

John M. Lloyd Foundation

11777 San Vicente Boulevard, Suite 745 • Los Angeles, CA 90049 • Tel: 310/ 622-1050
Fax: 310/ 622-1070 • E-mail: info@johnmlloyd.org • www.johnmlloyd.org

March 9, 2010

Contact:

Melanie Havelin +1 212.280.3801 / mhavelin@johnmlloyd.org

South African AIDS Activists Receive Lloyd Foundation Leadership Award

The John M. Lloyd AIDS Leadership Award Recognize Visionary Activists

LOS ANGELES, MARCH 1, 2010 – The John M. Lloyd Foundation announced today that South African AIDS advocates Vuyiseka Dubula and Nonkosi Khumalo of Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) and AIDS Law Project respectively, have been selected as the co-recipients of the annual John M. Lloyd AIDS Leadership Award.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the most AIDS-impacted region of the world, and South Africa has the highest incidence of HIV infections in the world. Approximately 22.4 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are infected, roughly two thirds of the world total. Last year, over one million Africans died from AIDS, many of them South Africans. The tightly linked work of Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) and AIDS Law Project (ALP) is critical to ending the pandemic.

Under their leadership as General Secretary and Chairperson of TAC respectively, Dubula and Khumalo ensure that TAC continues to organize, educate and develop leadership of fellow South Africans to demand affordable and accessibility AIDS treatment, care and prevention. TAC's model of advocacy, including the intensive HIV education which its organizers receive is the gold standard for AIDS advocacy worldwide.

But TAC certainly doesn't work in isolation, it is through the brilliant teaming of TAC's grassroots advocacy and AIDS Law Project's well-targeted litigation that has turned the tide in South Africa from being a country with a government which cruelly allowed its people to suffer without treatment for so many years, to one which was forced by the courts to begin offering ARV treatment. And ALP also profits enormously from the extraordinary leadership skills of Vuyiseka and Nonkosi, with their board and staff roles reversed from their TAC positions.

The scope of their work, however, goes well beyond their roles on the boards and staffs of TAC and AIDS Law Project. In addition to being a mom, Dubula is the person living with HIV/AIDS representative on the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC), and in the last few years while heading the TAC secretariat, Dubula astoundingly managed to find the time to complete her Bachelor's degree program in Social Health & Science from the University of South Africa. And her international presence and impact has continued to grow with presentations before UNESCO, UNGASS and the International AIDS Conference.

Khumalo is also a single mom and super busy over-achiever. She has been involved with TAC for the past ten years, starting as its Women's Health Programmes Coordinator, moving on to be TAC's spokesperson, and now its board chair. She has been a lecturer at the University of Witwatersand's Law School course "HIV & the Law," lecturing on the basic science as well as

advocacy around AIDS. And last year she served as co-convenor of the Human Rights and Access to Justice Technical Task Team for the South African national AIDS Council (SANAC).

As Dubula said in her closing address before the International AIDS Society's conference in Cape Town last year, "The challenge is to move from rhetoric to action, and action at an unprecedented intensity and scale." These two women certainly know how to move from rhetoric to action.

The John M. Lloyd Foundation applauds their extraordinary vision and leadership in fighting to end the AIDS pandemic.

Renowned AIDS Activists and Leaders Commend Khumalo and Dubula

Leading AIDS experts applauded the selection of Dubula and Khumalo for the third annual John M. Lloyd AIDS Leadership Award.

Gregg Gonsalves, formerly of the AIDS and Rights Alliance of Southern Africa (ARASA) as well as Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) noted, "Vuyiseka Dubula and Nonkosi Khumalo are brilliant and passionate advocates. Nelson Mandela and his peers freed a country from apartheid. Vuyiseka and Nonkosi are the leaders of a new generation who will one day free South Africa from the scourge of HIV/AIDS--they are the rightful heirs to a great and powerful national tradition of social justice. Their quiet determination, perseverance in face of adversity, and their personal sacrifice have been nothing short of heroic." Gonsalves was the first recipient of the John M. Lloyd AIDS Leadership Award in 2008.

Sharon Gelman, Executive Director of Artists for a New South Africa (ANSA), declared, "Vuyiseka Dubula and Nonkosi Khumalo are brilliant, grassroots leaders in the fight against HIV/AIDS, who understand how to harness the power of civil society to create social change. They are outstanding examples of a new generation of African women activists combating a pandemic which affects them disproportionately."

Robin Gorna, Executive Director of the International AIDS Society (IAS), said, "Vuyiseka Dubula and Nonkosi Khumalo are two of the most remarkable women I have ever had the honour to know, and to work alongside. They are powerful, strong, creative and joyful leaders who bring their passion for life and social change to all they do. They have mobilised the membership of TAC to aspire to ever greater impact and success; they inspire their colleagues and collaborators to do more than we ever thought we could; and they challenge the government to make the real changes to AIDS policy and practice that are too long overdue. They are the face of all that is great in South Africa: brilliant, inspiring, dynamic strong women."

Zackie Achmat, founder of the Treatment Action Campaign, proudly stated, "They are among the most important, courageous, powerful and compassionate young leaders in our country. As leaders, both have faced the powerful obstacles of HIV denialism, building a movement, personal health struggles, sexism and they chose to be mothers. They led Treatment Action Campaign through a time of restructuring with fairness, openness, humility and resolution."

The John M. Lloyd AIDS Leadership Award was established to recognize, support and empower effective leaders in AIDS advocacy who have not yet been extensively recognized. There is no application process for the award – the selection is made by the board of the John M. Lloyd

Foundation. The award will be split among Dubula, Khumalo, Treatment Action Campaign and AIDS Law Project as an unrestricted gift to help build leadership capacity.

###

The John M. Lloyd Foundation was established in 1991 by John Musser Lloyd (1948-1991) to seek creative, compassionate, and courageous solutions to the root causes of the AIDS epidemic. The objectives of the foundation's grant awards are to:

- Increase funding from public and private sectors to address the HIV/AIDS pandemic, in the U.S. and globally
- Improve U.S. and international AIDS policies
- Amplify global awareness of HIV/AIDS and facilitate broad-based changes in attitudes, to reduce stigma and change behavior
- Develop the leadership of organizations fighting HIV/AIDS, and foster collaborations among those organizations and leaders.

The Lloyd Foundation received top ranking for its support of marginalized communities in a survey last year that analyzed more than 800 foundations which was conducted by the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy for its report, *Criteria for Philanthropy at Its Best: Benchmarks to Assess and Enhance Grantmaker Impact*.

For more information, see www.johnmlloyd.org.