . . However, after numerous attempts, four shorter sequences were obtained" that represented small portions of two of the six genes of the complete AIDS virus.

In New York City, on June 28, 1959, Ardouin Antonio, a 49-year-old Jamaican-American shipping clerk dies of Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, a disease closely associated with AIDS. Dr. Gordon Hennigar, who performed the postmortem examination of the man's body, found "the first reported instance of unassociated Pneumocystis carinii disease in an adult" to be so unusual that he pickled Ardouin's lungs for later study. The case was written up in two medical journals at the time, and Hennigar has been quoted in numerous publications saying that he believes Ardouin probably had AIDS.

1964: Jerome Horwitz of Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and Wayne State University School of Medicine synthesized AZT, under a US National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant. AZT was originally intended as an anti-cancer drug.

1966: *Genetic studies of the virus indicate that, in or about 1966, HIV first arrived in the Americas, infecting single person in Haiti. At this time, many Haitians were working in Congo, providing the opportunity for infection.*

1968: A 2003 analysis of HIV types found in the United States, compared to known mutation rates, suggests that the virus may have first arrived in the United States in this year. The disease spread from the 1966 American strand, but remained unrecognized for another 12 years.

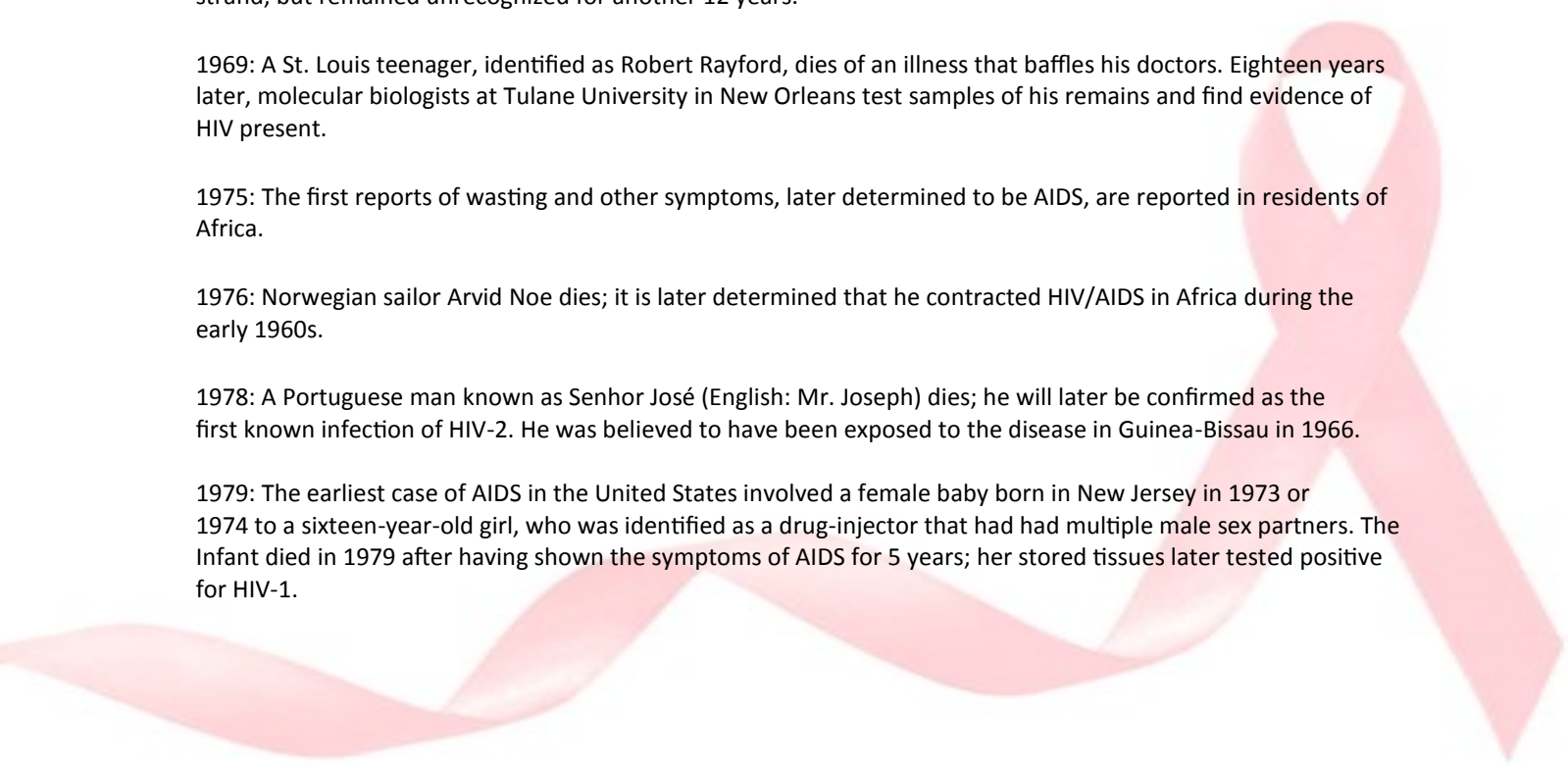
1969: A St. Louis teenager, identified as Robert Rayford, dies of an illness that baffles his doctors. Eighteen years later, molecular biologists at Tulane University in New Orleans test samples of his remains and find evidence of HIV present.

1975: The first reports of wasting and other symptoms, later determined to be AIDS, are reported in residents of Africa.

1976: Norwegian sailor Arvid Noe dies; it is later determined that he contracted HIV/AIDS in Africa during the early 1960s.

1978: A Portuguese man known as Senhor José (English: Mr. Joseph) dies; he will later be confirmed as the first known infection of HIV-2. He was believed to have been exposed to the disease in Guinea-Bissau in 1966.

1979: The earliest case of AIDS in the United States involved a female baby born in New Jersey in 1973 or 1974 to a sixteen-year-old girl, who was identified as a drug-injector that had had multiple male sex partners. The infant died in 1979 after having shown the symptoms of AIDS for 5 years; her stored tissues later tested positive for HIV-1.



1981

January 15: Nick Rock becomes the first known AIDS death in New York City.

May 18: Dr. Lawrence Mass becomes the first journalist in the world to write about the epidemic, in the "New York Native," a gay newspaper. A gay tipster overheard his physician mention that some gay men were being treated in intensive-care units in New York City for a strange pneumonia. "Disease Rumors Largely Unfounded" was the headline on Mass's article. Mass repeated a New York City public-health official's claims that there was no wave of disease sweeping through the gay community. At this point, however, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) had been gathering information for about a month on the outbreak that Mass's source was dismissing.

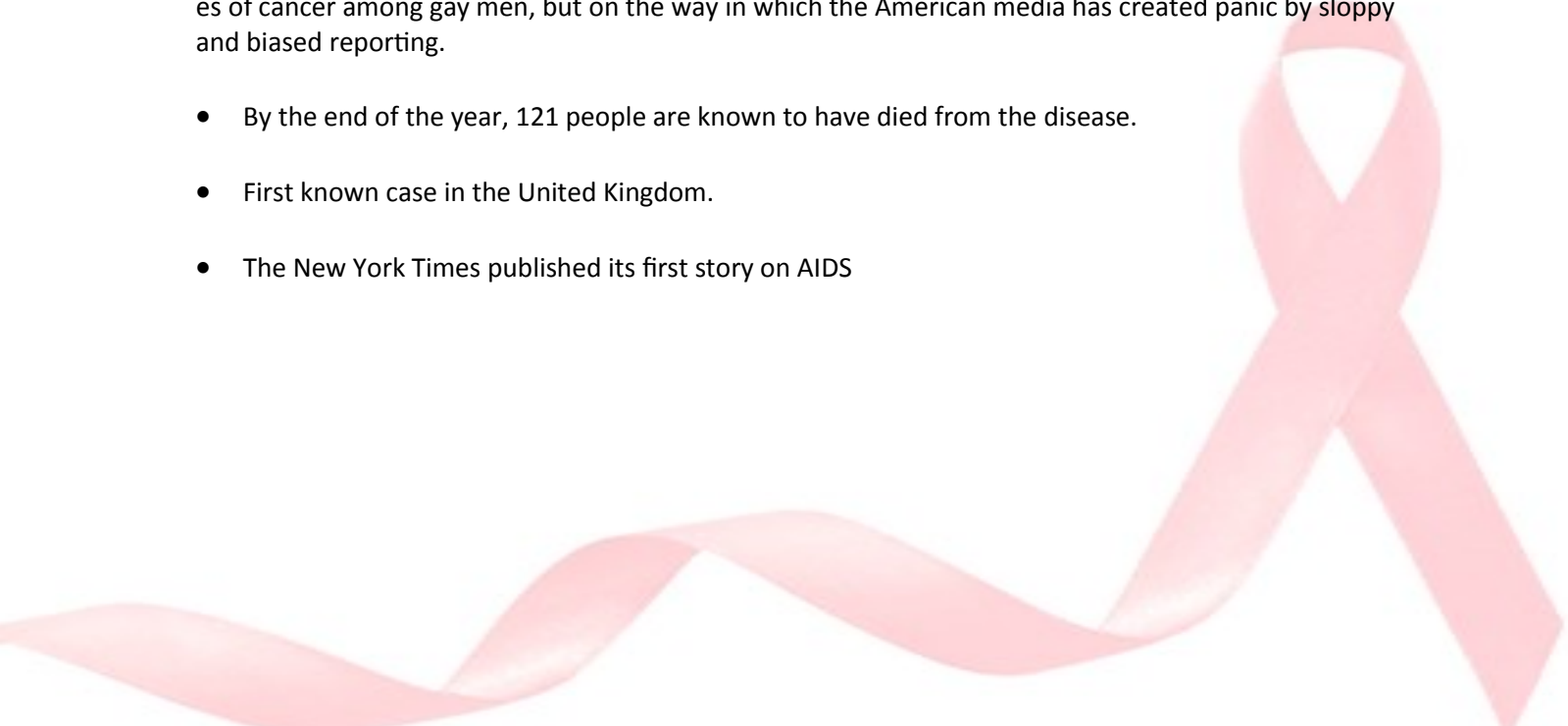
June 5: The CDC reports a cluster of *Pneumocystis* pneumonia in five gay men in Los Angeles.

July 3: An article in the New York Times carries the headline: "Rare Cancer Seen in 41 Homosexuals". The article describes cases of Kaposi's Sarcoma found in forty one gay men in New York City and San Francisco.

July 4: CDC reports clusters of Kaposi's sarcoma and *Pneumocystis* pneumonia among gay men in California and New York City.

September 1: First mention of "gay cancer" in the Canadian gay press. Reports not so much on the cases of cancer among gay men, but on the way in which the American media has created panic by sloppy and biased reporting.

- By the end of the year, 121 people are known to have died from the disease.
- First known case in the United Kingdom.
- The New York Times published its first story on AIDS



1982

March 27: The first Canadian account of what would later be know as AIDS is published in the Canada Diseases Weekly Report. This was followed by further reports of AIDS in Canada and Ontario. This compares to the U.S. AIDS cases that were first reported in June 5, 1981.

June 18:"Exposure to some substance (rather than an infectious agent) may eventually lead to immunodeficiency among a subset of the homosexual male population that shares a particular style of life."^[18] For example, Marmor *et al.* recently reported that exposure to amyl nitrite was associated with an increased risk of KS in New York City.^[19] Exposure to inhalant sexual stimulants, central-nervous-system stimulants, and a variety of other "street" drugs was common among males belonging to the cluster of cases of KS and PCP in Los Angeles and Orange counties."

July 9, CDC reports a cluster of opportunistic infections (OI) and Kaposi's sarcoma among Haitians recently entering the United States.

July 27, The term AIDS (for *acquired immune deficiency syndrome*) is proposed at a meeting in Washington of gay-community leaders, federal bureaucrats and the CDC to replace GRID (for *gay-related immune deficiency*) as evidence showed it was not gay specific.

Summer, First known case in Italy

September 24: CDC defines a case of AIDS as a disease, at least moderately predictive of a defect in cell-mediated immunity, occurring in a person with no known cause for diminished resistance to that disease. Such diseases include KS, PCP, and serious OOI. [...] Diagnoses are considered to fit the case definition only if based on sufficiently reliable methods (generally histology or culture). Some patients who are considered AIDS cases on the basis of diseases only moderately predictive of cellular immunodeficiency may not actually be immunodeficient and may not be part of the current epidemic.

December 10, a baby in California becomes ill in the first known case of AIDS from a blood transfusion.

- First known case in Brazil.
- The first Canadian account of what would later be known as AIDS is published
- First known case in Canada.
- The Montreal medical community forms the Committee SIDA du Quebec, the first AIDS organization in CANADA
- "GRID" or "gay-related immune deficiency" increasingly used by the media and health care professionals, mistakenly suggesting inherent link between homosexuality and the syndrome.

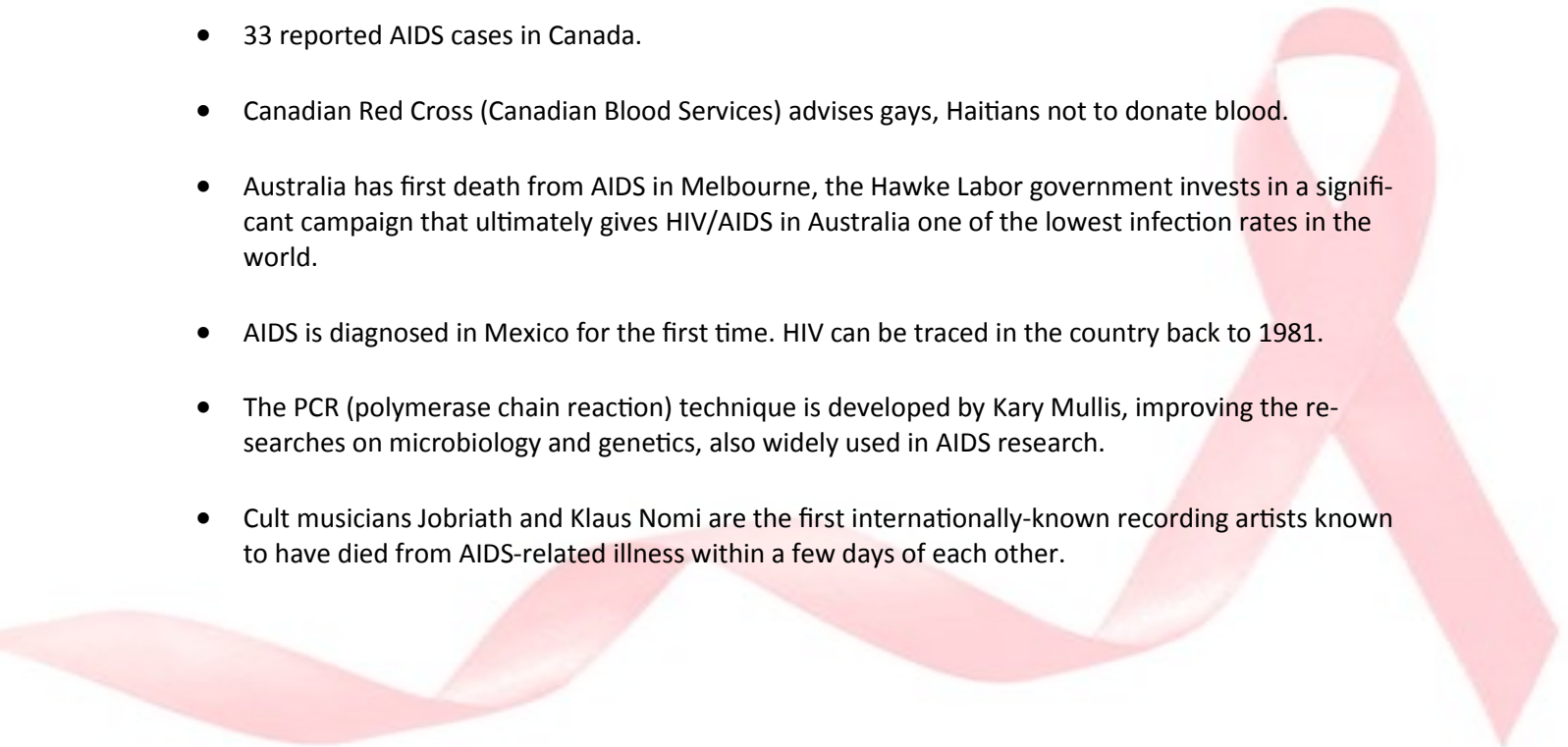
1983

January: Dr. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, isolates a retrovirus that kills T-cells from the lymph system of a gay AIDS patient. In the following months, she would find it in additional gay and hemophiliac sufferers. This retrovirus would be called by several names, including LAV and HTLV-III before being named HIV in 1986.

April 5: The Hassle Free Clinic and Gays in Health Care sponsor a forum at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. Over 300 people attend. This meeting provides the impetus for the eventual founding of the AIDS Committee of Toronto.

March: United States Public Health Service (PHS or USPHS) issues donor screening guidelines. AIDS high-risk groups should *not* donate blood/plasma products.

- AIDS Vancouver founded, the first AIDS service organization (ASO) was founded in Canada.
- The first Canadian AIDS case outside a known 'risk group' - a 42-year heterosexual dockworker in Nova Scotia is reported.
- CDC National AIDS Hotline established.
- Canada forms national task force on AIDS.
- 33 reported AIDS cases in Canada.
- Canadian Red Cross (Canadian Blood Services) advises gays, Haitians not to donate blood.
- Australia has first death from AIDS in Melbourne, the Hawke Labor government invests in a significant campaign that ultimately gives HIV/AIDS in Australia one of the lowest infection rates in the world.
- AIDS is diagnosed in Mexico for the first time. HIV can be traced in the country back to 1981.
- The PCR (polymerase chain reaction) technique is developed by Kary Mullis, improving the researches on microbiology and genetics, also widely used in AIDS research.
- Cult musicians Jobriath and Klaus Nomi are the first internationally-known recording artists known to have died from AIDS-related illness within a few days of each other.



