The Mission of afxb is to support the world's orphans and vulnerable children in the wake of the AIDS pandemic by advocating for their needs and by providing direct support to families and communities that care for them.

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The Association is named after François-Xavier Bagnoud, a young helicopter pilot committed to rescuing people, who died at the age of 24 during a mission in Mali, West Africa.

In 1989, his mother, the Countess Albina du Boisrouvray, joined by her son’s family and friends, established and financed the activities of the Association François-Xavier Bagnoud (AFXB) with the aim to perpetuate the compassion and generosity that guided François’ life.

With a budget of nearly US$ 5 million in 2001/2002, AFXB reached more than 700,000 persons worldwide with diverse programs in HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment, home palliative care, education support and training, as well as in other areas.

AFXB is a Swiss-based international non-governmental organization with a Special Consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
Fourteen years ago, the death of my son, a helicopter rescue pilot named François-Xavier Bagnoud, turned my own life into a rescue mission of sorts.

Inspired by his love for people and his commitment to action, I established the Association François-Xavier Bagnoud (AFXB) in 1989. We work towards combating the HIV/AIDS pandemic and eradicating poverty, championing global recognition of the inextricable link between health and human rights.

Always in the forefront of our work has been the need to provide a secure future for the many children affected by the HIV/AIDS crisis. By the end of this decade we can expect to see as many as 100 million children left orphaned by the pandemic.

These children need to be looked after by loving families in caring communities. They will need health care, education, nutrition, and to be taught about HIV/AIDS so that they may be protected from the same virus that has taken their parents. Those who will be lost to the pandemic themselves must be allowed to die with dignity, surrounded by love. These are not just the needs of these children, but their basic human right. All loving parents would wish this as a bare minimum for their own children, so we must wish for all the orphans of the pandemic. To quote U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, “What adult can look into the eyes of a despairing child and not feel compassion?”

Africa has already seen widespread orpharing on an unprecedented scale, because of the scourge of HIV/AIDS. Amidst the despair there have been many rays of hope, as NGOs and communities have rallied in response. The children themselves have shown great resilience, as demonstrated by 12-year-old Nkosel Johnson of South Africa, who became a voice for the children of the pandemic worldwide. Sadly, Nkosel passed away, but his spirit remains with us. However, even in Africa, the orphan crisis has not received the support and resources from the higher levels that are so desperately needed. Governments, policy makers and the global community must realize that a whole generation may be lost if we do not act immediately.

The epidemic continues to spread – not only in Africa, but in China, Russia and in India, where, statistically, AIDS threatens to outstrip all the other regions of the world, creating millions of victims.

If we fail these children, then we fail ourselves. To support these children is the greatest investment that humanity can make. Small scale programs can make a difference, but they need to be replicated and scaled up to deal with such a massive crisis. To ensure that resources are in place to do this is not just an act of compassion, but our duty as a global civil society.

Albina du Boisrouvray

Mission and Objectives

Albina du Boisrouvray founded the Association François-Xavier Bagnoud in 1989 to identify and apply practical solutions to the social, economic and health problems caused by the AIDS pandemic. She concentrated on the health sector, children, education, sexual exploitation, income generation, and the application of human rights in all those areas. Fundamental to the mission of AFXB, is the aim to provide a voice for the rights of orphans and vulnerable children in the wake of the HIV/AIDS pandemic by advocating for their needs and by providing direct support to families and communities that care for them.

Albina and her team identified knowledgeable professionals to lead the initiatives in which AFXB would engage. They identified the locations where AFXB could make the most impact and also set the rationale and guidelines for implementation of the program. The programs are managed by indigenous staff who work with local communities to develop local solutions.

Since 1989, AFXB has adapted and refined its approaches to meet the constantly changing reality. Today, AFXB concentrates on local programs characterized by cost-effectiveness and efficiency.

By providing financial and in-kind support as a starting point, AFXB has, over several years of work, assisted many people to begin to climb out of the poverty trap exacerbated by HIV/AIDS. This is done through programs that allow community participation and decision-making within the program framework, empowering the community rather than simply providing aid.

AFXB programs use a holistic approach, intervening to counter the spread of HIV/AIDS, and supporting the care-givers and the communities in which the children live.

In some cases one-off grants are provided to individuals, lifting them out of poverty, and enabling them to become stronger community actors, with increased capacity to eventually benefit from micro-credit.

The objective is to bring individuals to the level of micro-entrepreneurs within a sustainable development framework.

AFXB has always worked on the basis that there is an intrinsic link between health and human rights. In addition to their poor and critical economic condition, these caregivers and children have to fight the social stigma and discrimination that HIV/AIDS brings to their life.

This linkage is not linear, but cyclical. If one factor - health or human rights - is diminished, then this will serve to diminish the other.

