(Publication of the Advisory Council on AIDS, Hong Kong)

#### Vol. 22, No. 8 - August 2015 (issue no. 260) **Editorial Board** AIDS Hotline: 2780 2211 Executive Editor: Mrs Ellen LAU, ACA Secretaria **IN THIS ISSUE WE HAVE** <u>~ Calendar ~</u> ♦ Formulation of Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2017 – 2021 ..... page 29 37th CFA Meeting ♦ API on HIV Antibody Testing and Safer Sex.... page 30 23 September 2015 ♦ The film "Alive" – Story of 5 HIV positive men... page 31 Agenda of 37th CFA Meeting ..... page 32 Formulation of Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2017 – 2021 Since the current 5th ACA Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies will lapse in 2016, it is now time to prepare for the 6th ACA HIV/AIDS Strategies (2017-2021). Similar to last time, the whole Strategy development process will include six components -(a) Review of the 2012-2016 Strategies and the current AIDS response; (b) Reappraisal of the latest HIV/AIDS situation with projection of the future trend; (c) Deriving a local set of monitoring and evaluation indicators; (d) Analysis of the regional and international developments on HIV prevention and control; (e) Community assessment and evaluation (9-13 November 2015); and Public consultation. (f)

The whole exercise will span around 1.5 year from July 2015 to early 2017. The draft document should be finalized by the end of 2016. The Council Secretariat will coordinate the exercise on behalf of ACA. The progress and findings will be monitored by the Council and CFA.



ACA Newsfile Vol 22 Page 29

### Announcement in the Public Interest (API) on HIV Antibody Testing and Safer Sex

In view of the increasing number of HIV infection cases in recent years, the Department of Health launched a new TV Announcement in the Public Interest (API) in May 2015 to promote HIV antibody testing and safer sex.





Preparation started in mid-2014. DH identified young men who have sex with men (MSM) as the main audience after reviewing the local epidemiology. During the planning, multiple focus groups were conducted with more than 30 young MSM and their views on the key messages, style and presentation, casting and other details were collected.

Social networking apps was adopted as the theme of API as its use is very common among young people nowadays. The local HIV situation of "one in every three HIV infected cases is under age 29" and "Around 80% are infected through sexual contact" were explicitly narrated in the API. The two important messages of "To prevent HIV infection, always protect yourself with a condom" and "call the AIDS Hotline / Gay Men HIV Testing Hotline for an HIV test" were clearly spelt out.



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Both Chinese and English versions are now available on YouTube: <u>https://youtu.be/</u> <u>eB1JoM1hAKI</u> (Chi) and <u>https://youtu.be/llbAmV5tciQ</u> (Eng). Radio versions are also available.

### The film "Alive" – a life-enhancing encounter with five HIV positive men

The Red Ribbon Centre (RRC) is proud to present an 80-minute French film, "Alive" during this year's Hong Kong Lesbian and Gay Film Festival (HKLGFF) in September. The film tells the story of five young men going through a week-long parachute course, which turns out to be an opportunity for building friendship and sharing their profound feelings about living with HIV. A series of film sharing sessions and a photo exhibition will also be held during the month at various universities.

The collaboration between the RRC and HKLGFF enters its  $10^{th}$  year in 2015. Since 2006, the RRC has supported HIV-related films and organized activities with HKLGFF to promote HIV prevention within and beyond the MSM community. This year, RRC specifically selected the film "Alive" to be screened in view of the rising number of young people (aged <29) being infected. The film documents the hopes and fears of the five HIV infected young men and their stories of sex and relationship against the background of a parachute course. The film will be screened twice from 12 to 26 September 2015.



Figure 1 Screenshots from "Alive !"

To better engage young people, HKLGFF will hold a series of film sharing sessions and discussion forums with the theme of "Movie / Sex / Culture" in local universities during the period from 15 to 24 September 2015. Two to three short films related to gay love and HIV/ AIDS (last around 90 minutes in total) will be screened at each session, followed by a 30-minute discussion led by an invited speaker and a university tutor. Attendance will be free of charge and on a first-come-first-served basis.

From 18 to 27 September 2015, the HKU Department of Sociology will hold a photo exhibition themed "Queers of Hong Kong" at 7/F, The Jockey Club Tower, HKU Centennial Campus. It aims to promote acceptance of sexual diversities and people living with HIV, and raise awareness on HIV prevention and safer sex among university students. A number of photographs taken by the RRC and HKLGFF will be displayed during the exhibition to promote HIV Bonnie prevention. Please e-mail Ms NG (yuk yin ng@dh.gov.hk) for more details.



Figure 2 Screenshots from "Alive !"

Arrangement for Request of Attendance in CFA by Observers

The following arrangement was agreed during the CFA Meeting held in March 2012 -

- a. Upon the Convener's invitation/ agreement, people who were interested to take part as observer might attend the whole or certain sessions of the meeting and speak up in the meeting at the Convener's discretion;
- b. The CFA Secretariat would announce the agenda on the ACA's website (in the ACA Newsfile) prior to each CFA Meeting. Interested parties could put up their requests to the CFA Secretariat for consideration;
- c. In case of over subscription, the CFA Secretariat would work out the list of participants by adopting a fair procedure deemed appropriate;
- d. Despite of this new administrative arrangement, the meeting would continue to be conducted in Cantonese only; and
- e. At the same time, the CFA Secretariat could invite relevant stakeholders to attend the meeting if deemed appropriate.

**37th CFA Meeting** 

- Date : 23 September 2015 (Wednesday)
- Time : 2:30 pm
- Venue : Conference Room, Red Ribbon Centre 2/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic 200 Junction Road East, Kowloon

#### Two main items on the Agenda

- Preliminary results of HARiS 2015 Men who have sex with men, male-to-female transgender, and sex worker clients
- Formulation of Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong (2017 - 2021) and Community Consultation Meeting

### Invitation

#### Dear All,

If you are interested to take part as observer in the 37th CFA Meeting to be held on 23 September 2015, please complete the application form (available for download from http://www.aca.gov.hk/cfa\_observers\_form.pdf) and send the completed form to the CFA Secretariat by **28 August 2015**. For more details of this arrangement, please refer to the summary shown on the left of this page.

CFA Secretariat

ACA Newsfile Vol 22 Page 32

Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS Secretariat 3/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic, 200 Junction Road East, Kowloon, Hong Kong Tel: (852) 3143 7281; Fax: (852) 2337 0897; E-mail: aca@dh.gov.hk Website: http://www.aca.gov.hk