1983

May 5: Health and Welfare Canada sets up an Ad Hoc Task Force on AIDS to be chaired by Alastair Clayton, Director-General of Health Canada's Laboratory Centre for Disease Control.

June 1: Ontario Health Minister Larry Grossman announces the formation of a six-member committee (later named the Ontario Professional Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS) to advise him on issues related to AIDS. The committee was composed of health professionals only.

July 7: Michael Lynch writes a letter to the Toronto Star criticizing Larry Grossman for omitting from the Ontario Advisory Committee any representation of the population most directly affected from AIDS—gay men.

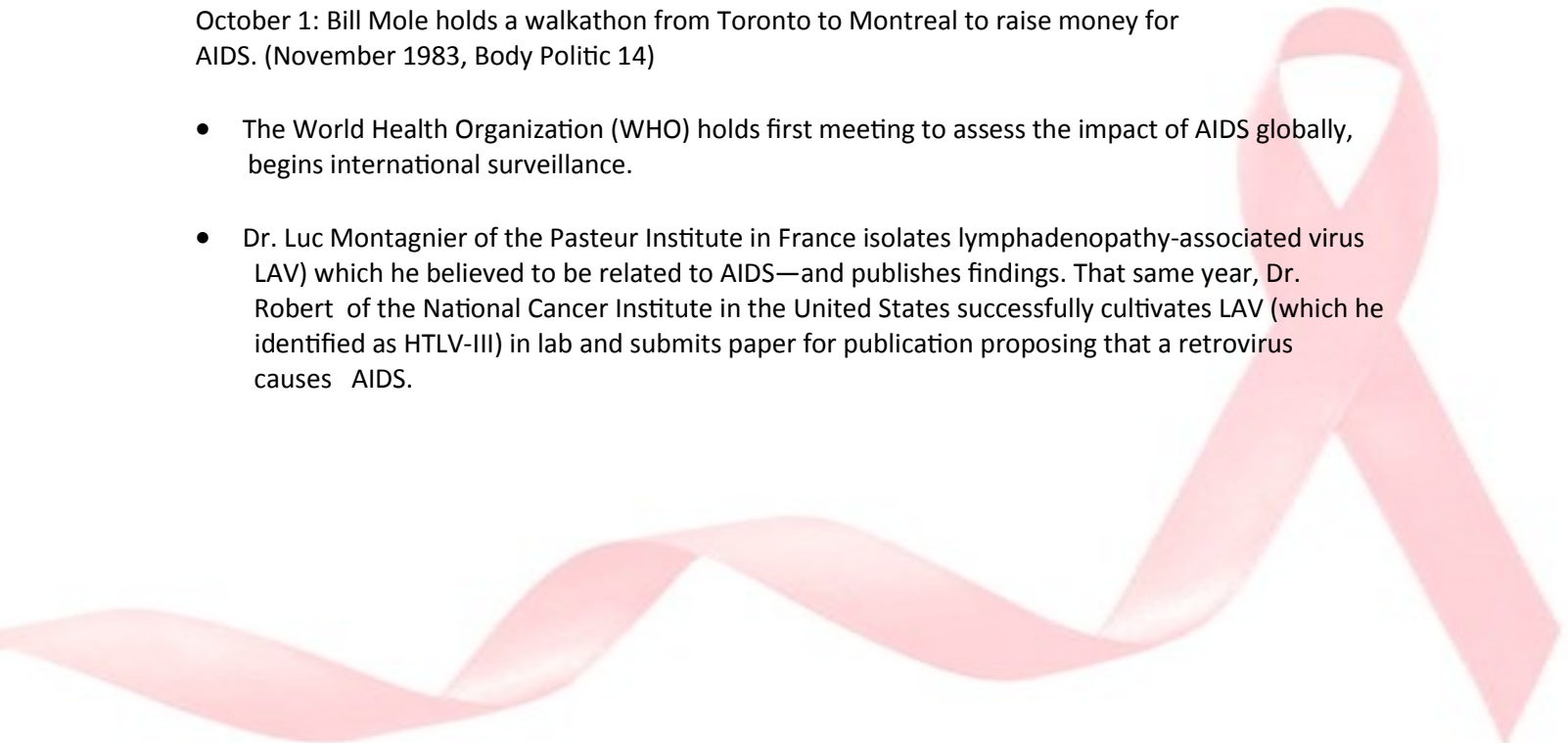
July 18: ACT is officially established at 66 Wellesley Street E. The first board members are elected and six full-time staff are hired.

July 26: An Ontario AIDS hotline is set up for doctors needing information and support concerning AIDS.

August 15: Federal Health Minister Monique Begin announces the creation of the National Advisory Committee on AIDS. University of Toronto researcher Colin Soskolne is one of eleven medical experts on the committee. This body replaces the Ad Hoc Task Force on AIDS.

October 1: Bill Mole holds a walkathon from Toronto to Montreal to raise money for AIDS. (November 1983, Body Politic 14)

- The World Health Organization (WHO) holds first meeting to assess the impact of AIDS globally, begins international surveillance.
- Dr. Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute in France isolates lymphadenopathy-associated virus (LAV) which he believed to be related to AIDS—and publishes findings. That same year, Dr. Robert Gallo of the National Cancer Institute in the United States successfully cultivates LAV (which he identified as HTLV-III) in lab and submits paper for publication proposing that a retrovirus causes AIDS.



1984

March 30: Gaëtan Dugas died. He was a French Canadian flight attendant linked by the CDC directly or indirectly with 40 of the first 248 reported cases of AIDS in the U.S.

April 23: U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler announces at a press conference that an American scientist, Dr. Robert Gallo, has discovered the *probable cause* of AIDS: the retrovirus subsequently named *human immunodeficiency virus* or HIV in 1986. She also declares that a vaccine will be available within two years.

September 6: first performance at Theatre Rhinoceros in San Francisco of The AIDS Show which runs for two years and is the subject of a 1986 documentary film of the same name.

December 17: Ryan White was diagnosed with AIDS by a doctor performing a partial lung removal. White became infected with HIV from a blood product, known as Factor VIII, as part of his treatment for hemophilia which was administered to him on a regular basis. When the public school that he attended, Western Middle School in Russiaville, Indiana, learned of his disease in 1985 there was enormous pressure from parents and faculty to bar him from school premises. Due to the widespread fear of AIDS and lack of medical knowledge, principal Ron Colby and the school board assented. His family filed a lawsuit, seeking to overturn the ban.

147 reported AIDS cases in Canada .

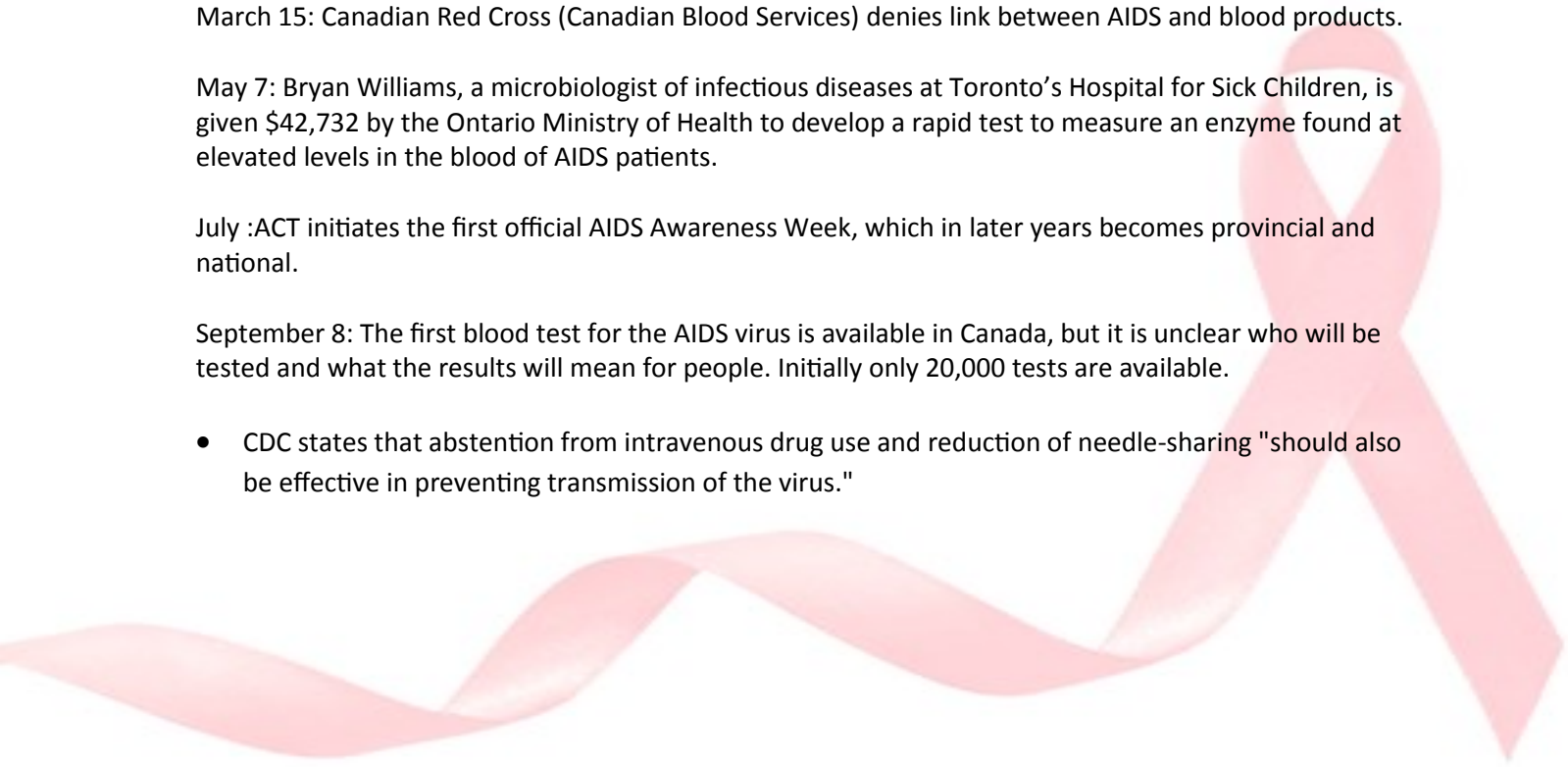
March 15: Canadian Red Cross (Canadian Blood Services) denies link between AIDS and blood products.

May 7: Bryan Williams, a microbiologist of infectious diseases at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, is given \$42,732 by the Ontario Ministry of Health to develop a rapid test to measure an enzyme found at elevated levels in the blood of AIDS patients.

July :ACT initiates the first official AIDS Awareness Week, which in later years becomes provincial and national.

September 8: The first blood test for the AIDS virus is available in Canada, but it is unclear who will be tested and what the results will mean for people. Initially only 20,000 tests are available.

- CDC states that abstinence from intravenous drug use and reduction of needle-sharing "should also be effective in preventing transmission of the virus."



1985

March 2: FDA approves first AIDS antibody screening tests for use on all donated blood and plasma intended for transfusion and product manufacture.

March 11: James Fraser died of AIDS. (b. Jan. 6, 1947).

April 5: Hassle Free Clinic and Gays in Health Care sponsor a forum at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. Over 300 people attend. This meeting provides the impetus for the eventual founding of the @ACT.

April 15: The Canadian Red Cross announces they will begin testing blood donations for HIV in the coming summer.

May 9: Canadian Red Cross confirms AIDS has been found in the blood banks, and tries to trace the tainted blood that infected two elderly transfusion recipients from Vancouver who died of AIDS the previous week. By August, all blood should be tested for HTLV-III. Toronto Star Newbery A1, 12)

July 25: Rock Hudson is the first American celebrity to publicly admit having AIDS, having been diagnosed with it on June 5, 1984.

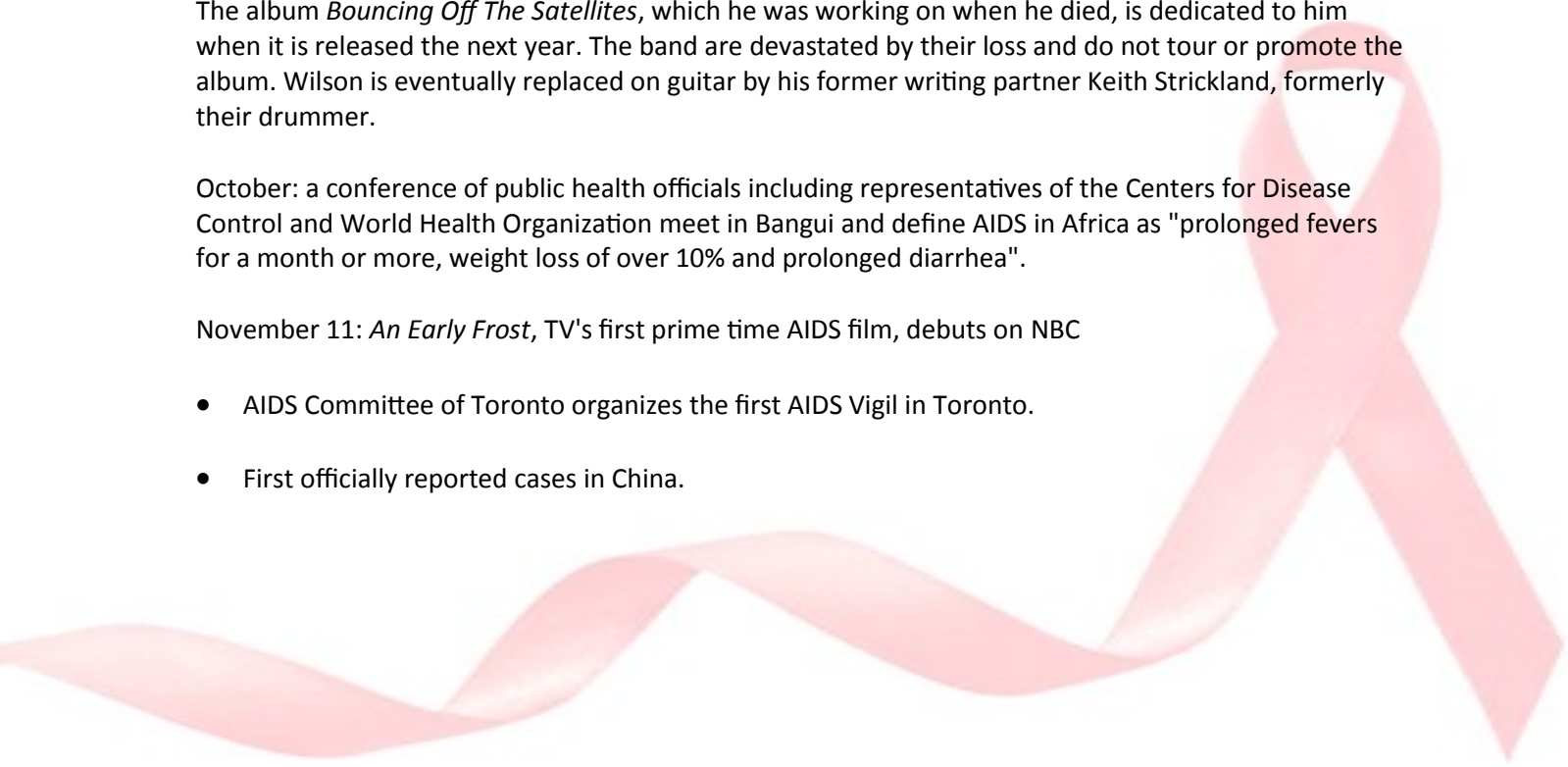
October 2: Rock Hudson dies of AIDS.

October 12: Ricky Wilson, guitarist of American rock band The B-52's dies from an AIDS related illness. The album *Bouncing Off The Satellites*, which he was working on when he died, is dedicated to him when it is released the next year. The band are devastated by their loss and do not tour or promote the album. Wilson is eventually replaced on guitar by his former writing partner Keith Strickland, formerly their drummer.

October: a conference of public health officials including representatives of the Centers for Disease Control and World Health Organization meet in Bangui and define AIDS in Africa as "prolonged fevers for a month or more, weight loss of over 10% and prolonged diarrhea".

November 11: *An Early Frost*, TV's first prime time AIDS film, debuts on NBC

- AIDS Committee of Toronto organizes the first AIDS Vigil in Toronto.
- First officially reported cases in China.



1985

In Canada 274 cases of AIDS have been reported; 134 people have died.

July 8: The Laboratory Centre for Disease control announces the addition of a new group to the list of groups deemed to be at a high risk for AIDS. Heterosexual partners of people in a high-risk category (e.g., partners of hemophiliacs, female prostitutes exposed to bisexual men, etc.) are now also considered to be in this category.

July 25: Dr. John Derrick, AIDS Project Director of the Red Cross, and Dr. Alastair Clayton, from the Laboratory Centre for Disease Control call for the testing of all blood and blood products, organs, tissue and sperm donations.

August 1: Ontario Health Minister Murray Elston announces that the province will begin antibody testing once a \$200,000 lab is set up in Etobicoke. The Ontario Ministry of Health will also give the Red Cross \$1 million for blood screening.

August 17: The Globe and Mail publishes an editorial declaring the need for more AIDS education and information.

September 3: The ACT film "No Sad Songs" premieres.

