’All In’ Global Initiative Aims to End AIDS Among Adolescents

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Across the world, AIDS-related deaths are declining in all age groups except youth ages 10 to 19. In Africa, AIDS is the leading cause of death among these adolescents. What’s more, in sub-Saharan Africa 860 girls contracted HIV every week in 2013, as did 170 boys.

This is why UNAIDS, UNICEF and related organizations launched the “All In” platform. It’s an initiative that aims to change policies and engage young people in the fight against AIDS among adolescents.

According to a UNAIDS press release, All In focuses on four main areas of action:

- Engaging, mobilizing and empowering adolescents as leaders and actors of social change.
- Improving data collection to better inform programming.
- Encouraging innovative approaches to reach adolescents with essential HIV services adapted to their needs.
- Placing adolescent HIV firmly on political agendas to spur concrete action and mobilize resources.

Uhuru Kenyatta, the president of Kenya, launched the program earlier this week during a meeting of world leaders in Nairobi. Other participating groups include the MTV Staying Alive Foundation, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Health Organization (WHO), the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and youth groups from Y+ and PACT.

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