

20 Years and Beyond

20 years of experience

The first case of AIDS in Spain was discovered in 1981. Six years later in 1987, by the time that a pandemic of worldwide proportions had stemmed from what was initially a sole occurrence, the SIDA STUDI association was founded in Barcelona. They were difficult, anxious and socially worrying times, above all characterised by ignorance on the subject of HIV/AIDS.

For this reason the organisation focused its efforts on collecting written and audiovisual documentation in order to provide information in all possible fields, defend the human rights of HIV sufferers, study in-depth the diverse medical, psychological, judicial and social repercussions, as well as join forces with people, associations and organisations everywhere. People were seeking information, but there was nobody to compile, deal with and make such information accessible to everybody. The organisation wished to assume this responsibility and became a centre for documentation and reference on HIV/Aids.

Even though the organisation has continued to follow its founding objectives, during the last 20 years many things have occurred and SIDA STUDI has thus adapted itself along the way to the new landscape. The development and evolution of antiretroviral drugs, the changes in epidemiological patterns, the continued need for epidemiological information, the blooming of international co-operation, the growth of information within society and the Internet in particular, are just some of the changes we have experienced.

During this evolution, the organisation has specialised in offering services in documentation and prevention, establishing a strategic plan from 2006 and working towards fulfilling the mission of SIDA STUDI: working to train people in the prevention of HIV/AIDS and reducing the individual and social impacts of the virus as a mark of respect to human rights.

The organisation's services

SIDA STUDI is now the recognised Centre of Documentation and Pedagogical Resources on HIV/AIDS in Spain. Simultaneously, it has consolidated its work in prevention and training. The main services provided to society on an open-access basis are:

Library

In response to requests for information, we lend out DVDs, CDs, books, magazines, educative games, curriculum guides and other pedagogical resources. We also obtain documents from other libraries, send out documents if they cannot be collected and ensure that the centre's spaces are available for consulting, working and use of our multimedia materials.

On-line Library

The catalogue is accessed through the website www.sidastudi.org, from which you are able to obtain access to on-line archives, browse through the poster images, request information and obtain various documents. In addition to all this, you can also visit an exhaustive directory of websites focusing on HIV/Aids and a collection of digital magazines catalogued by theme.

Kiosk

Open space for the public to come and collect material of a different nature, such as brochures, leaflets, magazines, stickers, postcards, bookmarks and condoms.

HIV-on-wheels

Exhibition of postcards and other campaign materials on HIV/AIDS with a national and international focus. There is a selection of more than 1,000 resources which may be borrowed.

Newsletters

The quarterly bulletin with the latest news, the twice-yearly organisational bulletin "Todo SIDA STUDI", "Get to know our database" on the website, the elaboration of selective monothematic bibliographies, the dispatch of different types of materials to organisations requiring it and information about the latest important occurrences by Email as well as other means of communication ensure that the Centre of Documentation and Pedagogical Resources stays in touch with society.

Charming joysticks

Pedagogical scale models in two formats (five different coloured penises on a circular platform or one penis on a base), available to borrow or purchase, allowing you to work in a fun way on the practicalities of using a condom.

Educative events

Educative interventions promoting sexual health and the prevention of HIV/AIDS aimed at specific groups: youth in and out of education, youth in detention facilities, disabled people in addition to parents.

Training professionals

Training courses for professionals working with and planning to work with young people as well as with the physically challenged, and who wish to incorporate activities involving the themes of HIV/AIDS into their curriculum.

Consultations

Anonymous and personalised consultations regarding HIV/AIDS and the prevention of face-to-face, by telephone, or email, delivered by properly trained professionals.

Access to condoms

Distribution of free condoms and information postcards to organisations and people who require them, for example, helping out young people at free time leisure venues.

Personal advice

Support to professionals and students who are organising activities concerning prevention of, carrying out research or a school or academic project on HIV/AIDS.

Some figures

20 years since its founding, the archive continues to grow

23,230 registrations up until October 2007

An increase of more than 1,000 registrations annually

Website

The number of visitors to our website has risen from 6,819 in 2003 to 25,000 in recent years

12 years of educating people about prevention

We have staged 1,371 workshops

26,125 young people have participated

5 years of campaigning for access to condoms

We have distributed more than 200,000 condoms and postcards