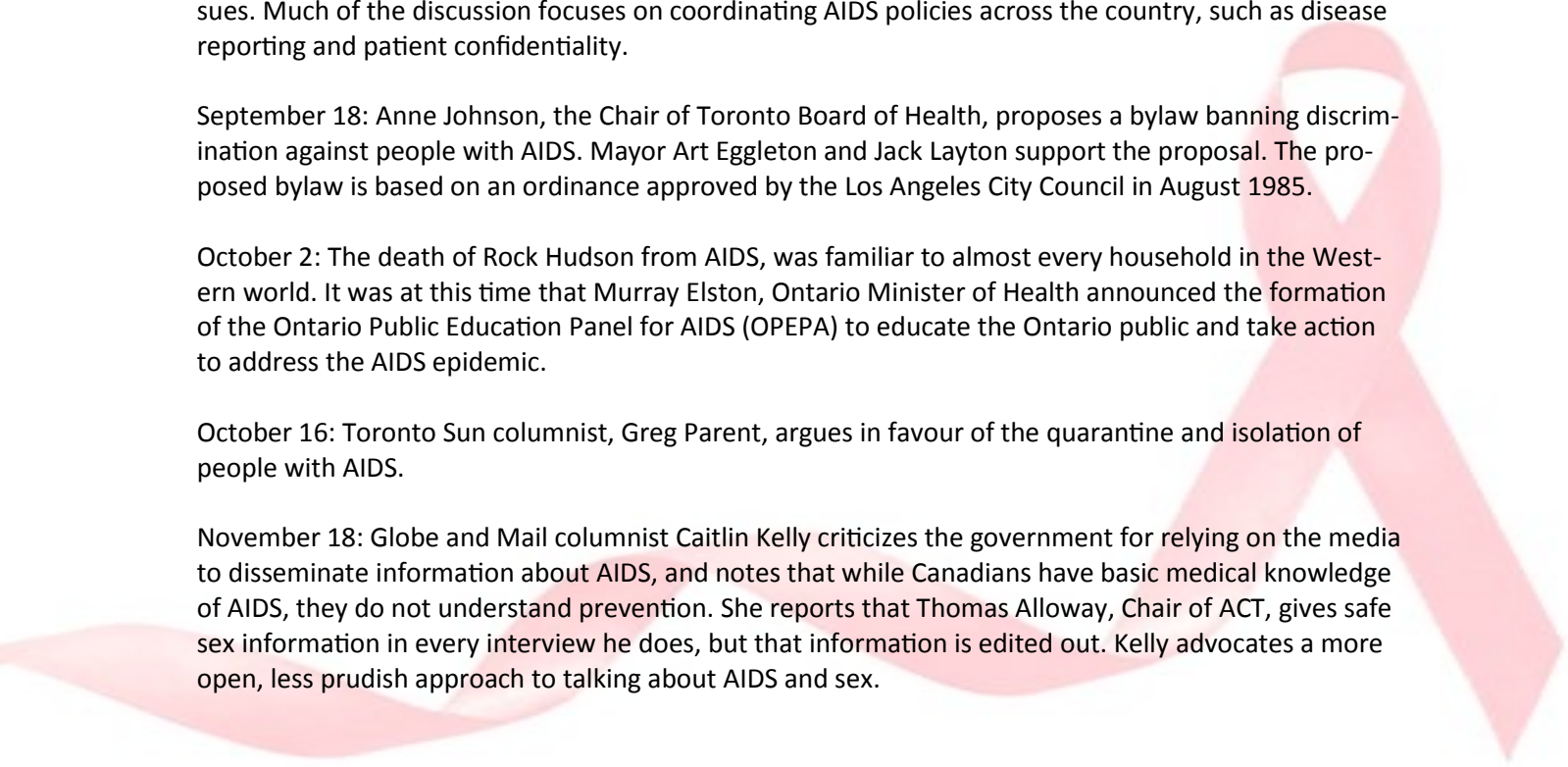
September 25: Provincial and territorial health ministers meet in Toronto to discuss health policy issues. Much of the discussion focuses on coordinating AIDS policies across the country, such as disease reporting and patient confidentiality.

September 18: Anne Johnson, the Chair of Toronto Board of Health, proposes a bylaw banning discrimination against people with AIDS. Mayor Art Eggleton and Jack Layton support the proposal. The proposed bylaw is based on an ordinance approved by the Los Angeles City Council in August 1985.

October 2: The death of Rock Hudson from AIDS, was familiar to almost every household in the Western world. It was at this time that Murray Elston, Ontario Minister of Health announced the formation of the Ontario Public Education Panel for AIDS (OPEPA) to educate the Ontario public and take action to address the AIDS epidemic.

October 16: Toronto Sun columnist, Greg Parent, argues in favour of the quarantine and isolation of people with AIDS.

November 18: Globe and Mail columnist Caitlin Kelly criticizes the government for relying on the media to disseminate information about AIDS, and notes that while Canadians have basic medical knowledge of AIDS, they do not understand prevention. She reports that Thomas Alloway, Chair of ACT, gives safe sex information in every interview he does, but that information is edited out. Kelly advocates a more open, less prudish approach to talking about AIDS and sex.



1986

January 14: "...one million Americans have already been infected with the virus and that this number will jump to at least 2 million or 3 million within 5 to 10 years..." – NIAID Director Anthony Fauci, New York Times.

February: President Reagan instructs his Surgeon General C. Everett Koop to prepare a report on AIDS. (Koop was excluded from the Executive Task Force on AIDS established in 1983 by his immediate superior, Assistant Secretary of Health Edward Brandt.) Without allowing Reagan's domestic policy advisers to review the report, Koop released the report at a press conference on October 22, 1986.

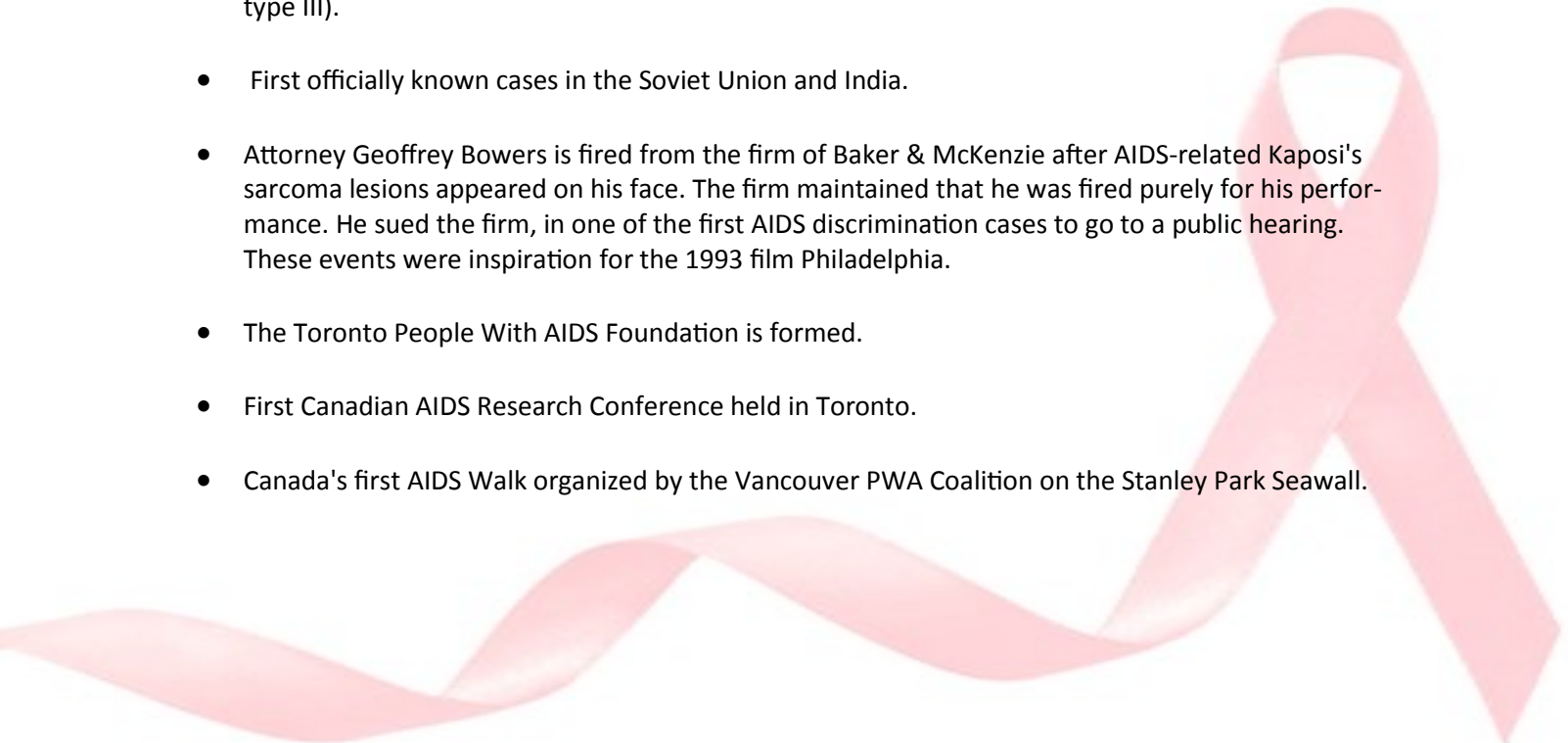
July: Canadian AIDS Society is officially formed.

November 18: Model Gia Carangi dies of AIDS related illness.

September 9: An inmate at Millbrook with HIV will be kept in isolation for his one-year sentence after the guards' union files a grievance about workplace safety.

September: Barrett House, a five-bed AIDS hospice, opens in Toronto.

- HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is adopted as name of the retrovirus that was first proposed as the cause of AIDS by Luc Montagnier of France, who named it LAV (lymphadenopathy associated virus) and Robert Gallo of the United States, who named it HTLV-III (human T-lymphotropic virus type III).
- First officially known cases in the Soviet Union and India.
- Attorney Geoffrey Bowers is fired from the firm of Baker & McKenzie after AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma lesions appeared on his face. The firm maintained that he was fired purely for his performance. He sued the firm, in one of the first AIDS discrimination cases to go to a public hearing. These events were inspiration for the 1993 film Philadelphia.
- The Toronto People With AIDS Foundation is formed.
- First Canadian AIDS Research Conference held in Toronto.
- Canada's first AIDS Walk organized by the Vancouver PWA Coalition on the Stanley Park Seawall.



1987

April 1: President Reagan makes first public speech about AIDS; establishes Presidential Commission on HIV (Watkins Commission).

September 17: Bill Lewis the founding member of Gays for Equality Winnipeg; The Body Politic writer & collective member; later co-founder of AIDS Committee of Toronto. His lover and longtime friend of Michael Lynch passes away.

September 17: Bill Lewis, Microbiologist at University of Toronto, passed away of HIV related complications. Bill was a co-founder of AIDS Committee of Toronto and writer for the The Body Politic. He was also instrumental in establishing the first HIV laboratory @UofT, which was named after Bill after he died.

- AZT (zidovudine), the first antiretroviral drug, becomes available to treat HIV.
- Charles Ludlam dies of PCP pneumonia due to AIDS on May 28, 1987.
- Williamson, West Virginia closes its public swimming pool following an incident involving a local resident with HIV/AIDS. *The Oprah Winfrey Show* broadcasts a town hall meeting during which local residents express their fears about AIDS and homosexuality.
- Randy Shilts investigative journalism book *And the Band Played On: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic* is published. The book chronicles the 1980–1985 discovery and spread of HIV/AIDS, government indifference, and political infighting in the United States to what was initially perceived as a gay disease
- The Toronto People With AIDS Foundation is incorporated.
- First AIDS Candlelight Memorial is organized in Vancouver.
- U.S. FDA adds HIV prevention as a new indication for male condoms.
- Entertainer Liberace dies of AIDS.
- AIDS Memorial Quilt displayed on National Mall in Washington, DC for first time.
- U.S. adds HIV as a "dangerous contagious disease" to its immigration exclusion list; mandates testing of all applicants.
- U.S. FDA sanctions first human testing of candidate vaccine against HIV

1988

In Argentina take place the deaths of popular and legendary Rock singers Miguel Abuelo (March 26) and Federico Moura (December 21), both from AIDS complications and in Buenos Aires

June Callwood founded Casey House Hospice, named after her dear lost son, Casey House was the first hospice in the world to provide support and palliative care for people with HIV/AIDS at a time when little was known about the disease.

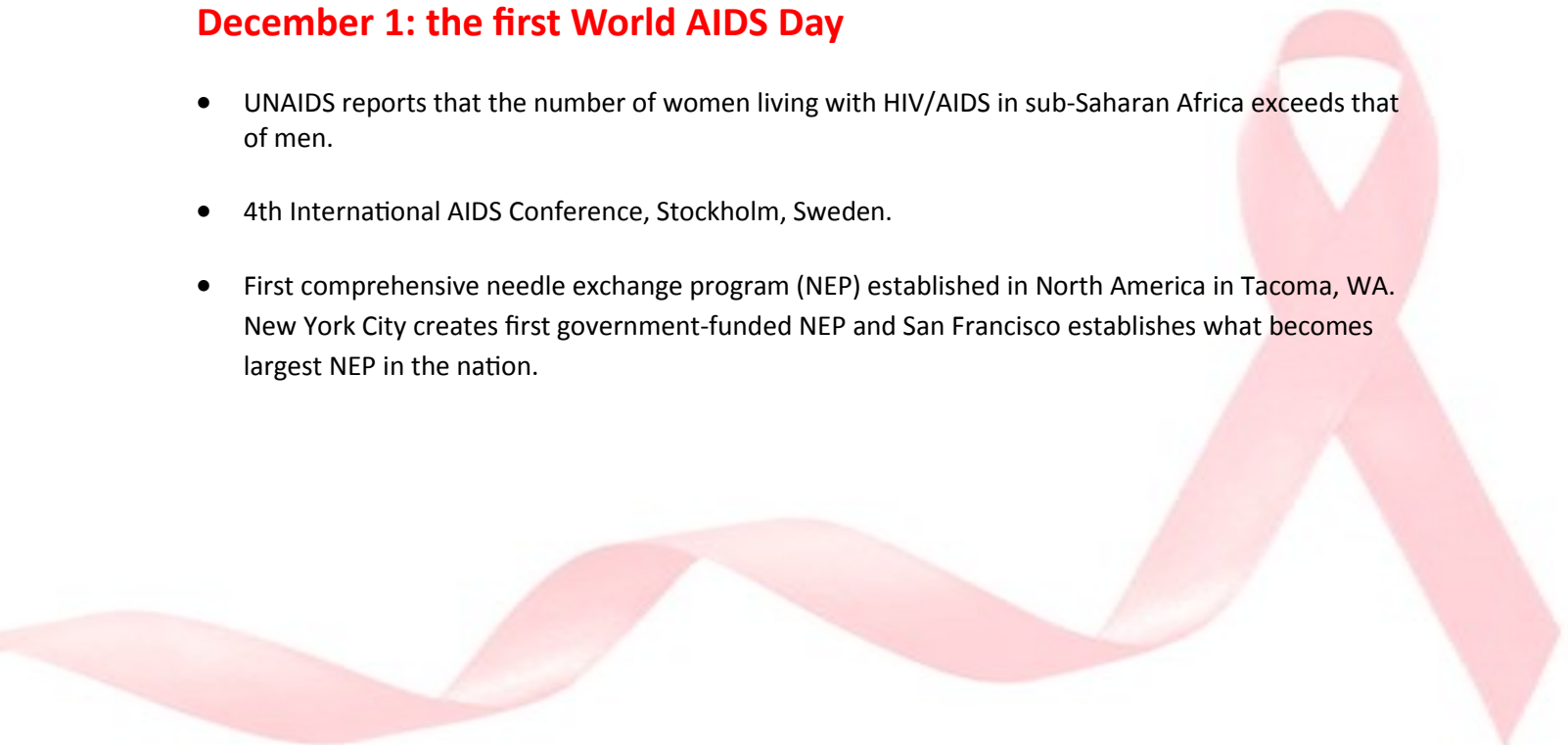
January 8: WHO reports AIDS cases has jumped 56% worldwide.

August 29: A young girl with AIDS can only attend school if she is in a glass enclosure.

- AIDS Action now! founded in Toronto; publishes PRIDE Day broadsheet on possible treatments.
- Federal Minister of Health and Welfare Jake Epp is burned in effigy in an AIDS Action now! demonstration, held during a national conference on AIDS. The demonstration is protesting treatment issues and a lack of overall policy commitment on AIDS.
- The National Coalition of People Living with HIV is formed.
- Casey House Hospice opens in Toronto opens.

December 1: the first World AIDS Day

- UNAIDS reports that the number of women living with HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa exceeds that of men.
- 4th International AIDS Conference, Stockholm, Sweden.
- First comprehensive needle exchange program (NEP) established in North America in Tacoma, WA. New York City creates first government-funded NEP and San Francisco establishes what becomes largest NEP in the nation.