AFXB programs set out to reverse the vicious cycle of poverty and abuse by supporting both health and human rights within its initiatives.
AIDS Orphans and Vulnerable Children

You cannot talk about AIDS without being alarmed by one of its dramatic consequences -

Orphans and vulnerable children: by 2010 they will number 100 MILLION at least

They are abandoned children, some infected from birth, some in good health, with no-one to look after them because their families have been destroyed by this pandemic. Stigmatised, rejected, exploited, discriminated against: they have nothing and they become social outcasts, living on the fringes of society, with no safety net, deprived of the vital love of a family.

Cohorts of orphans also represent a major problem where social stability is concerned. Very often they will become the child-soldier and the delinquent of tomorrow, swelling the ranks of those who live on the streets, consigned to the scrap heap of prostitution, drugs and despair.

The epidemic continues to spread – not only in Africa, but in China, Russia and in India, where, statistically, AIDS threatens to outstrip all the other regions of the world, with millions of victims.

There can be no question that the concrete initiatives taken in the past 14 years by AFXB are an illustration of what good results can be achieved when adventures are made to reintegrate these children into their society and when support is provided to the communities that care for them.

It is possible to combat this scourge effectively, but with one proviso – the counterattack MUST be backed up by widespread goodwill on the political front.

AFXB provides a voice for the rights of orphans and vulnerable children in the wake of the AIDS pandemic.

AFXB alerts others - society at large, the economic world, the media and the decision-makers - and exhorts governments to act before the worst happens by applying, as a matter of priority and urgency, the following measures:

- To honor all the promises made by governments at the time of the "Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS" during the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in June 2001, and for governments to implement the articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and
- To set up – in particular with resources from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria – programmes that are modest in scale, but appropriate to what is needed, which will allow foster families and communities to raise these orphans, to integrate them into society and to give them, through education and training, the means to become fulfilled adults and productive citizens.

AFXB Programs for AIDS Orphans and Vulnerable Children

The HIV/AIDS pandemic has a far greater impact beyond the many millions infected by the HIV virus. Entire communities have been devastated, their structures undermined, with individuals and families alike left in disarray. Countless millions of children are being orphaned, with many others living with parents whose capability to care for their children diminishes as AIDS takes over the family. Support for orphans and other children made vulnerable to HIV/AIDS is a core function of AFXB. Our support programs work with the approach that to care for children affected by HIV/AIDS we also have to support the adults in the community, the care-givers who will bring up the children in a loving environment and in their home communities.

Uganda Community Orphan Support

In Uganda, AFXB conducts a program in favour of children orphaned by war and AIDS in the district of Luweero. It offers foster families the assistance in developing income-generating activities (IGAs). AFXB has been present in Uganda since 1990.

FXB has set up village orphan committees (VOCs) made up of local community members. VOCs help to identify those families who are in need of support and assist the orphans and families with income generating activities, so that the families will have the means to look after the children.

This approach involves and enables the local community in providing care and support to their orphans. Throughout Africa, tradition dictates that vulnerable children should always be provided for, but the HIV/AIDS pandemic has undermined many communities’ capacity to do this.

In 2001/2002, 200 families, in addition to 1,700 already provided with IGAs, have been enabled to support the children in their care with the help of IGAs provided by AFXB.

By giving support to schools that accept them, providing classroom furniture and equipment and/or financing the repair of school buildings, a total of 3,500 pupils were supported to attend primary school classes in 52 schools. Of these, 200 took their primary leaving examinations for entry to secondary grade this year.

AFXB initiated a program to reinforce the capacity of locally based associations that support people living with HIV/AIDS. The intention is that this will lead to the provision of IGAs. The Ivory Coast presents difficulties for program implementation, as it remains in the throes of civil war. However, this increases the importance of HIV/AIDS support programs there, as war and civil conflict inevitably fuel the pandemic further.

Ivory Coast HIV/AIDS Support Program

Income-Generating Activities (IGAs) are the major means by which AFXB provides support to communities and foster families.

These IGAs are small-scale economic activities that generate income sufficient to meet the basic needs of these families and the children in their care. These activities are defined according to the desires, environment, capacities and state of health of the beneficiaries. In rural areas, they include the provision of cows, hens, pigs, bees, farming equipment, and the cultivation of coffee, tea, vegetables, fruit, etc. In the cities, they support small businesses selling vegetables, fruit, meat, candy, drinks, textiles and sewing, etc.

AFXB provides the initial support to start the IGA - an average of US$ 125 - and ensures regular follow-up.
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South Africa
Adapting Community Support Further

AFXB has worked in South Africa since 2000, where it supports several hundred AIDS orphans and their foster families. They live in the most abject poverty in the townships of Alexandra, Soweto (Johannesburg) and the district of Wittbank.

AFXB has found that by providing IGA at the individual level, and subsequently bringing IGA participants into orphan committees, that our beneficiaries begin to mobilize and work together. Many of the IGA beneficiaries have a small yard around their homes, suitable for planting vegetables. AFXB has provided them with seeds, enabling them to either sell the vegetables to increase income, or consume the vegetables within the household to improve nutrition for the family. Most of the IGA involve selling items such as vegetables, fruit, cold drinks, candies and other household necessities. Other recipients may be given access to sewing machines to make articles such as bed covers and cushions to sell. Another popular IGA is the selling of second hand clothing.

