

## What is World AIDS Day?

World AIDS Day is a global movement, designated on December 1<sup>st</sup>, every year to unite people in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

Since 1988, communities have stood together on World AIDS Day to show strength and solidarity in raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection, helping to end stigma, and remembering those who have died of the disease.



## Why is World AIDS Day important?

Since the start of the epidemic, approximately over 90 million people have been infected with the HIV virus globally and 2s of 2024 over 44 million people have died from HIV-related causes, making it one of the most destructive pandemics in history.

Medical advances, including HIV self testing, means people with HIV can expect a long and healthy life, and that we have the tools to stop HIV transmissions for good. But HIV continues to be highly stigmatised and misunderstood.

World AIDS Day exists to shine a light on the real experiences of people living with HIV today, while celebrating the strength, resilience and diversity of the communities most affected. It is a moment to reflect, inspire and create a future where HIV doesn't stand in the way of anyone's life.

## What can I do on World AIDS Day?

Wear a red ribbon to show support, helping to spread awareness of issues affecting people living with HIV. But you can also support by visiting our website [www.cayrcc.org](http://www.cayrcc.org) and clicking to DONATE. Any donation can make a difference to someone's life by offering practical support such as food assistance and/or shelter.