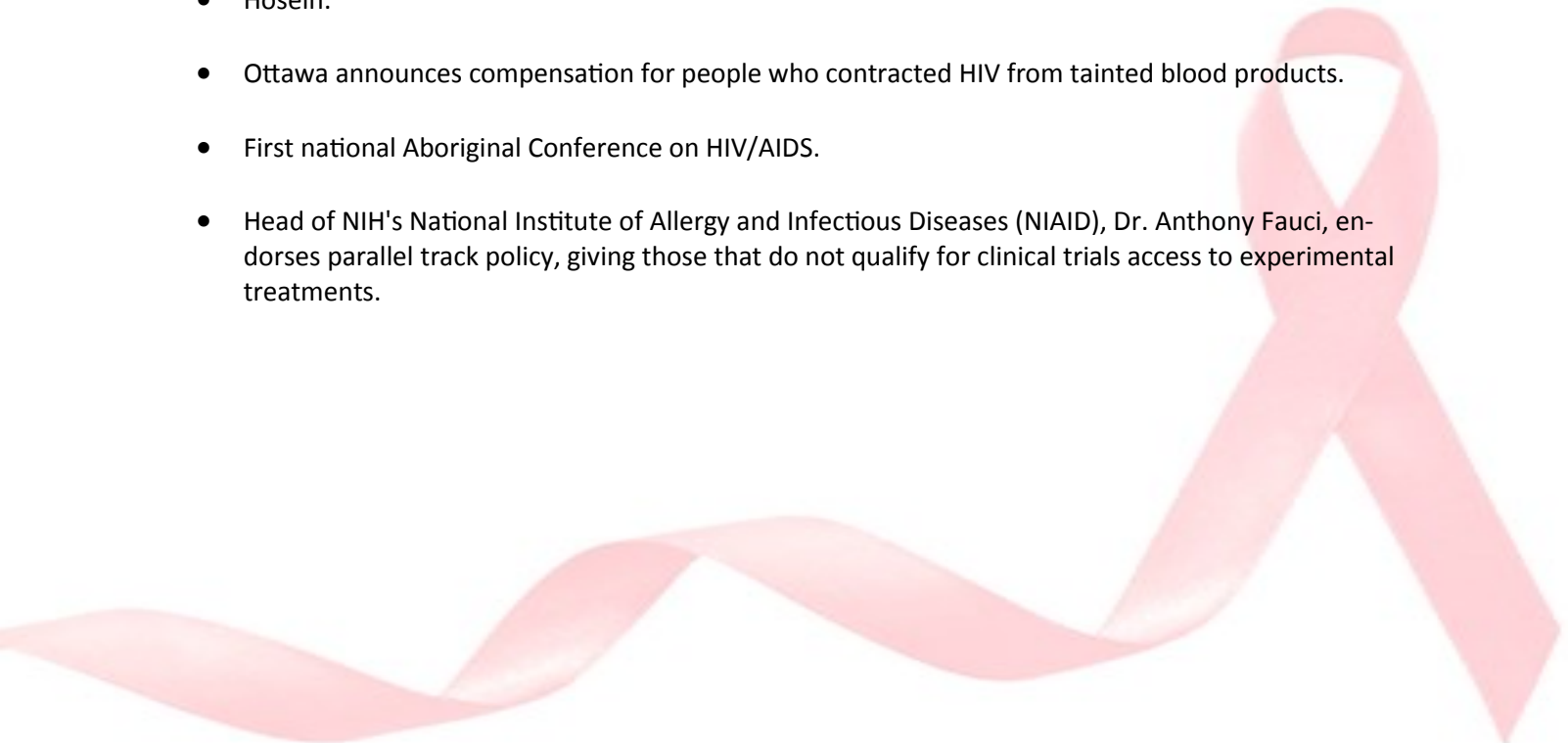


1989

April 6: A foreigner with AIDS is not allowed into the U.S. because he has the virus.

September: DDI (2,3 dideoxyinosine) is made available in Canada

- The television movie *The Ryan White Story* aired. It starred Judith Light as Jeanne, Lukas Haas as Ryan and Nikki Cox as sister Andrea. Ryan White had a small cameo appearance as Chad, a young patient with AIDS.
- Another AIDS-themed film, *The Littlest Victims*, debuted in 1989, biopicing *James Oleske*, the first U.S. physician to discover AIDS in newborns during AIDS' early years, when many thought it was only homosexually-spread.
- NASCAR driver Tim Richmond dies from AIDS related complications.
- The 5th International AIDS Conference, Montreal, Canada – The Scientific & Social Challenges of AIDS.
- ACT launches the AIDS Walk Toronto fundraiser.
- AIDS Action now! publishes first issue of AIDS Update (later renamed Treatment Update) by Sean Hosein.
- Ottawa announces compensation for people who contracted HIV from tainted blood products.
- First national Aboriginal Conference on HIV/AIDS.
- Head of NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Dr. Anthony Fauci, endorses parallel track policy, giving those that do not qualify for clinical trials access to experimental treatments.



1990

January 6: British actor Ian Charleson dies from AIDS at the age of 40 — the first show-business death in the United Kingdom openly attributed to complications from AIDS.

February 3: Charles K. (Chuck) Grochmal died of AIDS at Casey House.

February 16: NYC Artist/Social Activist Keith Haring dies from AIDS related illness.

April 8: Ryan White – Dies at the age of 18 from pneumonia caused by AIDS complications.

April 9: The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act of 1990 is enacted by the U.S. Congress, providing federal funds for community-based care and treatment services. In first year, it is funded at \$220.5 million.

June 28: After 2,282 Canadians have died of AIDS, the federal Health Minister Perrin Beatty announced the first National AIDS Strategy. Funding for the first phase of the program would amount to \$112 million over three years.

July 7: Brazilian singer Cazuza dies in Rio de Janeiro at the age of 32 from an AIDS related illness.

October: Zidovudine (AZT), which had been released for restricted use in November 1986 and an open clinical study in May 1987, was made available to asymptomatic HIV carriers in August 1989 and received notice of compliance in October 1990.

- Congress enacted The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act or Ryan White Care Act, the United States' largest federally funded health related program (excluding Medicaid and Medicare).
- Canadian HIV Trials Network established.
- Canadian Association for HIV Research (CAHR) founded.
- Pop artist Keith Haring dies of AIDS.

1991

June 2: The red ribbon made its debut at the 45th Tony Awards. The first celebrity to be seen wearing the ribbon was co-host Jeremy Irons. Visual AIDS partnered with Broadway Cares and Equity Fights AIDS and passed out the ribbons to guests and presenters as a way of showing how the epidemic was affecting their industry. Soon the red ribbon became the fashion accessory of the red carpet.

November 24: A little over 24 hours after issuing the statement confirming that he has been tested HIV positive and had AIDS, Freddie Mercury (singer of the British band Queen) dies on at the age of 45. The official cause of death was bronchial pneumonia resulting from AIDS.

- NBA star Magic Johnson publicly announces that he is HIV-positive
- The Ontario government creates the Ontario AIDS Bureau, partly in response to community pressure to have more responsive leadership.
- Second national Aboriginal Conference on HIV/AIDS



1992

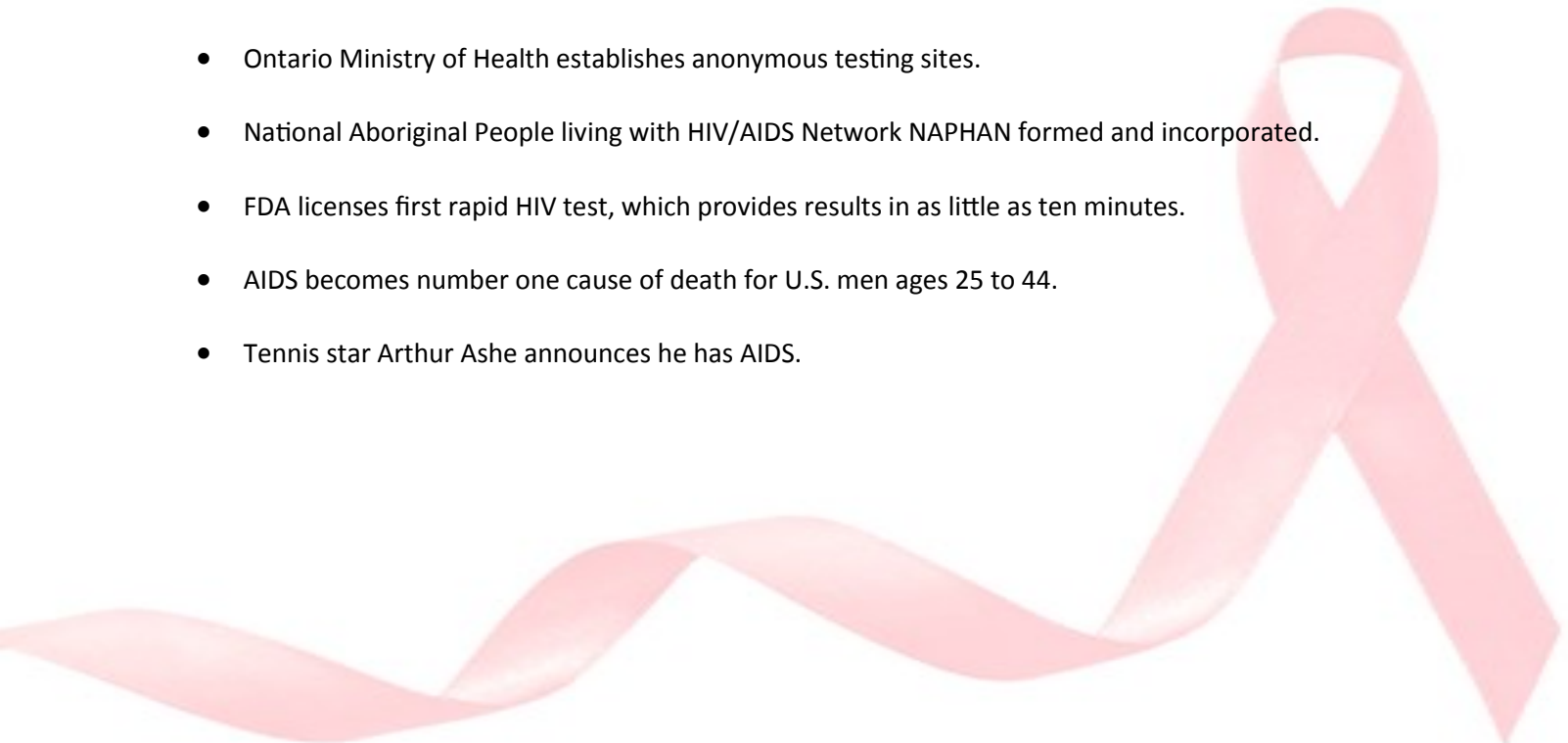
April 6: Popular science fiction writer Isaac Asimov dies . Ten years later, his wife revealed that his death was due to AIDS-related complications. The writer was infected during a blood transfusion in 1983.

June 18: Australian singer Peter Allen dies from complications due to AIDS.

November 10: Stephen Woo MD died of AIDS.

December 18: Teenager Ricky Ray, whose home was torched because he and his siblings were HIV-positive, dies of AIDS.

- The first combination drug therapies for HIV are introduced. Such "cocktails" are more effective than AZT alone and slow down the development of drug resistance.
- American actor Anthony Perkins, known for his role as Norman Bates in the *Psycho* movies, dies from AIDS.
- At the Royal Free Hospital in London, an out-patients' centre for HIV and AIDS is opened by Ian McKellen, and is named the Ian Charleson Day Centre after actor Ian Charleson.
- Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network established.
- Ontario Ministry of Health establishes anonymous testing sites.
- National Aboriginal People living with HIV/AIDS Network NAPHAN formed and incorporated.
- FDA licenses first rapid HIV test, which provides results in as little as ten minutes.
- AIDS becomes number one cause of death for U.S. men ages 25 to 44.
- Tennis star Arthur Ashe announces he has AIDS.



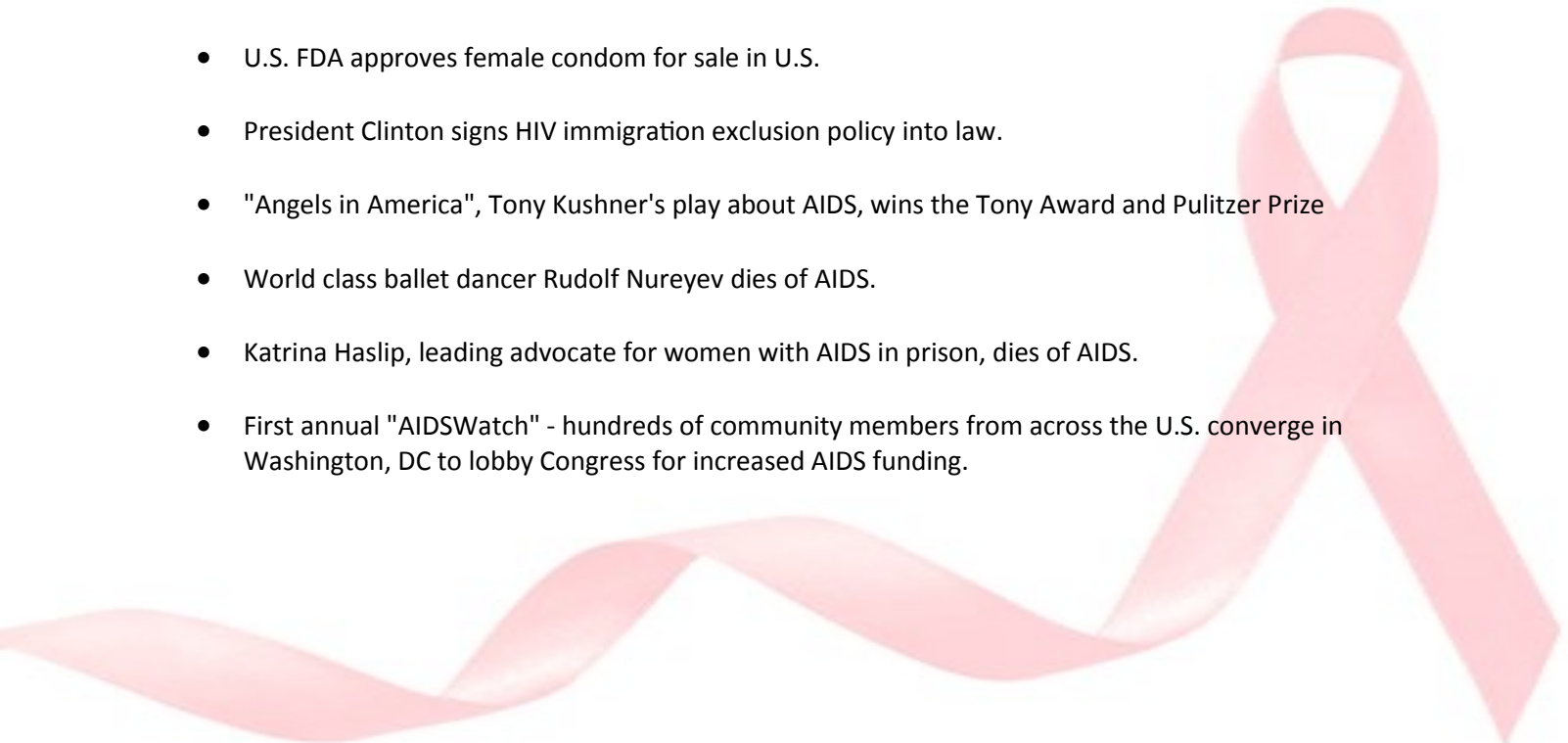
1993

January 2: James Thatcher died of AIDS.

June: The permanent AIDS Memorial in Cawthra Square opens. Its design was the result of a competition that began in 1990.

December 18: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) expand the case definition of AIDS, declaring those with CD4 counts below 200 to have AIDS.

- Tennis star Arthur Ashe dies from AIDS related complications.
- The Ontario AIDS Network is incorporated.
- NAPHAN (National Aboriginal People living with HIV/AIDS Network) changes name to CAAN (Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network).
- Ontario First Nations HIV/AIDS and Healthy Lifestyles study, Dr. Ted Myers.
- First prevention poster by 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations.
- "Philadelphia," a film starring Tom Hanks as a lawyer with AIDS, opens in theaters, becoming the first major Hollywood movie on AIDS.
- U.S. FDA approves female condom for sale in U.S.
- President Clinton signs HIV immigration exclusion policy into law.
- "Angels in America", Tony Kushner's play about AIDS, wins the Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize
- World class ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev dies of AIDS.
- Katrina Haslip, leading advocate for women with AIDS in prison, dies of AIDS.
- First annual "AIDSWatch" - hundreds of community members from across the U.S. converge in Washington, DC to lobby Congress for increased AIDS funding.