Emerging from this, several groups have joined together to form small, informal co-operatives to market their produce. The IGA beneficiaries have been divided into groups who meet regularly, and the aim is not only to empower these people, but to teach them life skills and business skills as well.

Two hundred and eighty families have been provided with income generating activities since the IGA program was implemented.

An important aspect of the AFXB’s program, in addition to its support for schooling and nutrition, is the after-school project. There the children can obtain information on the prevention of HIV/AIDS and violence, as well as the promotion of self-respect and respect for others and the Rights of the Child, so that with time the mentality and behavior of the families can be changed through the children.

Genocide has left many children orphaned and displaced; the conflict has also facilitated the epidemic spread of HIV, while drastically reducing the coping capacity of the community. Concerned with the fate of the orphans of Giterama, AFXB established a program in 1995 to place them in the care of foster families and helped people to reconstruct their houses destroyed during the war. Some 528 houses were rebuilt, providing shelter for more of 2,600 people. Following this first phase, AFXB launched a program to support the most vulnerable families: 1,505 families received an IGA. After two years of this second phase, the population was in a position to take care of its own basic needs.

In 2002, in a similar program in the community of Nyamabuye, AFXB provided IGAs for 1,000 families and has supported the schooling of 1,500 children. Some 50 houses were built for homeless families. At Mukiingi, AFXB assured the financing of a vocational training center for 177 adolescents orphaned by AIDS or the war.

The AFXB Programs in Rwanda develop the concept of community-based care, originally established in the rural African setting, for an urban community. Although urban areas may not have the same binding sense of community commonly found in rural Africa, this project demonstrates that a community-focused intervention can develop the sense of community, even in the most difficult of circumstances.

In the capital of Kigali, this program supports HIV positive mothers and families caring for children living with HIV/AIDS. The project reaches 240 families with some 1,200 children in their care. Six hundred and fifty of these children are attending primary school, 201 at secondary school and 10 in apprenticeships. The AFXB program is broken down into modules that provide IGAs for 90 families headed by widows/widowers, guardians or orphaned adolescents. This provides for a total of 480 people in each module, including 300 children under 15 years of age, receiving basic medical care.

Rwanda
Building Community Support in the wake of war and AIDS

TheFrançois-Xavier Bagnoud Houses

Started in 1989, these Houses offer tender loving care to children who are orphaned, HIV-infected or suffering from AIDS, believing that they will have a better and a longer life if they are taken into a caring family environment. AFXB has put this concept into practice in Colombia, Brazil, Thailand and the USA.

AFXB Houses offer much more than medical care. The majority of the babies, children and adolescents are orphans or have been abandoned, and cannot count on receiving support and love from their parents.

The care-givers possess all the medical and human skills necessary to provide for the children’s well-being.

Although the social security system (SSS) in the Atlantic region of Colombia includes more of the population than in past years, coverage for preventive programs is still low. Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS is made earlier these days, but the SSS does not provide all the medications and the required medical and laboratory controls. Both sexual and vertical transmission of HIV continue to be the two most important ways by which the epidemic is growing. AFXB has been present in Colombia since 1995.

Colombia
FXB House in Barranquilla

The children of the AFXB house in Barranquilla are either:

- In-house or resident children: five children live in the House because they were abandoned or they have no family willing to take care of them. Depending on their ages, the children are offered a choice either to go to a school nearby or to participate in day care activities of the house with the educator. The choice depends mainly on the age and physical condition of the children, or

- Non-resident children: 50 children live with their parents, if possible, or other relatives (usually grandmother or aunt). They come on a daily basis and benefit from the day care activities and services of the house. Depending on their ages and physical condition, these children also are able to go to a school nearby or participate in the day care activities of the house with the educator.

The House functions also as a day-care center and provides the following services to the children and their relatives:

- Nutritional evaluation and support
- Social counseling
- Educational and recreational activities
- Psychological evaluation and intervention
- Specialized medical diagnosis and treatment
- HIV/AIDS prevention programs
- MTCT pilot program
- A low cost antiretroviral pharmacy.
- Training programs on care, treatment and support of children living with HIV/AIDS (Biohazard guidelines, hygiene, and adherence). Advice and guidelines on disease prevention, with an emphasis on infectious diseases.
Brazil
AFXB House in Sao Paulo

Brazil has the highest number of HIV/AIDS infections in Latin America. And the greatest number of people most adversely affected by the epidemic are those below the poverty line. In the slum areas of the city of Sao Paulo, whole families are infected by the virus with the result that the children, especially, suffer from lack of food, medication and basic sanitation. Many are orphaned at an early age. AFXB has been present in Brazil since 1994.

