AIDS at 25: Women and the HIV Epidemic

Pernessa Seelie founds The Balm in Gilead, leader of the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS
Former Playboy Playmate Rebekka Armstrong diagnosed with HIV
U.S. HHS Secretary Donna Shalala, fails to lift ban on federal funding for needle exchange programs despite government research that they reduce HIV transmission

Haitian-born social worker Marie St. Cyr becomes first director of New York-based Women and AIDS Resource Network (WARN)

Dr. Matthilde Krim, Dr. Michael Gottlieb and actress Elizabeth Taylor launch American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR)

Singers Bette Midler and Barbra Streisand hold fundraiser for San Francisco AIDS Foundation

Mother Teresa visits AIDS patients in Washington, D.C.

Social worker Caitlin Ryan becomes first executive director of AIDS Atlanta, the oldest AIDS Service Organization (ASO) in Southeast

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Margaret Heckler says an AIDS vaccine will be available in 2 years

Liz Smith is first major newspaper columnist to write about AIDS


First National Women and HIV Conference held in Washington, D.C.
ACT UP protests at the U.S. CDC to expand AIDS definitions to include women-specific diseases
Florida resident Kimberly Bergalis accuses her dentist of infecting her with HIV during a dental procedure

Jeanne White urges U.S. Senate to pass the Ryan White CARE Act named in honor of her late son, signed into law in August

Mary Fisher, a woman living with HIV, addresses Republican National Convention

Elizabeth Glaser criticizes under-funding of AIDS research at Democratic National Convention

In’s Conference on AIDS focuses on women

Gay Men’s Health Crisis (GMHC) launches Lesbian AIDS Project

Miss America Leanza Cornett makes AIDS awareness a priority of her reign

The AIDS Women Alive is founded in Los Angeles

First HIV treatment, AZT, approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at a dose of 3 pills every 4 hours (12 tablets per day)

First HIV treatment, AZT, approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at a dose of 3 pills every 4 hours (12 tablets per day)

First AIDS benefit fundraiser for San Francisco Lesbian AIDS Project

U.S. FDA approves rapid HIV test, which gives results in 20 minutes

U.S. FDA approves use of AZT for preventing mother-to-child HIV transmission after results of ACTG 076 study show perinatal use of drug cuts infection in newborns by 67%

U.S. FDA approves the female condom

UNAIDS reports that women account for 29% of new HIV diagnoses each year

South African AIDS activist Gogo Dlamini is beaten to death after revealing her HIV status

The Global Campaign for Microbicides is founded at the XII Int’l AIDS Conference in Geneva

First annual National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day held

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (The Global Fund) launches

First HIV-positive Regan Hofmann becomes editor-in-chief of POZ magazine

Actress Sharon Stone becomes HIV-positive, 7-months pregnant

Jennifer Lake appears on cover of Newsweek

Manto Tshabalala-Msimang, South Africa’s health minister, advocates garlic to combat HIV rather than antiretrovirals, critics dub her “Dr. No”

Anita Hill, the President’s daughter, announces plans to publish a nonfiction book about a young HIV-positive woman in Central America

First cases in immune deficiency reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC); women are among those diagnosed

UNAIDS reports that women account for nearly half of all people living with HIV worldwide

15 microbicide candidates are in clinical trials

Clinical trials of the microbicide Ushercell are closed after women were found to have higher rates of HIV than those using placebo

Women represent 22% of new AIDS cases among African Americans

Women represent 7% of U.S. AIDS cases

UNAIDS estimates that women are at all levels of society, especially on women

U.S. CDC estimates that 23% of all people living with HIV/AIDS; women account for 29% of new HIV diagnoses each year

The epidemic

First cases in immune deficiency reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC); women are among those diagnosed

TV star Amanda Blake (“Miss Kitty” on “Gunsmoke”), dies of AIDS

Civil rights leader Coretta Scott King launches campaign to bring AIDS Memorial Quilt to black colleges

First National Women and HIV Conference held in Washington, D.C.
ACT UP protests at the U.S. CDC to expand AIDS definitions to include women-specific diseases
Florida resident Kimberly Bergalis accuses her dentist of infecting her with HIV during a dental procedure