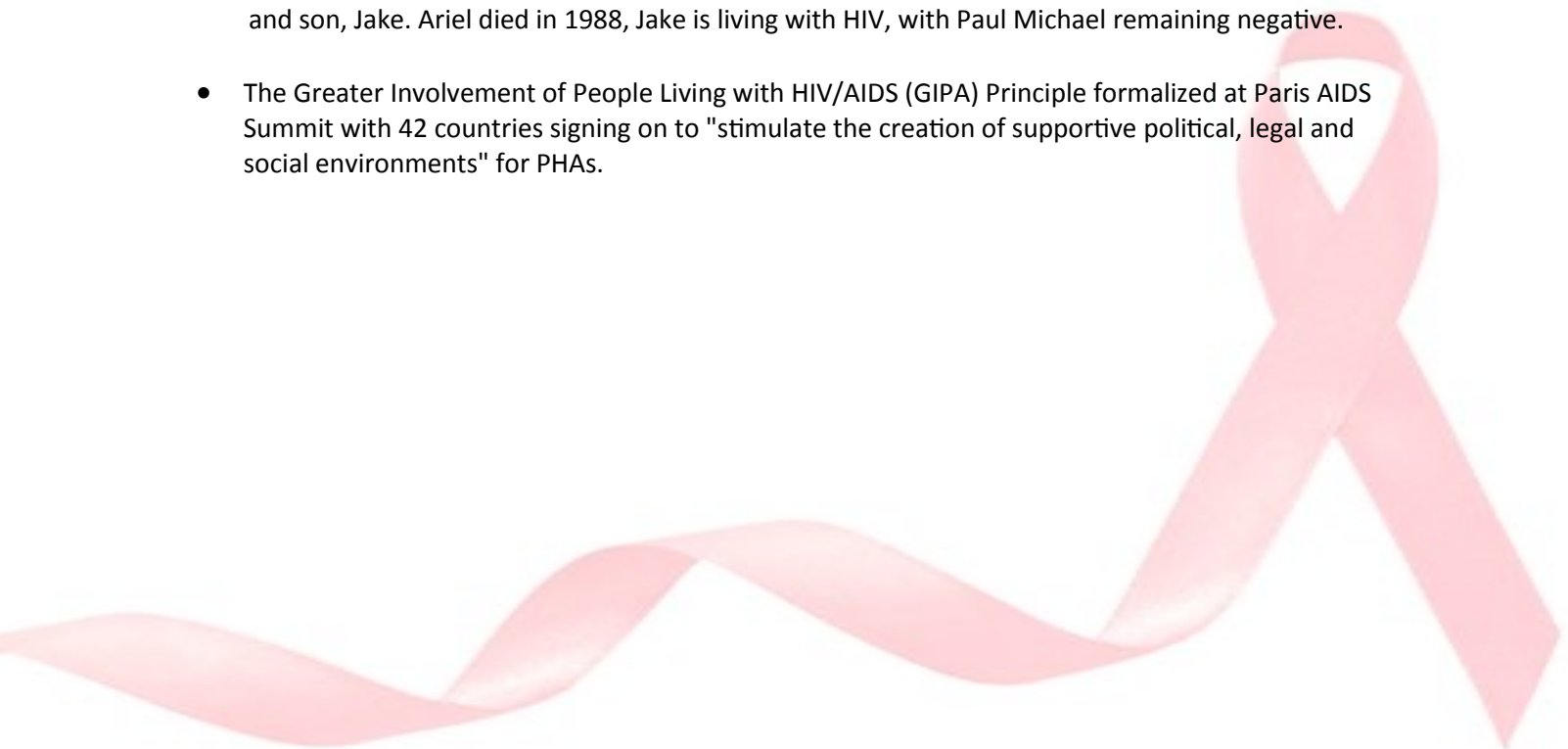
1994

February 22: Randy Shilts, author of "And the Band Played On" dies of AIDS at age 42.

November 6: George W. Smith died of AIDS.

December 5: Third national Aboriginal Conference on HIV/AIDS and Related Issues in Aboriginal communities.

- 10th International AIDS Conference ("The Global Challenge of AIDS: Together for the Future"), Yokohama, Japan.
- AIDS becomes leading cause of death for all Americans ages 25 to 44; remains so through 1995.
- U.S. FDA approves an oral HIV test, the first non-blood based antibody test for HIV.
- Pedro Zamora, a young gay man living with HIV, appears on the cast of MTV's popular show, The Real World; dies later this year at age 22.
- Elizabeth Glaser, co-founder of the Pediatric AIDS Foundation, dies of AIDS, and wife of Starsky & Hutch's Paul Michael Glaser, dies from related complications almost ten years after receiving an infected blood transfusion while giving birth and unknowingly passing it on to her daughter, Ariel, and son, Jake. Ariel died in 1988, Jake is living with HIV, with Paul Michael remaining negative.
- The Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GIPA) Principle formalized at Paris AIDS Summit with 42 countries signing on to "stimulate the creation of supportive political, legal and social environments" for PHAs.



1995

Saquinavir, a new type of protease inhibitor drug, becomes available to treat HIV. Highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) becomes possible.^[1] Within two years, death rates due to AIDS will have plummeted in the developed world.

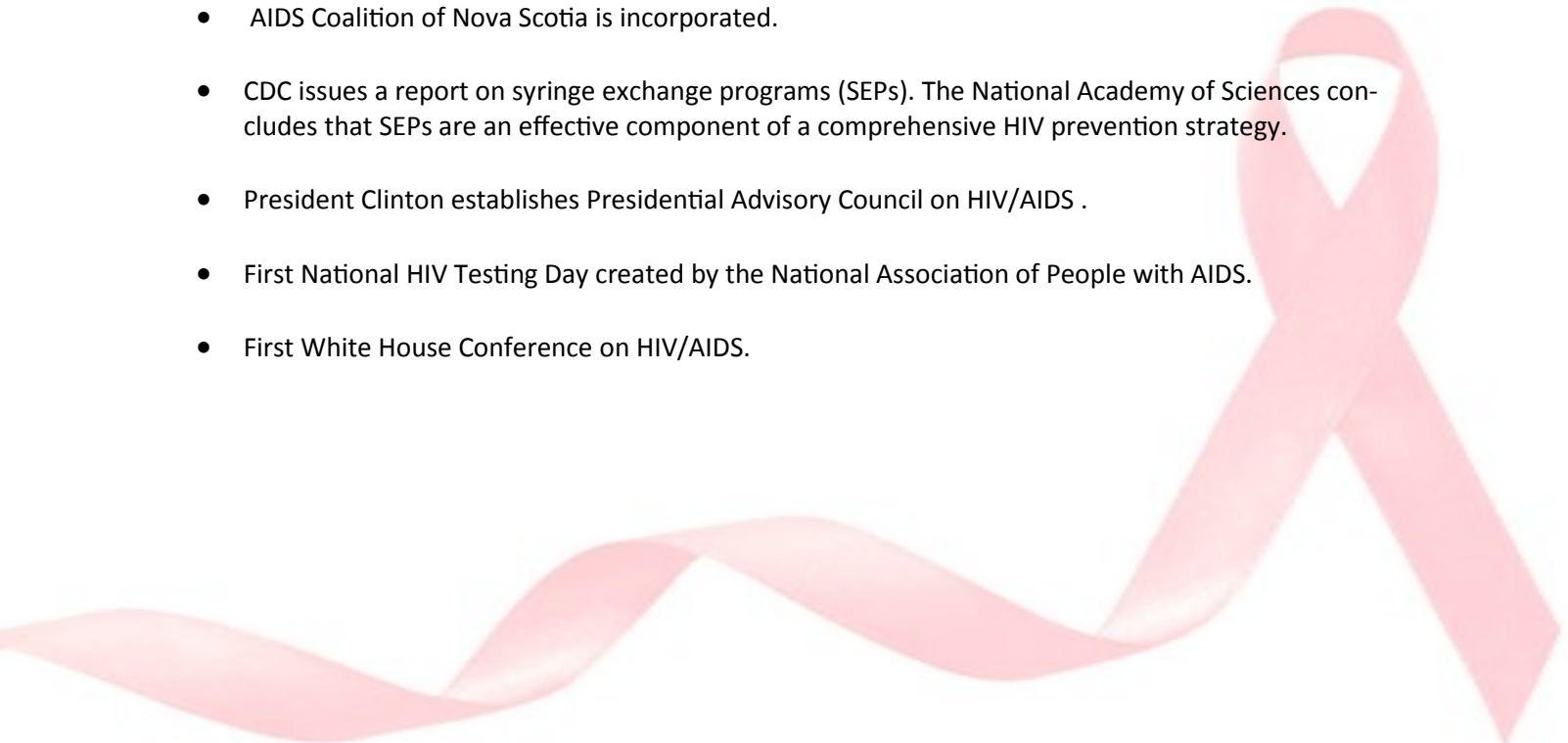
February 23: Olympic Gold Medal diver Greg Louganis discloses that he is living with HIV, leading to public debate regarding disclosure of HIV status.

March 26: Rapper Eazy-E dies from AIDS-related pneumonia.

April 4: British DJ and entertainer Kenny Everett dies from AIDS.

Oakland resident Jeff Getty becomes the first person to receive a bone marrow transplant from a Baboon, as an experimental procedure to treat his HIV infection. The graft did not take, but Getty experienced some reduction in symptoms, before dying of heart failure after cancer treatment, in 2006.

- Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy formed (off-reserve).
- Charles Roy publishes *Living and Serving: Persons with HIV in the Canadian AIDS movement* .
- Pacific AIDS Network begins as a project of AIDS Vancouver Island.
- AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia is incorporated.
- CDC issues a report on syringe exchange programs (SEPs). The National Academy of Sciences concludes that SEPs are an effective component of a comprehensive HIV prevention strategy.
- President Clinton establishes Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS .
- First National HIV Testing Day created by the National Association of People with AIDS.
- First White House Conference on HIV/AIDS.

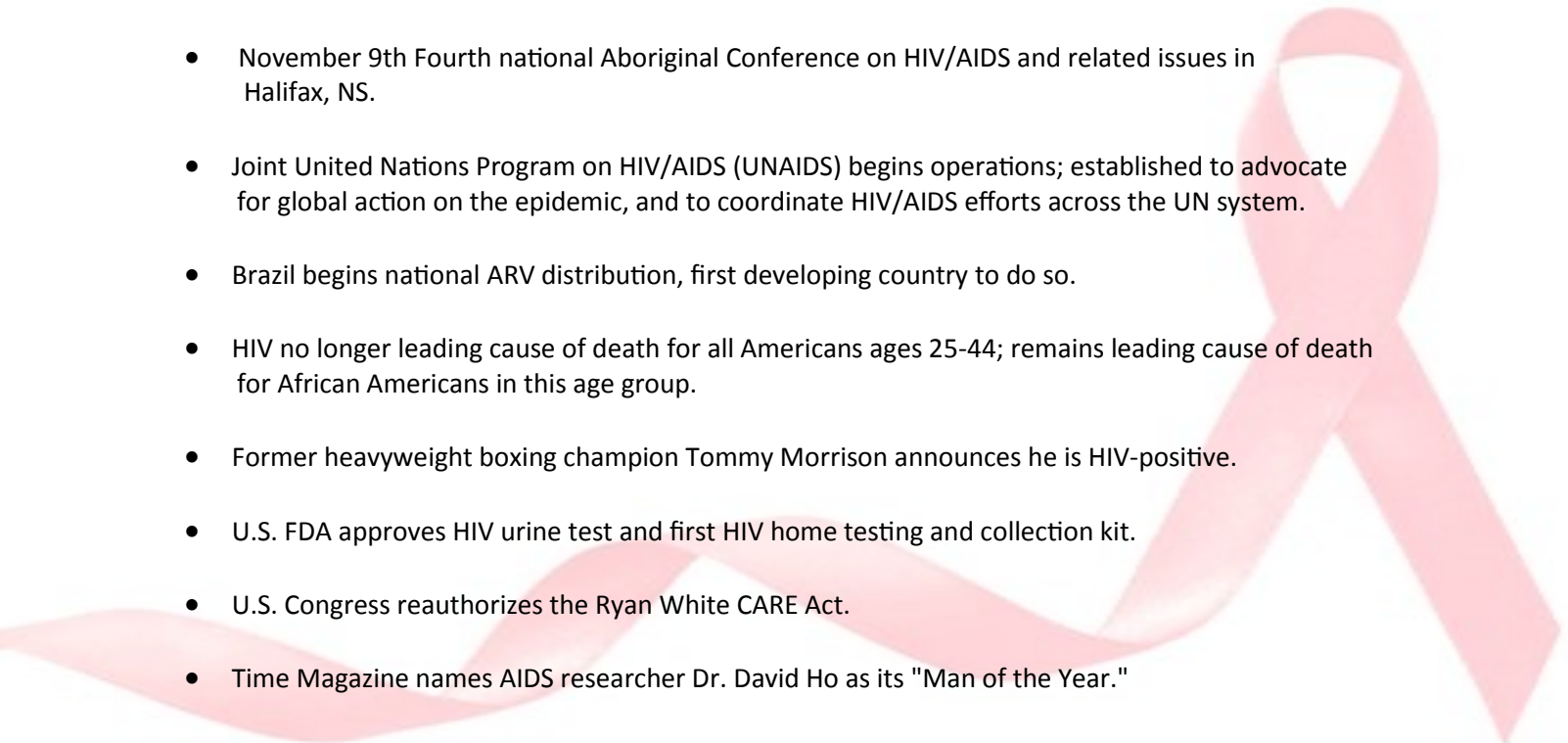


1996

July 8: AIDS awareness ad campaigns target everyone, not only high-risk groups.

July 8: A period of optimism begins- being HIV-positive is no longer a death sentence.

- Robert Gallo's discovery that some natural compounds known as chemokines can block HIV and halt the progression of AIDS is hailed by Science magazine as one of that year's most important scientific breakthroughs.
- Ontario begins Viral Load Testing.
- Canadian Treatment Action Council established.
- Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) becomes standard treatment for HIV Infection: beneficial response to treatment realized with some showing remarkable progress (the so-called Lazarus Effect of people 'back from the dead'); some doctors erroneously consider HAART a cure for HIV, and advocate a "Hit Hard, Hit Early" approach with the drug.
- Charles Roy becomes Executive Director of ACT.
- 11th International AIDS Conference, Vancouver, Canada.
- November 9th Fourth national Aboriginal Conference on HIV/AIDS and related issues in Halifax, NS.
- Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) begins operations; established to advocate for global action on the epidemic, and to coordinate HIV/AIDS efforts across the UN system.
- Brazil begins national ARV distribution, first developing country to do so.
- HIV no longer leading cause of death for all Americans ages 25-44; remains leading cause of death for African Americans in this age group.
- Former heavyweight boxing champion Tommy Morrison announces he is HIV-positive.
- U.S. FDA approves HIV urine test and first HIV home testing and collection kit.
- U.S. Congress reauthorizes the Ryan White CARE Act.
- Time Magazine names AIDS researcher Dr. David Ho as its "Man of the Year."

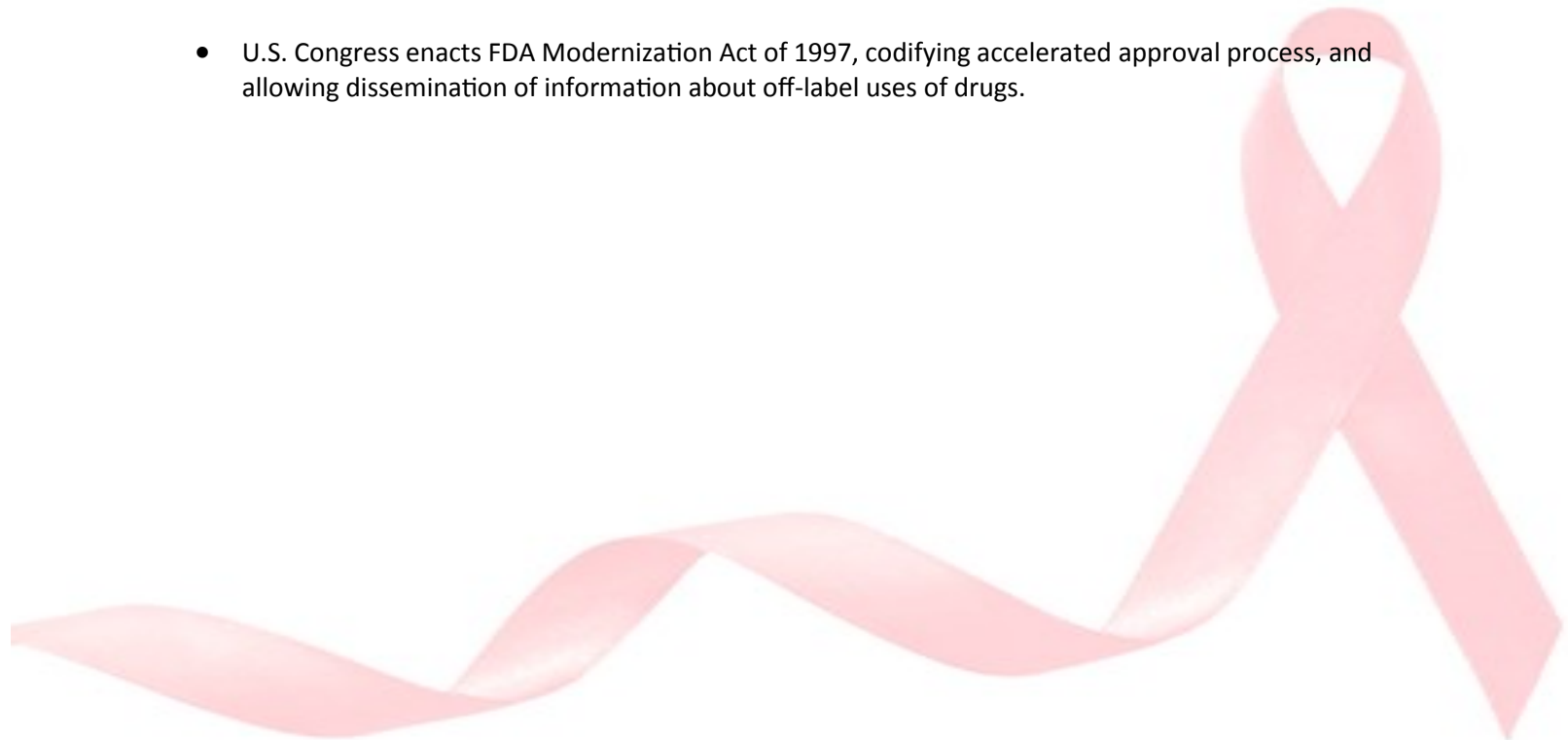


1997

September 2: "The most recent estimate of the number of Americans infected (with HIV), 750,000, is only half the total that government officials used to cite over a decade ago, at a time when experts believed that as many as 1.5 million people carried the virus." article in the *Washington Post*.

December 7: "French President Jacques Chirac addressed Africa's top AIDS conference and called on the world's richest nations to create an AIDS therapy support fund to help Africa. According to Chirac, Africa struggles to care for two-thirds of the world's persons with AIDS without the benefit of expensive AIDS therapies. Chirac invited other countries, especially European nations, to create a fund that would help increase the number of AIDS studies and experiments.