AFXB’s mission is to provide food, shelter, medical care and education in a tender loving care environment to children who otherwise have no families or means of support available to care for them. The first AFXB House became the home of more than 20 children who were eventually reunited with their families or adopted. Currently, the AFXB House is home to five children. The house functions also as a day-care center and provides comprehensive support to 14 children infected/affected by the virus, along with their families. In addition, AFXB is also extending its work to the slum areas in the city, with the intent of creating a support system to deal with HIV/AIDS-related issues and preventing the children from becoming abandoned. This support allows these children and their families to continue to live together in a healthy environment.

The AFXB Brazil provides:
- Balanced, nutritious meals
- Activities for education and leisure
- Social reintegration
- Food and clothes
- Monitoring and follow-up treatment
- Advocacy of the rights of orphans, other vulnerable children and people living with HIV/AIDS
- Training of health care workers, and
- Workshops for the community for the prevention and treatment of AIDS.

The American capital holds the unenviable record of having the highest rate of AIDS infection of any US city. In 1990, AFXB established the first AFXB House - now entirely run by an organization named "Terriac", and in which five seriously ill children presently live. The House operates on the premise that children with life-threatening illnesses like HIV/AIDS can enjoy longer, more pleasant lives if they live in an atmosphere of tender loving care rather than in a hospital.

Thailand
AIDS Orphans Program in Chiang Rai

Chiang Rai is among Thailand’s northern provinces that have been most severely affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic since the early 1990s. The number of abandoned babies left in hospitals by their HIV infected mothers has been on the rise, reflecting the challenge of HIV/AIDS and its effects on vulnerable children. The purpose of the AFXB Care and Support programs for AIDS orphans and children living with HIV/AIDS is to reduce the negative impact of HIV among children, their care-giver families and the community in general.

In collaboration with local communities, AFXB Thailand has focused its efforts to assist some 25 vulnerable orphans in the north from the year 2000 onwards. The young beneficiaries of AFXB’s assistance, in Chiang Rai, are mostly from remote villages in Mae Chan and Mae Sai districts. In some cases these AIDS orphans come from the minority hill tribes which inhabit the northern border regions of Thailand. The main aim of AFXB in Chiang Rai is to provide assistance to enable local AIDS orphans to live within their respective communities as part of our commitment to human rights in general and children’s right to health and home in particular.

The program aims to:
- Enable 25 AIDS orphans to attend primary schools in their own communities
- Provide psychological support for AIDS orphans and their caregiver families
- Provide health care and AIDS prevention programs for AIDS orphans and children living with HIV/AIDS
- Create opportunities for skill learning and training for older orphans
- Promote basic children’s rights in the communities in order to protect them against abandonment, discrimination and abuse
- Strengthen the safety net of extended families for children living with HIV/AIDS orphans, and
- Promote joint community efforts to care for local AIDS orphans.

From 1991 to 2000, AFXB established and supported four AFXB Houses in Chiang Rai which can accommodate 30 AIDS orphans and vulnerable children. This program has been taken over entirely by a local organization.

USA
FXB House in Washington, D.C.

In Uruguay adolescents and budding adults have participated in AFXB courses on sexual education and HIV/AIDS prevention. With the help of prominent specialists and artists these young people have created several comic books such as Aventuras junto a Supercondón that serve as a basic tool to help them promote their rights to health and sex education. The AFXB educators have described this experience in a book entitled La Educación entre Angéles which has been widely distributed in Uruguay and other countries in Latin America and is being translated into Portuguese for use in Brazil.

Mongolia
Voluntary Counselling and Testing for HIV/AIDS

In India, AIDs threatens to outpace all other regions in the world. Hence, AFXB is striving to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and is active in all 35 states/union territories. We are committed to helping to control the spread of HIV through awareness and counseling while also facilitating a comprehensive strategy that focuses on care and support. Children and other groups that are especially vulnerable are given priority in our programs.

The official goals of AFXB India are as follows:

- To assist the country in controlling HIV/AIDS through prevention
- To reduce the impact of AIDS on society through awareness
- To establish the technical facilities for low-cost HIV/AIDS testing and counseling
- To develop community awareness, particularly among high-risk groups and rural areas, through video and films, drama productions in local languages, school interventions, and by working with other local institutions
- To develop health education materials for communities across India
- To support the blood safety program of governmental and non-governmental organizations
- To provide home-based care to children and adults suffering from HIV/AIDS
- To train counselors, paramedical staff, social workers and doctors belonging to the Indian system of medicine and homoeopathy in HIV/AIDS issues
- To conduct research and pilot studies on the orphan situation and to ensure the proper integration of orphans into their communities, and
- To improve the general status of the health infrastructure in rural areas.
**Migrant Workers**

**Prevention**

This intervention is a joint venture between two projects: one based in rural Rajasthan, the home of many migrant workers; the other in Mumbai, the city to which most of these men migrate. The two projects combined provide a unique and innovative joint intervention that targets migrant worker communities at both locations where the impacts of labor migration associated HIV risk take effect – the source of migrant workers’ potential infection, and the villages where their families reside. The rationale for the project strategy is that the men who are away from their families for most of the year provide the real key to behavior change and reduced risk to HIV/AIDS.

