

HLM Side Event Concept Note

Youth-led and youth-friendly services to end inequalities and to end AIDS



Date: 7/6/21

Time: 11am NY/4pm UK/10pm BKK

Length: ~60mins

Convened by: The PACT, the Adolescent Treatment Coalition, Youth Coalition for SRHR, Youth Stop AIDS, IFMSA, Youth LEAD, Institute of HIV Education and Research, ANAYD, Y+ Global, Youth Rise, Youth Voices Count and supported by the SRHR Youth Ambassador of the Netherlands, UNAIDS and #GenEndIt.

Format: Panel discussion

Registration Link: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0ocOCorTgpE9yFmWjMBPykUd798Kirl6QP>

Introduction

Young people (aged 15–24 years) represent about 17% of the global population but accounted for and estimated 28% of new HIV infections in 2019.

Despite young people are disproportionately affected by HIV, their needs have not yet been met by governments and the power of youth-led responses has yet been fully funded and supported to achieve its full potential.

The HLM is an important moment in the HIV response for young people. It is an opportunity for countries to commit on tackling the critical challenges young people face to access live-saving support and services required to end aids and uphold their rights, health and well-being.

Uneven progress in delivering good quality comprehensive sexuality education, parental consent barriers to access services, unequal access to secondary education and employment, stigma and discrimination, limited comprehensiveness and integration of HIV and other health services are some of the non-negotiable demands of the HIV youth movement for the HLM 2021. See the youth position paper here (link to the statement and signatory organizations).

On the side lines of the HLM, youth-led organizations from around the globe, supported by the Dutch SRHR Youth Ambassador and #GenEndIT, have joined their voices to demand urgent attention from the Un members states to the prevailing need to upscale youth-led responses and recognize young people as equal partners in the HIV response.

Objective

Make the case and advocate for fully funded youth-led responses and the recognition of the critical role of youth communities to end the AIDS epidemic in the context of the UNGA High-Level Meeting on HIV / AIDS 2021.

Topics to be discussed

- Youth & young key population-led services
- Lessons learned on the impact of COVID-19 on service access for young people

- How youth-led services can bridge current gaps, reduce inequalities and support hardly reached populations
- Importance of funding youth-led initiatives

Moderators: Lisa de Pagter, Youth Ambassador for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Gender Equality, and Bodily Autonomy of the Netherlands; and Georgia Arnold, MTV Staying Alive Foundation's Executive Director and Founder.

Panellists:

1. Rosa Mahlasera - Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
2. Fauzia Saya, Kenya - Bar Hostess Empowerment and Support, Kenya
3. Maria Lookina - Youth RISE
4. Hajjati Abdul Jamal Uthman - Rainbow Mirrors Uganda.
5. Fletcher Chiu – Youth LEAD

Proposed Agenda:

Time (EST)	Agenda	Speaker
11:00 – 11:05 am	Welcome and introduction to the event	Georgia Arnold
11:05 – 11:10 am	Introduction of panelist and logistic details	Lisa de Pagter
11:10 – 11:45 am	Panel discussion on youth-led and youth-friendly services to end inequalities and to end AIDS	Fletcher Chiu Rosa Mahlasera Fauzia Saya Maria Lookina Hajjati Abdul Jamal Uthman
11:45 – 11:55 am	Q&A and interaction with the audience	Speakers and public
11:55 – 11:57 am	Reflection on key points raised in discussion and overlaps/intersections, potentially start more discussion if running under time	Georgia Arnold
11:57 – 12:00 md	Call to action based on contents of discussion and closing remarks	Lisa de Pagter