- AIDS workers welcomed Chirac's speech and said they hoped France would promote the idea to the Group of Eight summit of the world's richest nations."
- Based on the Bangui definition the WHO's cumulative number of reported AIDS cases from 1980 through 1997 for all of Africa is 620,000. In comparison, the cumulative total of AIDS cases in the USA through 1997 is 641,087.
- Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network reincorporated and establishes offices in Ottawa, ON.
- President Clinton announces goal of finding an effective vaccine in 10 years and the creation of Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center.
- U.S. Congress enacts FDA Modernization Act of 1997, codifying accelerated approval process, and allowing dissemination of information about off-label uses of drugs.



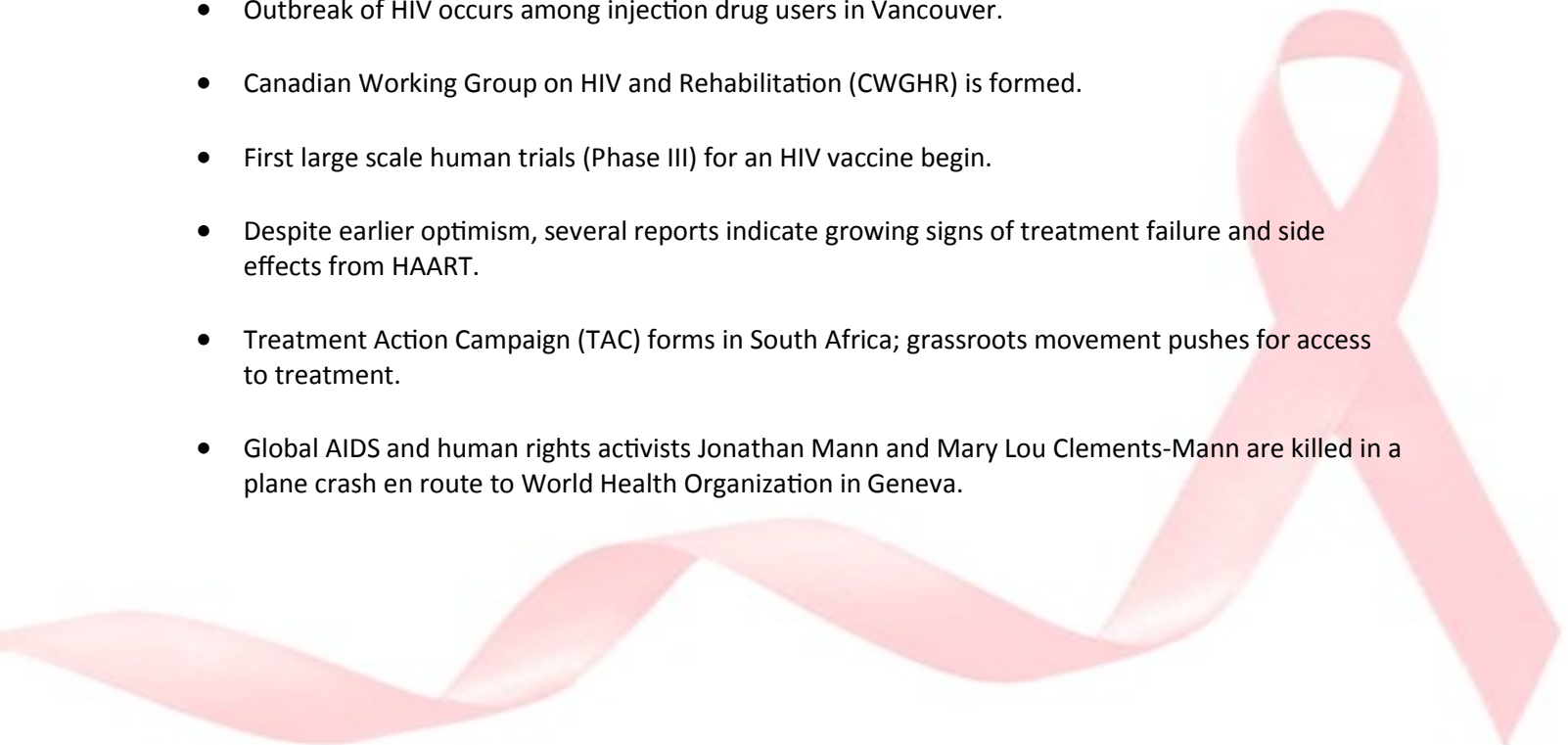
1998

July 23: The AIDS Bureau, Ontario Ministry of Health, invited 85 participants for the first comprehensive research conference on HIV/AIDS. AIDS activists; persons living with HIV; health care providers; basic, clinical, social/behavioural and epidemiologic researchers, came together to provide input and direction to research for the first face-to-face dialogue. This dialogue continued and as demonstrated in the annual OHTN conference each year.

September 28: Canadian Blood Services assumes full responsibility for the operation of Canada's blood supply system ending the Canadian Red Cross operation.

December 10: International Human Rights Day, Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) is launched to campaign for greater access to HIV treatment for all South Africans, by raising public awareness and understanding about issues surrounding the availability, affordability and use of HIV treatments. TAC campaigns against the view that AIDS is a death sentence.

- 12th International AIDS Conference ("Bridging the Gap"), Geneva, Switzerland.
- Sam Conti died of complications following elective surgery. But, before he died he learned of the approval of \$150,000.00 through the city of London and this money would build the Healing Garden and Therapy Room at the John Gordon Home.
- Outbreak of HIV occurs among injection drug users in Vancouver.
- Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR) is formed.
- First large scale human trials (Phase III) for an HIV vaccine begin.
- Despite earlier optimism, several reports indicate growing signs of treatment failure and side effects from HAART.
- Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) forms in South Africa; grassroots movement pushes for access to treatment.
- Global AIDS and human rights activists Jonathan Mann and Mary Lou Clements-Mann are killed in a plane crash en route to World Health Organization in Geneva.



1999

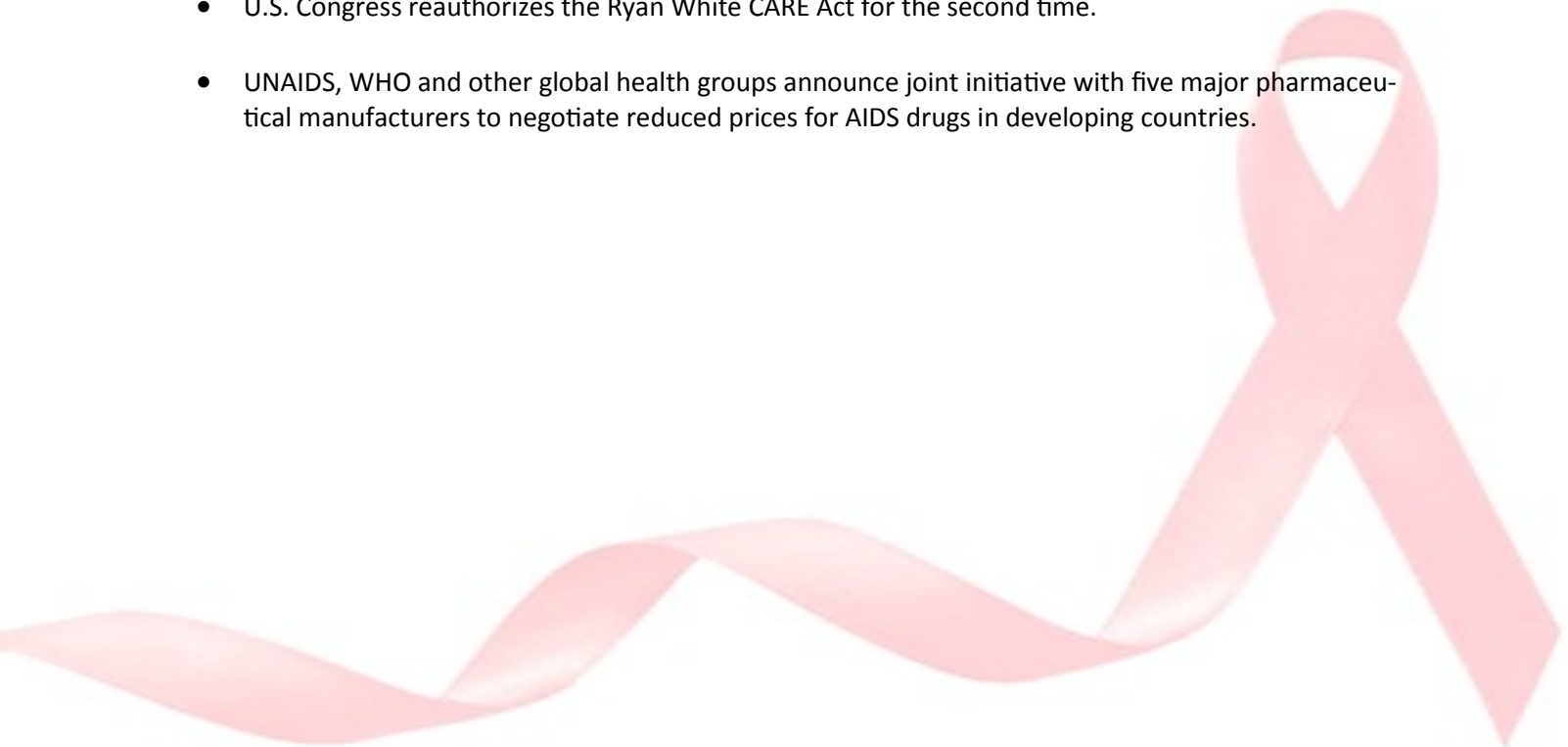
January 31: Studies suggest that a retrovirus, *SIVcpz* (simian immunodeficiency virus) from the common chimpanzee *Pan troglodytes*, may have passed to human populations in west equatorial Africa during the twentieth century and developed into various types of HIV.

- Edward Hooper releases a book called *The River*, which accuses doctors who developed and administered the oral polio vaccine in 1950s Africa of unintentionally starting the AIDS epidemic. The OPV AIDS hypothesis receives a great deal of publicity. It was later refuted by studies demonstrating the origins of HIV as a mutated variant of a simian immunodeficiency virus that is lethal to humans. Hooper's hypothesis should not be confused with the Heart of Darkness origin theory.
- OHTN launched with Anne Phillips & Murray Jose as co-chairs.
- Red Road Pathways to Wholeness, an Aboriginal Strategy for HIV and AIDS in BC.
- First human vaccine trial in a developing country begins in Thailand.
- Congressional Hispanic Caucus, with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, convenes Congressional hearing on impact of HIV/AIDS on Latino community.
- Reggie Williams, founder of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention, dies of AIDS.



2000

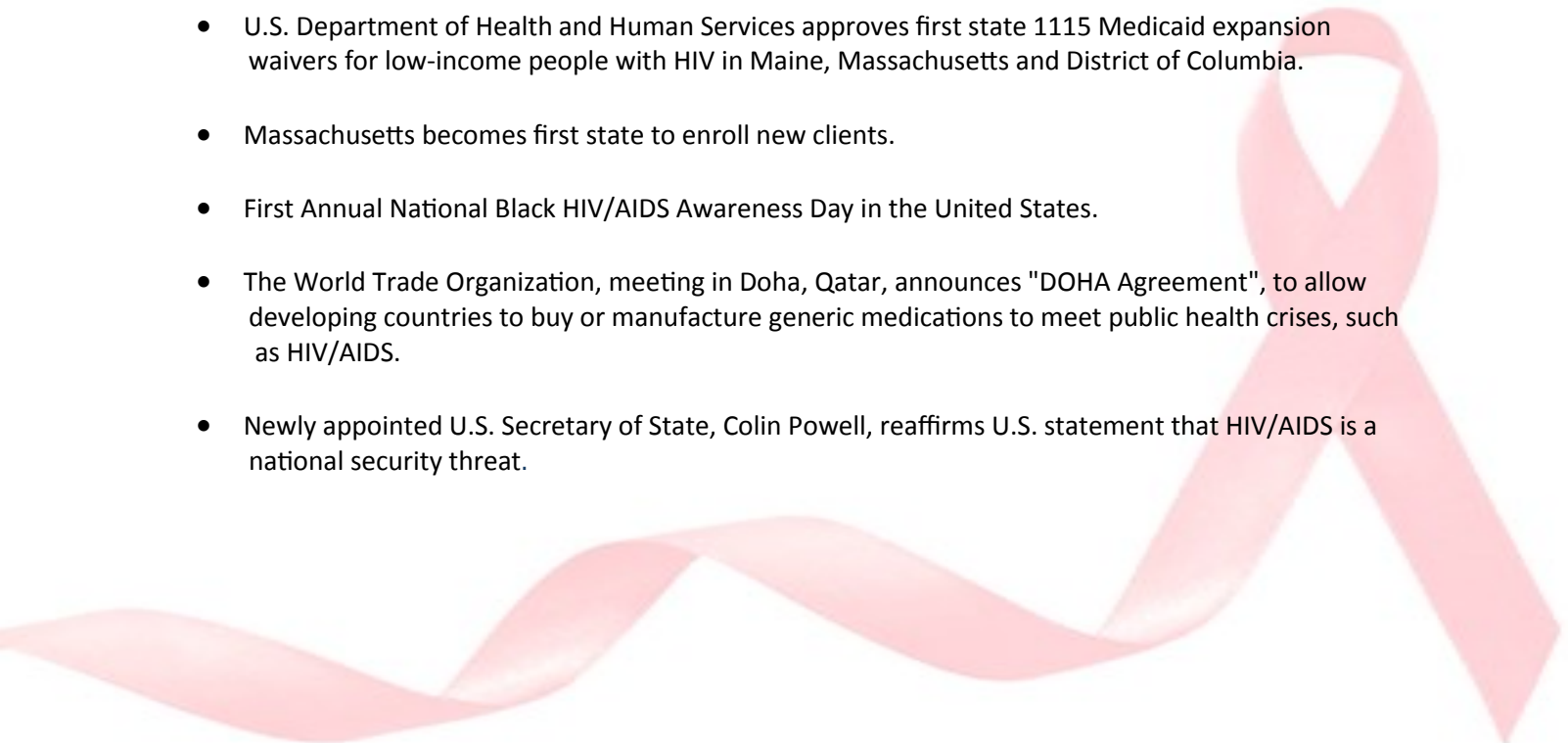
- World Health Organization estimates between 15% and 20% of new HIV infections worldwide are the result of blood transfusions, where the donors were not screened or inadequately screened for HIV.
- Circle of Hope, Quebec Labrador First Nations and Inuit HIV/AIDS Strategy.
- U.S. and UN Security Councils each declare HIV/AIDS a security threat.
- G8 Leaders acknowledge need for additional HIV/AIDS resources during Okinawa Meeting.
- President Clinton issues Executive Order to assist developing countries in importing and producing generic forms of HIV treatments.
- President Clinton creates first ever Presidential Envoy for AIDS Cooperation.
- U.S. CDC reports that, among men who have sex with men in the U.S., African American and Latino cases exceed those among whites.
- U.S. CDC forms Global AIDS Program (GAP).
- U.S. Congress reauthorizes the Ryan White CARE Act for the second time.
- UNAIDS, WHO and other global health groups announce joint initiative with five major pharmaceutical manufacturers to negotiate reduced prices for AIDS drugs in developing countries.



2001

June 5: marks 20 years since first AIDS case reported.

- Alberta Tree of Creation Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy.
- Inuit Action Plan, Canadian Inuit HIV/AIDS Network (CIHAN).
- The Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV (GIPA) Principle is endorsed by 189 United Nations member countries as part of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.
- National Aboriginal Council on HIV/AIDS established.
- ACT expands its international commitment. Charles Roy, ACT's, Executive director at the time, plays an important role in the development of The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria declared at UNGASS.
- First Annual National HIV Vaccine Awareness Day in the United States.
- Generic drug manufacturers offer to produce discounted, generic forms of HIV/AIDS drugs; several major pharmaceutical manufacturers agree to offer further reduced drugs prices in developing countries.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services approves first state 1115 Medicaid expansion waivers for low-income people with HIV in Maine, Massachusetts and District of Columbia.
- Massachusetts becomes first state to enroll new clients.
- First Annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in the United States.
- The World Trade Organization, meeting in Doha, Qatar, announces "DOHA Agreement", to allow developing countries to buy or manufacture generic medications to meet public health crises, such as HIV/AIDS.
- Newly appointed U.S. Secretary of State, Colin Powell, reaffirms U.S. statement that HIV/AIDS is a national security threat.