This project is building social awareness about sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS among migrant communities and developing consciousness of the need to adopt safe sex practices and avoid multiple sexual partners. Furthermore, this project also generates awareness for voluntary HIV testing and develops a cadre of peer educators at project villages. The project works with the migrant population of 180 villages in the Pali, Sirohi and Jalore districts of Rajasthan.

At the end of three years, AFXB will have trained 1,080 counselors in 180 villages. These trainees will then be expected to train 10 peers individually. The project also includes health camps and awareness raising activities for HIV/AIDS and other STIs. It provides a basis for referring "at risk" people for voluntary counseling and testing at the AFXB Center for Infectious Diseases.

In addition, Mahila Mandal (women’s self-help groups) have been set up as part of an empowering process for the wives of migrant workers. The Mahila Mandal also enable women to start income generating projects to provide a source of income to them and their families in the event of widowhood and orphaning.

The AFXB comprehensive care and support program is located in Jodhpur and Surnerpur, Rajasthan and emphasizes a comprehensive approach to HIV/AIDS. The therapy unit provides social, nutritional, psychological, and some medical assistance and support, providing the patient with a full range of care even in settings that are rural and have limited resources.

The treatment program is complemented by prevention campaigns and covers the populations of the Jodhpur, Barmer, Jaisalmer, Pali, Nagaur and Jalore districts of Rajasthan. The care and support intervention of AFXB is a pilot program for 300 patients over three years. This project provides a free, comprehensive care strategy that includes treatment of opportunistic infections, as well as counseling and back-up care by well-trained social workers, nutritionists, doctors, and other public health specialists.

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**Brazil**

**Community Activism**

- "Project Living Children" for 230 children and adolescents living with HIV/AIDS with discussions about sexuality and HIV infection
- Social integration of children with HIV/AIDS into the community through parties and activities for 370 children and adolescents
- Workshops for 42 individuals recently diagnosed with HIV
- Three day workshops for 28 community leaders about sustaining HIV prevention projects
- Two day workshops for health professionals about the humanization of treatment in public services in which 28 professionals took part
- A Workshop: "Access to treatment for people with HIV/AIDS in Latin America" for 82 people
- Workshops for safe sex for people with HIV/AIDS with 46 participants
- Project "Integration of the Family," to strengthen and support families with children living with HIV/AIDS
- Lectures for 45 medical students in the pediatric area with the theme "children with HIV and their social exclusion"
- Condom distribution: 4,800 distributed
- Interactive poster "Rights for Children and Adolescents Living with HIV/AIDS. 1,150 posters distributed, and Project— "Children in the Park" - for 2,000 children from two to six years old living in the community, creating an area for leisure during the mornings, with educational games and distribution of meals.

The Mother to Child Transmission Program (MTCT) works with HIV positive pregnant women to prevent newborns from becoming infected. Despite the logistical barriers encountered during the implementation of this program, such as economic constraints of the public and private partners (hospitals, antenatal clinics, etc.) and the lack of commitment and political will of public health officials, AFXB persists in encouraging counseling and testing services for pregnant women for the purpose of reducing the rate of transmission of HIV from mother to child in the Colombian Caribbean region. During the last two years a total of 2,199 pregnant women were counseled and tested for HIV; seven of them were HIV positive (0.30%). A prophylactic regimen was offered to all seven who were HIV positive, but only five remain on follow-up with no signs of HIV infection.

**Colombia**

**Mother to Child Transmission Program**

The AFXB program at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) conducts investigative drug trials and laboratory research, supports the National Pediatric and Family HIV Resource Center which educates health care providers, and offers training to health care providers through the FXB International Training Program (FXB-ITP).

FXB-ITP is an internationally recognized model for training health care professionals in pediatric AIDS. This program has imparted knowledge and affordable therapies to more than 100 health care workers in 24 countries. The program delivers care that is community-based, child-centered, family-focused, comprehensive and co-ordinated. Many beneficiaries come from developing countries and their mission is to disseminate what they have learned to their communities and to train other people.
AFXB Medical Programs for Families and Care Givers

HIV/AIDS is not only a devastating illness for afflicted individuals, but also has a dramatic impact on their families. An increased need to spend income on medical treatment occurs at a time when the ability to earn income is reduced by illness. In resource-limited locations, access to care and treatment for opportunistic infections is often severely limited for the most vulnerable people. Therefore, an intervention that provides support to people living with HIV/AIDS, such as medical support for opportunistic infections, will also serve to support other family members, including children who otherwise may be orphaned, or left with parents unable to care for them.