Jeanne White urges U.S. Senate to pass the Ryan White CARE Act named in honor of her late son, signed into law in August

Mary Fisher, a woman living with HIV, addresses Republican National Convention

Elizabeth Glaser criticizes under-funding of AIDS research at Democratic National Convention

In’s Conference on AIDS focuses on women

Gay Men’s Health Crisis (GMHC) launches Lesbian AIDS Project

Miss America Leanza Cornett makes AIDS awareness a priority of her reign

The AIDS Women Alive is founded in Los Angeles

First HIV treatment, AZT, approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at a dose of 3 pills every 4 hours (12 tablets per day)

First cases in immune deficiency reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC); women are among those diagnosed

TV star Amanda Blake (“Miss Kitty” on “Gunsmoke”), dies of AIDS

Civil rights leader Coretta Scott King launches campaign to bring AIDS Memorial Quilt to black colleges

First National Women and HIV Conference held in Washington, D.C.
ACT UP protests at the U.S. CDC to expand AIDS definitions to include women-specific diseases
Florida resident Kimberly Bergalis accuses her dentist of infecting her with HIV during a dental procedure

Jeanne White urges U.S. Senate to pass the Ryan White CARE Act named in honor of her late son, signed into law in August

Mary Fisher, a woman living with HIV, addresses Republican National Convention

Elizabeth Glaser criticizes under-funding of AIDS research at Democratic National Convention

In’s Conference on AIDS focuses on women

Gay Men’s Health Crisis (GMHC) launches Lesbian AIDS Project

Miss America Leanza Cornett makes AIDS awareness a priority of her reign

The AIDS Women Alive is founded in Los Angeles

First HIV treatment, AZT, approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at a dose of 3 pills every 4 hours (12 tablets per day)

First cases in immune deficiency reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC); women are among those diagnosed

TV star Amanda Blake (“Miss Kitty” on “Gunsmoke”), dies of AIDS

Civil rights leader Coretta Scott King launches campaign to bring AIDS Memorial Quilt to black colleges

First National Women and HIV Conference held in Washington, D.C.
ACT UP protests at the U.S. CDC to expand AIDS definitions to include women-specific diseases
Florida resident Kimberly Bergalis accuses her dentist of infecting her with HIV during a dental procedure

Jeanne White urges U.S. Senate to pass the Ryan White CARE Act named in honor of her late son, signed into law in August

Mary Fisher, a woman living with HIV, addresses Republican National Convention

Elizabeth Glaser criticizes under-funding of AIDS research at Democratic National Convention

In’s Conference on AIDS focuses on women

Gay Men’s Health Crisis (GMHC) launches Lesbian AIDS Project

Miss America Leanza Cornett makes AIDS awareness a priority of her reign

The AIDS Women Alive is founded in Los Angeles

First HIV treatment, AZT, approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at a dose of 3 pills every 4 hours (12 tablets per day)

First cases in immune deficiency reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC); women are among those diagnosed

TV star Amanda Blake (“Miss Kitty” on “Gunsmoke”), dies of AIDS

Civil rights leader Coretta Scott King launches campaign to bring AIDS Memorial Quilt to black colleges

First National Women and HIV Conference held in Washington, D.C.
ACT UP protests at the U.S. CDC to expand AIDS definitions to include women-specific diseases
Florida resident Kimberly Bergalis accuses her dentist of infecting her with HIV during a dental procedure

Jeanne White urges U.S. Senate to pass the Ryan White CARE Act named in honor of her late son, signed into law in August

Mary Fisher, a woman living with HIV, addresses Republican National Convention

Elizabeth Glaser criticizes under-funding of AIDS research at Democratic National Convention

In’s Conference on AIDS focuses on women

Gay Men’s Health Crisis (GMHC) launches Lesbian AIDS Project

Miss America Leanza Cornett makes AIDS awareness a priority of her reign

The AIDS Women Alive is founded in Los Angeles

First HIV treatment, AZT, approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at a dose of 3 pills every 4 hours (12 tablets per day)