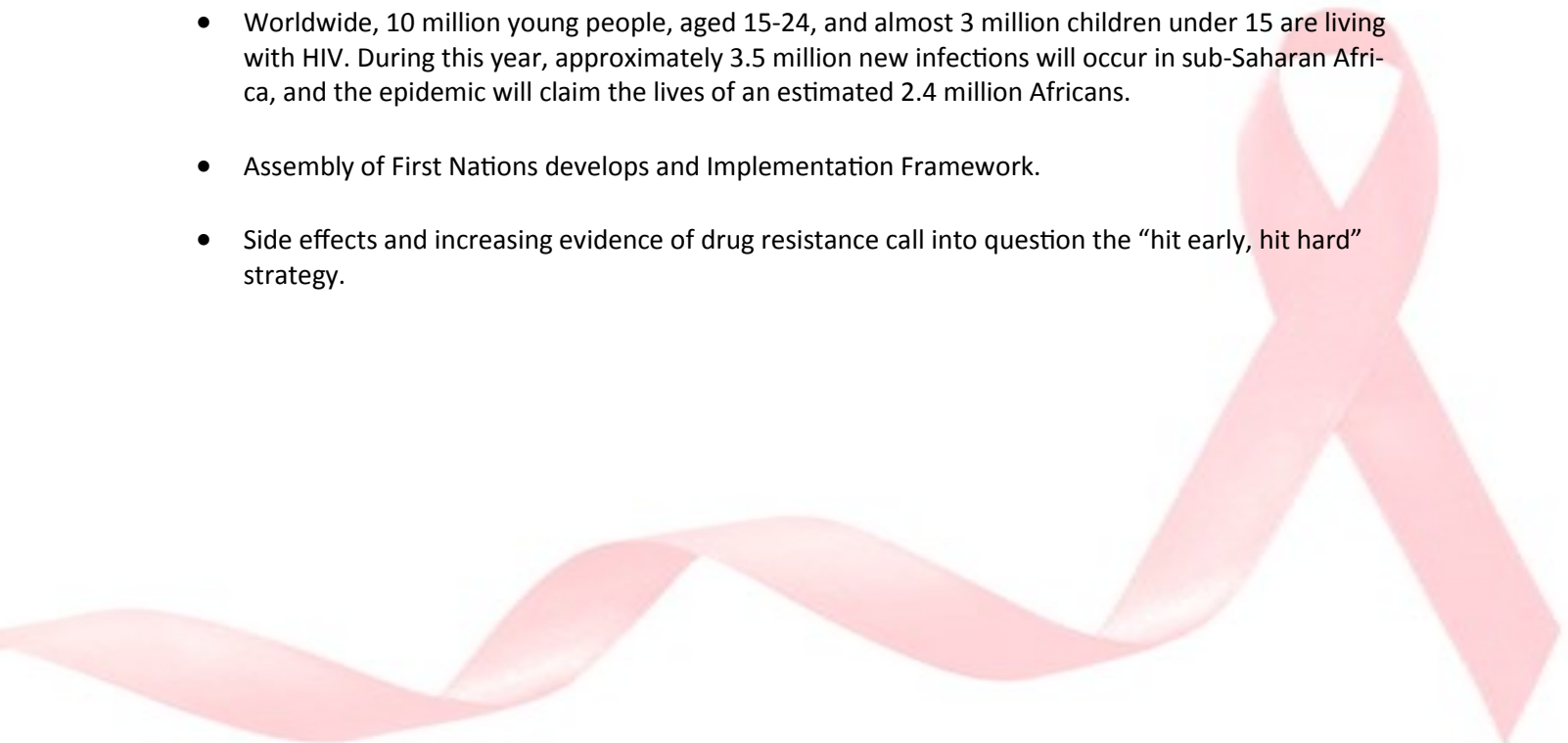


2002

July: UNAIDS (the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS) reports that HIV/AIDS is now by far the leading cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa, and the fourth biggest global killer. Average life expectancy in sub-Saharan Africa falls from 62 years to 47 years as a result of AIDS.

August: Charles Roy, ACT Executive Director suddenly dies of HIV/AIDS complications

- HIV is leading cause of death worldwide, among those aged 15-59.
- UNAIDS reports that women comprise about half of all adults living with HIV/AIDS worldwide.
- U.S. National Intelligence Council releases report on "Next Wave" of the Epidemic, focused on India, China, Russia, Nigeria, and Ethiopia.
- Approval of OraQuick Rapid HIV-1 Antibody Test, by U.S. FDA; first rapid test to use finger prick.
- OraQuick granted a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waiver in 2003, enabling the test to be performed outside of the laboratory, allowing more widespread use.
- 14th International AIDS Conference ("Knowledge and Commitment"), Barcelona, Spain.
- Worldwide, 10 million young people, aged 15-24, and almost 3 million children under 15 are living with HIV. During this year, approximately 3.5 million new infections will occur in sub-Saharan Africa, and the epidemic will claim the lives of an estimated 2.4 million Africans.
- Assembly of First Nations develops and Implementation Framework.
- Side effects and increasing evidence of drug resistance call into question the "hit early, hit hard" strategy.



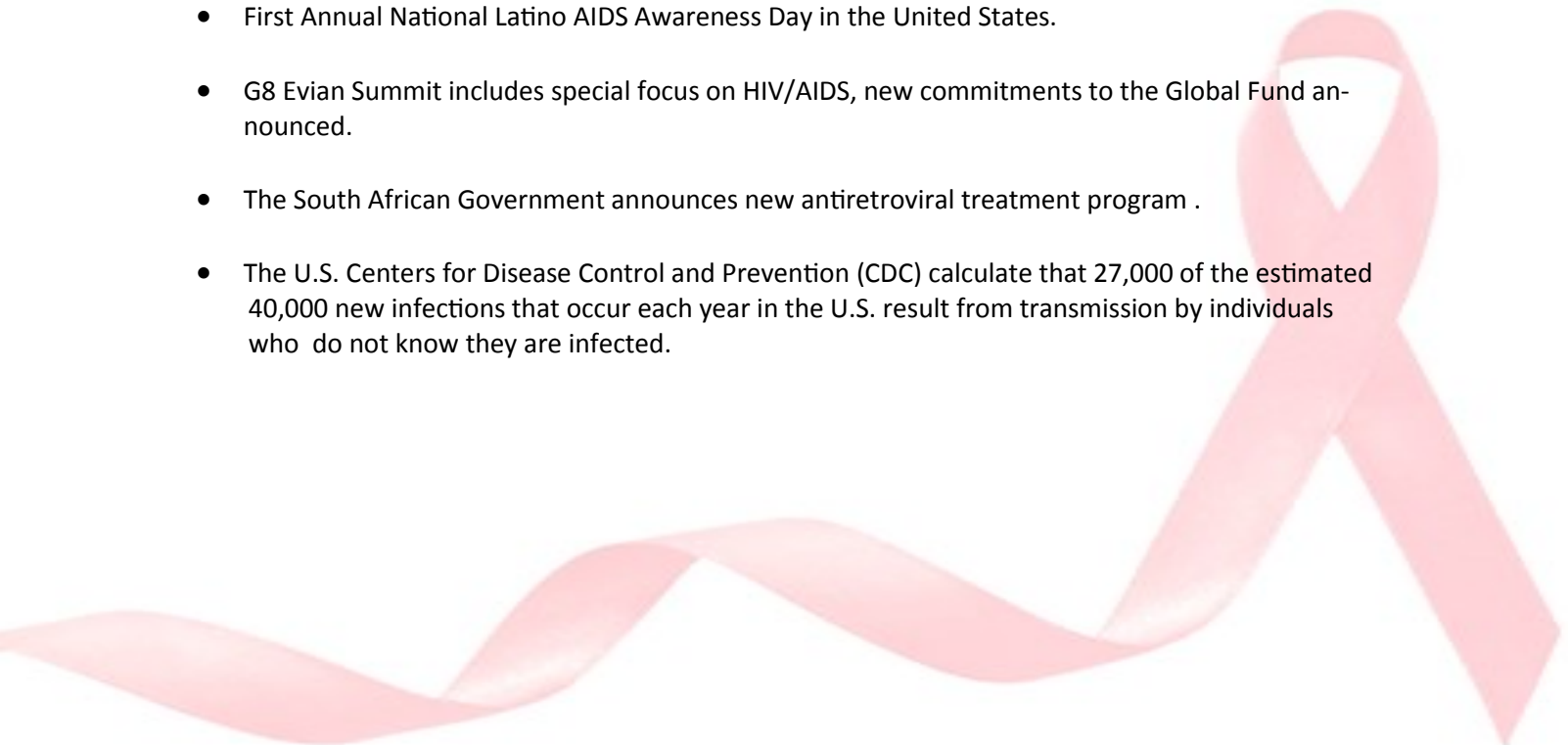
2003

January 28: President George W. Bush announces the creation of the United States President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in his State of the Union address. PEPFAR is a \$15 billion, 5-year plan to combat AIDS, primarily in countries with a high burden of infections.

February 24: VaxGen, a San Francisco-based biotechnology company, announces that its AIDSVAX vaccine trial failed to reduce overall HIV infection rates among those who were vaccinated.

March 31: the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation awards a \$60 million grant to the International Partnership for Microbicides to support research and development of microbicides to prevent transmission of HIV.

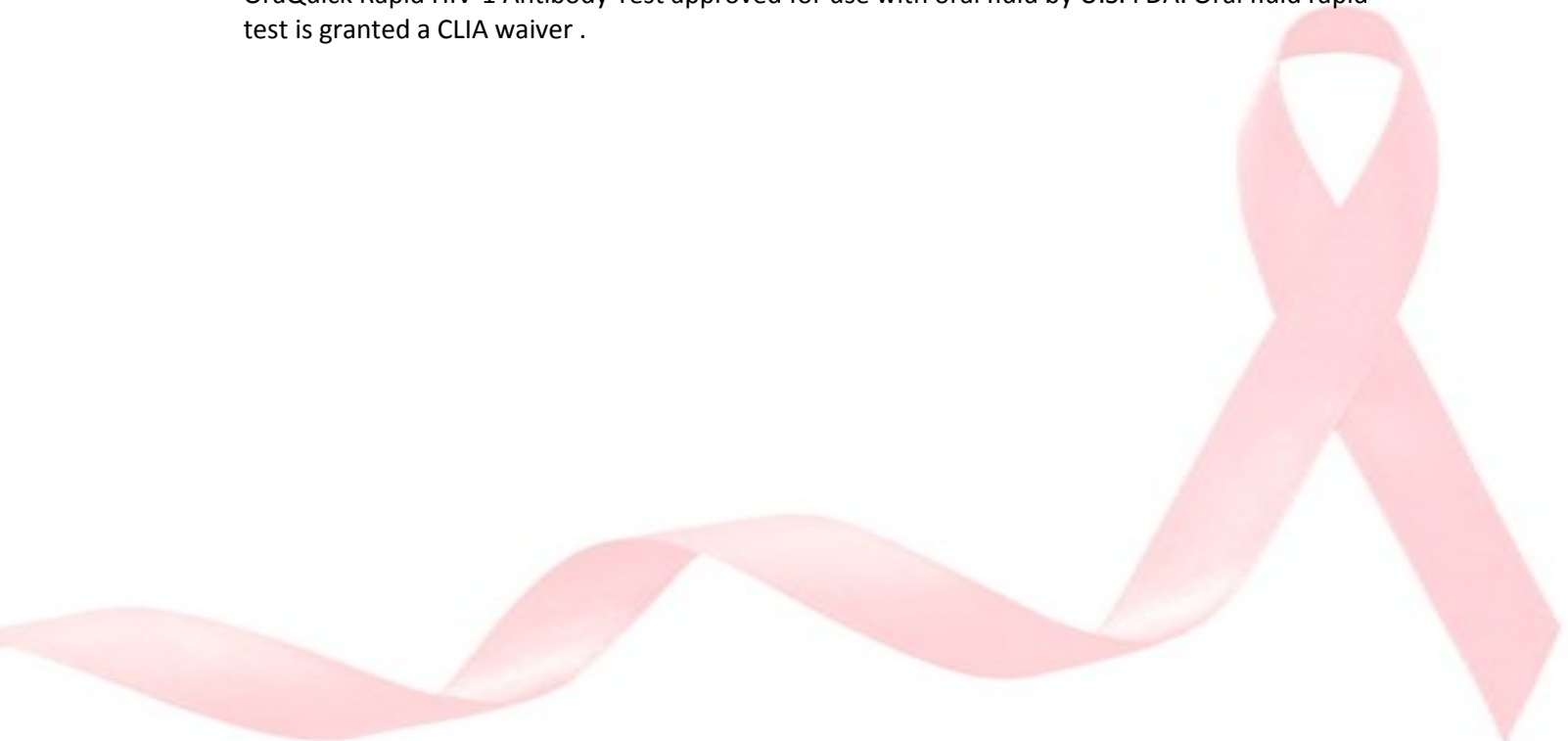
- LIPO-ACTIONS! forms in Quebec.
- Aboriginal Strategy on HIV/AIDS in Canada was developed.
- "3 by 5" Initiative announced by World Health Organization, to bring treatment to 3 million people by 2005.
- The William J. Clinton Presidential Foundation secures price reductions for HIV/AIDS drugs from generic manufacturers, to benefit developing nations.
- First Annual National Latino AIDS Awareness Day in the United States.
- G8 Evian Summit includes special focus on HIV/AIDS, new commitments to the Global Fund announced.
- The South African Government announces new antiretroviral treatment program .
- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) calculate that 27,000 of the estimated 40,000 new infections that occur each year in the U.S. result from transmission by individuals who do not know they are infected.



2004

January 5: "Individual risk of acquiring HIV and experiencing rapid disease progression is not uniform within populations", says Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., director of NIAID.

- As Long as the Water Flows, Manitoba Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy.
- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria holds first ever "Partnership Forum," in Bangkok, Thailand; 400 delegates participate.
- Leaders of the Group of Eight (G8) nations call for creation of "Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise," a consortium of government and private sector groups designed to coordinate and accelerate research efforts to find an effective HIV vaccine.
- UNAIDS launches The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS to raise the visibility of the epidemic's impact on women and girls around the world.
- PEPFAR, President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, begins first round of funding
- Keith Cylar, long time AIDS activist and founder and co-president of Housing Works, Inc. in the United States, dies at age 45.
- OraQuick Rapid HIV-1 Antibody Test approved for use with oral fluid by U.S. FDA. Oral fluid rapid test is granted a CLIA waiver .

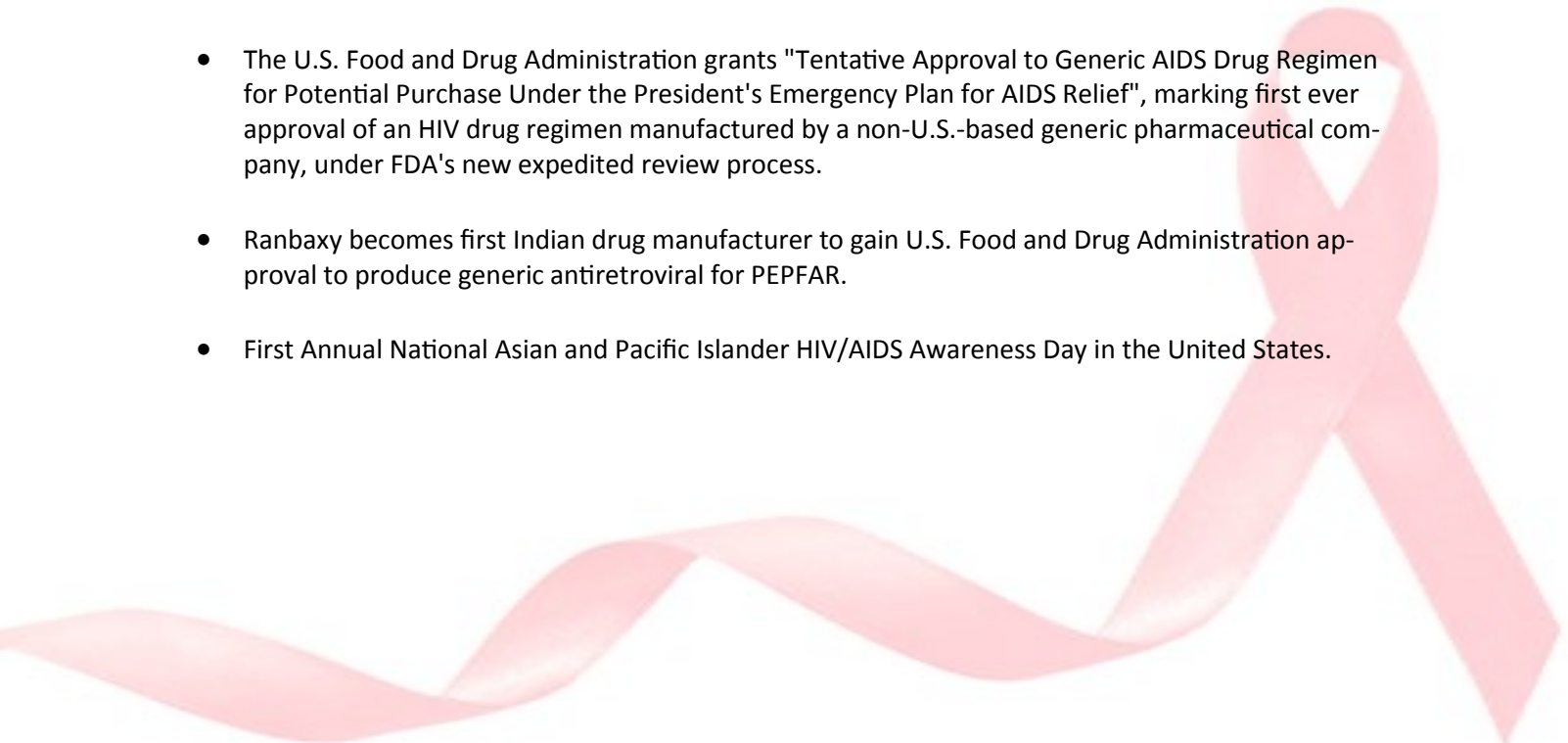


2005

January 21: CDC recommends anti-retroviral post-exposure prophylaxis for people exposed to HIV from rapes, accidents or occasional unsafe sex or drug use. This treatment should start no more than 72 hours after a person has been exposed to the virus, and the drugs should be used by patients for 28 days. This emergency drug treatment has been recommended since 1996 for health-care workers accidentally stuck with a needle, splashed in their eyes with blood, or exposed in some other way on the job.