To provide proper care to children affected by HIV/AIDS it is necessary to ensure that care-givers are properly supported so that children can be cared for within a family environment. Components of orphans and vulnerable children support programs, such as income generating activities, achieve this goal by targeting families rather than individual children, for support. However, in AFXB’s experience, economic support is not enough to ensure that children can be given proper care within HIV/AIDS affected communities. The health of care-givers becomes a major priority. With this in mind, AFXB provides them with medical support for the treatment of opportunistic infections and general health matters in HIV/AIDS impacted areas.

AFXB Programs for Victims of Sex Work

Sex work is an extremely exploitative trade. It not only abuses the women involved, but has a devastating effect on many children and young people. Some of these children may be working in the sex trade themselves, while even the children of adult sex workers face extreme vulnerability. The HIV/AIDS pandemic adds a life-threatening element to sex work. Widows may be forced into sex work because of economic hardship creating a terrible cycle where sex workers become vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, and orphans, the victims of HIV/AIDS, become vulnerable to sex work to survive.

The aim of AFXB’s work in Myanmar has been to repatriate and to rehabilitate Burmese sex workers from Thailand. However, it soon became clear that the need to support their families, and the danger of their younger sisters following the same path, were factors that had to be taken into account if a sustainable solution was to be realized. Subsequently, the AFXB program has expanded to include the families of young women and girls vulnerable to sex work. It applies also to AIDS orphans and vulnerable adolescents.

An average of 190 persons per month are enrolled in AFXB’s various projects. This figure includes formal schooling support for some 80 pupils, while an average of 40 follow ‘informal education’ courses at AFXB. In the workshops there are 50 trainees and workers active and the rest are engaged externally, either as employees or in an independent capacity.

In Mawlamyine and in Yangon, AFXB runs AIDS prevention and information programs, in cooperation with the Myanmar Red Cross Society.

AFXB in Asia

Myanmar
Socio-occupational rehabilitation centers for former sex workers

India
Goa
In Goa, AFXB set up two projects that provide support for children of sex workers from Baina, the red light district of Goa’s chief port, Vasco de Gama.

The project has been established around the FXB House “Asha Sadan”, based in Baina. The House provides education, day care, nutrition, health care and above all, love, to some of Goa’s most disadvantaged children. Staff and volunteers of the center locate children in need of the special care that FXB Asha Sadan can give, and encourage them and their mothers to make use of the center.

FXB House Asha Sadan has 50 children enrolled in kindergarten, and 11 children are enrolled in a formal school. These children are provided with school uniforms and stationery. Each month a staff member visits the school to monitor each child’s progress and attendance. School registration requires the children to have birth certificates and, as most children of sex workers do not possess one, the staff attempts to secure affidavits for them. The children at Baina are offered ‘coaching classes’ and vocational training at the House. This includes tailoring, hand embroidery and flower painting. AFXB Mumbai staff conducted an eight-day program of self-help group training that included: professional catering services, handicrafts, candle making, rangoli (festival paintings), wall hangings, beauty therapy, and commercial chocolate making. Eight women from the red light district have acquired three months training in handicrafts, embroidery, garment making and flower painting.

AFXB also supports a boarding school for boys in Sanguem, South Goa. The school was founded thirteen years ago, and AFXB has sent boys from the Baina red light area to the school for the previous eight years. Some 50 boys, aged between 10 and 16, reside at this school. Twelve of these boys, the children of Baina sex workers, are sponsored by AFXB which covers the room, board and tuition fees and provides the boys clothing, study materials, and all other necessities.

Furthermore, in kind assistance is also provided to the Lar de Santa Terezinha. This orphanage was established fifty-seven years ago as a shelter for abandoned girls. There are currently 75 girls staying there.

AFXB in Africa

Health Improvement

In Uganda, Rwanda and South Africa, AFXB provides drugs for opportunistic infections and when needed pays transport costs to hospitals for orphan care-givers. Some elderly and terminally ill guardians receive assistance for home improvement. In 2002, AFXB supported more than 600 guardians. This has revitalized the abilities of the guardians to look after orphans and their IGA’s.

Even terminally ill guardians have the opportunity to live longer than expected, continuing to guide and look after their young. With the HIV/AIDS pandemic rising, this very important support for care givers needs increased funding to meet the growing needs.

In Barranquilla, Colombia, and Sao Paulo, Brazil, more than 120 families have benefited from the services provided by AFXB. As well as dealing with their critical economic condition, these families have to fight the social stigma and discrimination that HIV/AIDS brings to their lives. AFXB support brings back their hope and dignity as well as the opportunity to access services such as nutrition, health, education, dental care, etc. This comprehensive intervention not only benefits the children and their families directly, but also the local community by encouraging those at risk to go for testing and if infected to go for treatment. By showing the positive impact of the intervention on the quality of life of the children and their families, AFXB has changed the “face” of HIV/AIDS and has encouraged individuals and organizations to work together in trying to scale up this effort.

Latin America

Change the face of HIV/AIDS in the local community

annual report 2001-2002
Bolivia
Improving quality of life

This AFXB program has been designed with a view to improving the quality of life of women and their children in Machacamarca, Oruro, Bolivia.

In 2001-2002, more than 90 families have directly benefited from income-generating activities.

Several activities have been set up including literacy, poultry breeding, hothouse cultivation, a children’s project, bread making, environmental protection and reproductive health.

Loss of income, caused by reduced employment opportunities, has been the greatest factor exacerbating poverty in this area. Therefore, activities that improve the capacity of local people to be economically productive are necessary in order to develop sustainable support to the women and children of Machacamarca. Consequently, poultry breeding, hothouse cultivation and bread-making activities all have a business-oriented focus.

To move the program in Machacamarca toward self-sufficiency, people involved in the program are in the process of organizing a cooperative to manage savings and involve more families from the community in these activities.

A cooperative is expected to be established during the course of 2003/2004. AFXB is currently consulting with an organization specialized in cooperatives to ensure sustainability.

In 2002, FXB started a program in Sion, northern Togo, to support vulnerable people by strengthening existing medical and school structures, through the provision of basic materials.

Togo
Support to Vulnerable People

Since 2001, AFXB has developed a program in northern Niger to build traditional wells to benefit the Touareg population.

So far, five wells have been sunk and others are on the way. These wells contribute to improve the living conditions in this remote and arid area.

Niger
Water Support

AFXB Palliative Home Care Centers

Palliative care is an active, global approach to people suffering from serious progressive or terminal illness that no longer responds to curative measures. Its aim is to relieve physical pain and other symptoms while paying attention to the psychological, social and spiritual aspects of care.

Palliative care respects life and sees death as a natural process. It is not designed to either delay or hasten death, but to preserve the highest quality of life possible until death. Administered by a multidisciplinary group, palliative care is directed toward both the patient and family and friends, all of whom benefit from the team’s support as the illness continues and after the patient’s death.

Since 1992 in Switzerland, and in Paris since 1997, the Association François-Xavier Bagnoud has set up palliative home care units as an alternative to hospitalization.

Sion and Paris
Palliative Home Care Centers

The AFXB palliative home care centers aim to offer people an alternative to hospitalization through care delivery at home or in a familiar place of their choice. The intention is to provide quality care dispensed by a team of professionals and volunteers, specifically trained in this practice. Palliative care is available to all people suffering from an irreversible disease whatever its nature (cancer, AIDS or another serious progressive condition) as well as the patient’s family and close friends. The members of the team respect the free choice of the patient and the people who work with them (doctors, nurses and other home careers). They work in close cooperation with the health and social agencies and adapt their own services to the needs of the patient and the others concerned, and any care giver already actively involved.

The AFXB centers simultaneously develop three complementary activities: care, training and research, information and documentation. These services are available to:

- the patients and those near and dear to them
- the local population and the general public, and
- health and social assistance professionals, volunteers and service providers.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hands on care - Coordination - Consulting service</td>
<td>Professional training - Ongoing training (supervision, think-tanks, round tables)</td>
<td>Multimedia documentary resources (AFXB publications, monographs, periodicals, unpublished documents, documentary files, video-cassettes, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sion : 39 patients (4,112 days)</td>
<td>Sion : 617 beneficiaries</td>
<td>Individual requests from the general public and for professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris : 102 patients (1,076 days)</td>
<td>Paris : 1,453 beneficiaries (130 days)</td>
<td>Sion : 15,215 information requests answered</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychosocial activities :</td>
<td>Studies and research</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sion : 337 beneficiaries</td>
<td>Paris : regional workshops on palliative care for children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris : 243 beneficiaries</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paris : 850 information requests answered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1,166 interviews)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical telephone helpline (Paris)</td>
<td>Listening and support helpline (Sion)</td>
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AFXB Programs for Vulnerable Children

Uruguay

The Casa AFXB in Montevideo is a response to the growing impoverishment of a section of the population. Concerned by the alarming exclusion faced by children and adolescents, AFXB decided to set up an educational project that would enable extremely poor children and adolescents and vulnerable adolescents to find another way of confronting the problems posed by poverty, and to develop constructive life plans for themselves.

AFXB provides direct access to an educational project for 65 children and adolescents, as well as 35 adults. It also aims to offer systematic support to the families of these children and to promote communication and strengthening personal relationships. The initiative also has a multiplying effect on the promotion of fundamental rights, the fight against exclusion and discrimination and carries out HIV/AIDS prevention work with young people who are most at risk from infection.

AFXB set up productive micro-projects with a view to generating income, enabling young people in danger of exclusion, especially young mothers and single mothers, to increase their confidence through work and also ensure that their children can remain with them. Products made in some of AFXB workshops have been exhibited at fairs and put on the market for several years now, giving both vocational experience and financial benefits to the young people involved.

Over the last twelve years, Casa AFXB staff have followed the progress of more than 750 children and adolescents. In 2001/2002, 78 participated in the educational and vocational training projects.