May 19: Is the first annual National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

- A highly resistant strain of HIV linked to rapid progression to AIDS is identified in New York City.
- United Kingdom hosts G8 Summit at Gleneagles; focus on development in Africa, including HIV/AIDS.
- At historic and unprecedented joint press conference, the World Health Organization, UNAIDS, the United States Government, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria announce results of joint efforts to increase the availability of antiretroviral drugs in developing countries. An estimated 700,000 people had been reached by the end of 2004.
- At World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland, priorities include a focus on addressing HIV/AIDS in Africa and other hard hit regions of the world.
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration grants "Tentative Approval to Generic AIDS Drug Regimen for Potential Purchase Under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief", marking first ever approval of an HIV drug regimen manufactured by a non-U.S.-based generic pharmaceutical company, under FDA's new expedited review process.
- Ranbaxy becomes first Indian drug manufacturer to gain U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval to produce generic antiretroviral for PEPFAR.
- First Annual National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in the United States.



2006

November 9: SIV found in gorillas.

- 15th IAC in Toronto - Time to Deliver.
- First Annual National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in the United States.
- United Nations convenes follow-up meeting and issues progress report on the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.
- U.S. Congress reauthorizes the Ryan White CARE Act for the third time.
- First Eastern European and Central Asian AIDS conference (EECAAC) is held in (Moscow).
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention releases revised HIV testing recommendations for health-care settings, recommending routine HIV screening for all adults, aged 13-64, and yearly screening for those at high risk.
- First Annual National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in the United States.
- Russia hosts G8 Summit for the first time in (St. Petersburg); HIV/AIDS is addressed .



2007

- A San Francisco man, Timothy Ray Brown, co-infected with leukemia and HIV, is cured from HIV due to his bone marrow transplant in Germany. Studies looking at similar cases begin being studied to confirm what is believed to be similar results.
- Ontario introduces Point of Care rapid HIV tests.
- 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations published Ode'ing Ji-giizhwed - Speaking from the Heart, an A.P.H.A. Speakers Manual and 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations published Leading an Extraordinary Life: Wise Practices for an HIV prevention campaign with Two-Spirit men.
- International HIV/AIDS Implementers Meeting held in Kigali, Rwanda and hosted by the Rwandan Government. It draws over 1,500 delegates from around the world to share lessons on HIV prevention, treatment, and care from the field. Co-sponsors include PEPFAR, The Global Fund, UNAIDS, WHO, UNICEF, The World Bank, and GNP+.
- The World Health Organization and UNAIDS issue new guidance recommending "provider-initiated" HIV testing in health-care settings.
- The World Health Organization and UNAIDS recommend that "male circumcision should always be considered as part of a comprehensive HIV prevention package."



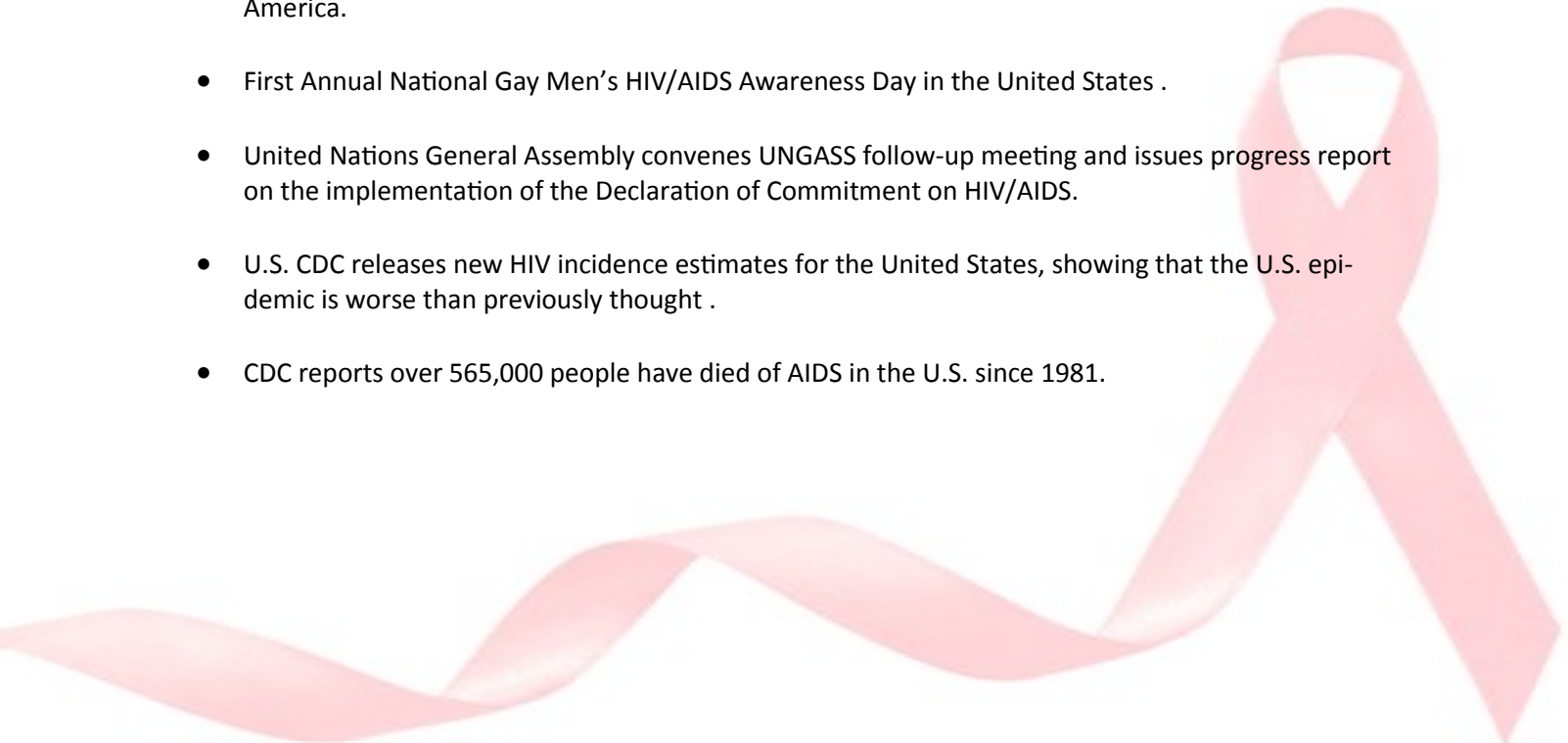
2008

May 30: The World Health Organization (WHO) and UNAIDS (the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS) issue new guidance recommending “provider-initiated” HIV testing in healthcare settings in an attempt to increase the number of people getting tested.

June: the Rwandan Government hosts the International HIV/AIDS Implementers Meeting (PDF) . Over 1,500 delegates share lessons on HIV prevention, treatment, and care. Cosponsors include WHO, UNAIDS, the United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria , the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the World Bank , and GNP+ (the Global Network of People Living with HIV) .

October: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) launch Prevention IS Care (PIC), a social marketing campaign designed for healthcare providers who deliver care to people living with HIV.

- Australia creates discriminatory laws against people with HIV/AIDS. Now it is impossible for infected people to immigrate into Australia. The government denies to change this law.
- *U.S. Congress reauthorizes PEPFAR for an additional 5 years at up to \$48 billion; the legislation ends the statutory HIV travel and immigration ban.*
- 17th International AIDS Conference ("Universal Action Now"), Mexico City; first to be held in Latin America.
- First Annual National Gay Men’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in the United States .
- United Nations General Assembly convenes UNGASS follow-up meeting and issues progress report on the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.
- U.S. CDC releases new HIV incidence estimates for the United States, showing that the U.S. epidemic is worse than previously thought .
- CDC reports over 565,000 people have died of AIDS in the U.S. since 1981.



2009

February: the District of Columbia Health Department's HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, and TB Administration reports that Washington, DC has a higher rate of HIV (3% prevalence) than West Africa— enough to describe it as a “severe and generalized epidemic.”

April 7: the White House and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) launch the Act Against AIDS campaign, a multiyear, multifaceted communication campaign designed to reduce HIV incidence in the United States. CDC also launches the Act Against AIDS Leadership Initiative (AAALI), to harness the collective strength and reach of traditional, longstanding African American institutions to increase HIV-related awareness, knowledge, and action within Black communities across the U.S.

May 5: President Obama launches the Global Health Initiative (GHI), a six-year, U.S. \$63 billion effort to develop a comprehensive approach to addressing global health in low- and middle-income countries. The United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) will serve as a core component.

May 14: James Kreppner, renowned lawyer and AIDS/HIV activist, died at the age of 47 of complications related to HIV and hepatitis C contracted through a blood transfusion. His legacy is one of advocating for access to treatment, ensuring a safe and secure blood supply system, and protecting and promoting human rights.

June 8: The first annual recognition of Caribbean American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day .

October 30: President Obama announces that his administration will officially lift the HIV travel and immigration ban in January 2010 by removing the final regulatory barriers to entry. The lifting of the travel ban occurs in conjunction with the announcement that the International AIDS Conference will return to the United States for the first time in more than 20 years. The conference will be held in Washington, DC in 2012.

November 24: UNAIDS (the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS) reports that there has been a significant decline (-17%) in new HIV infections in the past decade. East Asia, however, has seen a dramatic 25% increase in infections over the same period.

December: President Obama signs the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 modifying the ban on the use of Federal funds for needle exchange programs. When applicable, Federal funds may be used for personnel, equipment, syringe disposal services, educational materials, communication and marketing activities and evaluation activities, and evaluation. Some HHS programs may still contain partial or complete bans on the use of funds for needle exchange programs.

- Newly elected President Barack Obama calls for the development of the first National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States.

2010

January 4: The U.S. Government officially lifts the HIV travel and immigration ban.

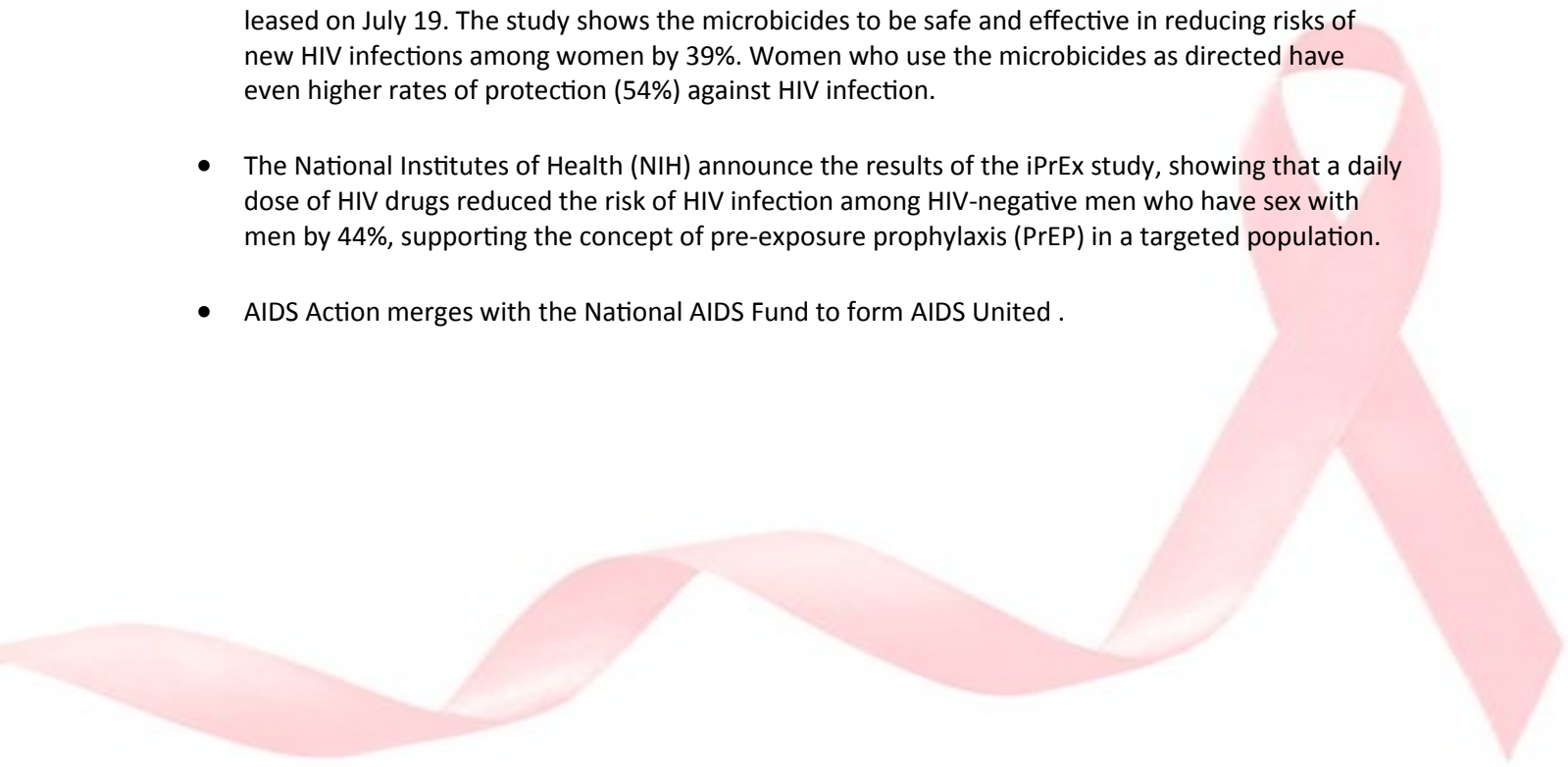
March 23: President Obama signs the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act , which expands access to care and prevention for all Americans—but offers special protections for those living with chronic illnesses, like HIV, that make it difficult for them to access or afford healthcare.

July 13: the Obama Administration releases the first comprehensive National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States.

September 20-22: the United Nations (UN) convenes a summit to accelerate progress toward the 2015 Millennium Development Goals .

September: the World Health Organization (WHO), UNAIDS (the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS) , and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) publish their annual Universal Access report for low- and middle-income countries. The report shows an estimated 5.25 million people were receiving antiretroviral therapy in 2009, and an estimated 1.2 million people started treatment that same year – the largest annual increase yet recorded.

- The 18th International AIDS Conference takes place in Vienna, Austria from July 18-23. The biggest outcomes from the conference include the results of the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa’s (CAPRISA) 004 study of antiretroviral-based vaginal microbicides are released on July 19. The study shows the microbicides to be safe and effective in reducing risks of new HIV infections among women by 39%. Women who use the microbicides as directed have even higher rates of protection (54%) against HIV infection.
- The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announce the results of the iPrEx study, showing that a daily dose of HIV drugs reduced the risk of HIV infection among HIV-negative men who have sex with men by 44%, supporting the concept of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in a targeted population.
- AIDS Action merges with the National AIDS Fund to form AIDS United .



2011

June 8-10: Over 3,000 people participate in the United Nation's (UN) High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS in New York. The session recognizes critical milestones, including three decades of the pandemic and the 10-year anniversary of the 2001 UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS and the resulting Declaration of Commitment. At the Meeting, the U.S. joined with other partners in launching a global plan to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and keep mothers alive.

July 13: marks the one-year anniversary of the White House National HIV/AIDS Strategy.

July 13: a new CDC study (TDF2) and a separate trial (the Partners PrEP study) provide the first evidence that a daily oral dose of antiretroviral drugs used to treat HIV infection can also reduce HIV acquisition among uninfected individuals exposed to the virus through heterosexual sex.

July 17-10: At the International AIDS Society's Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment, and Prevention in Rome scientists announce that two studies have confirmed that individuals taking daily antiretroviral drugs experienced infection rates more than 60 percent lower than those on a placebo.

September 30: The first Road to AIDS 2012 Town Hall meeting kicks off in San Francisco. This is the first of 15 meetings to be held across the country, leading up to the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012), to be held July 22-27, 2012, in Washington, DC.

November 8: Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton shares the U.S. Government's bold new vision of creating an AIDS-free generation, and speaks about the remarkable progress made in 30 years of fighting AIDS.

December 1: (World AIDS Day), at the ONE Campaign and (RED) event in Washington, DC, President Obama announces accelerated efforts to increase the availability of treatment to people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States. New funding will support AIDS Drug Assistance Programs in states and increase access to HIV/AIDS care services. He challenges the global community to deliver funds to The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and calls on Congress to keep its past commitments intact. He calls on all Americans to keep fighting to end the epidemic.

- Confirmation of the first patient cured of HIV, Timothy Ray Brown, as having a negative HIV status, 4 years after treatment
- Public debate begins on whether the longstanding ban on transplants of HIV-infected organs should be dropped.
- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) launches the 12 Cities Project an HHS-wide project that supports and accelerates comprehensive HIV/AIDS planning and cross-agency response in the 12 U.S. jurisdictions that bear the highest AIDS burden in the country.
- AIDS activist and award-winning actress Elizabeth Taylor dies on March 23. One of the first celebrities to advocate on behalf of people living with HIV and AIDS, Taylor was the founding national chairman of amfAR (American Foundation for AIDS Research), a nonprofit organization that supports AIDS research, HIV prevention, treatment education, and advocates for AIDS-related public policy.

2012

- The XIX International AIDS Conference is held in Washington, DC, marking the first time the conference has been held in the United States since 1990.
- U.S. FDA approves OraQuick In-Home Test, the first rapid test using oral fluid that can be bought over-the-counter; results of which are obtained at home.
- U.S. FDA approves the use of Truvada (emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) for reducing the risk of HIV infection in uninfected individuals at high risk, marking the first HIV treatment to be approved for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).
- First HIV vaccine approved for phase 1 of human clinical trials. Dr Yong Kang at Western University in London Ontario and his team use a whole killed virus to attempt to create the world's first effective HIV vaccine.



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