Another aspect of the project is that a considerable number of families have managed to obtain decent housing, after a long struggle. While helping these families to live in a rural environment, AFXB has also encouraged the development of farming activities to enable them to be self-sufficient. This in turn has helped to bring about improvements in health for all these people, especially the children.

Switzerland

Children’s Dreams and Holiday Camps

This tender loving program fulfills the dreams of children living in Switzerland who are suffering from a serious disease or whose health has been severely affected as a result of an accident.

To swim with dolphins, to visit a fire station, to meet a star of show business or sport, to be given a pet or a princess bed, to fly over the Alps in a helicopter, or to visit Rome, to enjoy the delights of Euro Disney, these are just a few examples of the 25 dreams that AFXB has helped to make come true in 2001/2002.

The requests are passed on to us by the major hospitals of the country, and first have to be approved by a doctor, and must fall within the realm of the possible. Contact is established with each child and his or her family, and no effort is spared to bring pleasure into their lives.

Entirely financed by contributions from AFXB supporters, the “Dreams” are also supported by a network of people with an inexhaustible supply of ingenious ideas to make the dreams become reality.

Our activity also includes providing financial support for the Magic Paintbrush Workshop, which offers silk painting sessions to children at the Lausanne CHUV Hospital, the Hospital of Sion, and at the young patients’ homes.

The main objective of our work is to offer these sick children a magic moment in their lives to help them fight their disease and better tolerate treatment, which can be extremely harrowing.

The AFXB Holiday Camps are organized for children of French-speaking Switzerland who have no other opportunity to enjoy a holiday. Every year, some fifty children from families in need of support due to health problems, financial difficulties or social circumstances are offered free holidays in winter and in summer.
AFXB Financial Report

I am pleased to provide condensed financial information for FY 2001/2002 of the Association François-Xavier Bagnoud, an international non-governmental organization registered in Switzerland. As you will see, the operating revenue for AFXB comes primarily from the Fondation François-Xavier Bagnoud, a foundation registered in Liechtenstein. Nevertheless, we are pleased to have a growing number of supporters for our programs from individuals, foundations, and corporations in Switzerland and around the world.

The majority of our programs outside of Switzerland are HIV/AIDS related, while home palliative care is the principle operational activity within Switzerland. Our home palliative care activities in France were financed primarily by direct government contracts in the year under review and are not reflected in this financial report.

It is also important to note that the expenses related to our programs and office in the United States – FXB USA – are not reflected in this financial report. FXB USA assists in managing AFXB’s programs in Asia, Latin America and the United States, and in fundraising for AFXB’s programs worldwide. As a separate organization, FXB USA receives funding for operational and program support directly from the Fondation François-Xavier Bagnoud.

The financial statement, audited by PriceWaterhouseCoopers, is available upon request by calling +4141 710-3037.

Luc Hafner
Treasurer
Association François-Xavier Bagnoud

Condensed Financial Information (in US$)

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Revenue</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FXB Foundation</td>
<td>4,275,277</td>
<td>3,546,076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts, Grants, Revenue</td>
<td>631,527</td>
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<td><strong>Total Operating Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>4,026,132</td>
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<td><strong>Operating Expenses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS related</td>
<td>2,433,894</td>
<td>1,986,810</td>
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<td>Home Palliative Care</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>373,800</td>
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<td>Management and General</td>
<td>779,547</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td>4,709,254</td>
<td>4,026,132</td>
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Gifts, Grants and Revenue (in US$)

During the course of AFXB's 2001-2002 fiscal year, the following gifts, grants and revenue were received for programs in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. AFXB wishes to acknowledge and thank these donors for their support and confidence in the organization’s work.

Anonymous Donors for Various Programs 107,800
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation 100,000
Fondation de France 62,207
"Friends of François-Xavier Bagnoud" 117,545
Special Fundraising Event 17,850
Weinberg Foundation 7,200
Revenue (e.g. time deposits, interest, currency fluctuations) 219,125

**Total** 631,527

In addition to the above, Albina du Boisrouvray contributed in the period under review an estimated US$ 600,000 in time, travel expenses and various support costs to implement AFXB’s advocacy efforts as well as to personally undertake program development and monitoring.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Program/Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Adult Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Information and Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Awareness and Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Care for Vulnerable Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Early Childhood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>Family Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>Health Systems</td>
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<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>Human Rights</td>
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<td>Niger</td>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Information and Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Care for the Elderly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Care for Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Health Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Information and Communication</td>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>Care for Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
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</table>

**AFXB activities by program and by country**

*Photographs:*
- Adult Care
- Information and Communication
- Awareness and Education
- Care for Vulnerable Children
- Early Childhood
- Family Planning
- Health Systems
- Human Rights
- HIV/AIDS
- Information and Communication
- Care for the Elderly
- Health Systems
- HIV/AIDS
- Information and Communication
- Care for Children
- HIV/AIDS

**In the field**...
The Mission of aFxB
is to support the world’s
orphans and vulnerable children
in the wake
of the AIDS pandemic
by advocating for their needs
and by providing direct support to
families and communities
that care for them.

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