



Everyday – July/August 2026

These dates represent milestones in the HIV epidemic. Visit poz.com/aidsiseveryday to learn more about the history of HIV and AIDS.

June 29, 2026 By Jennifer Morton

July

2 – The Bay Area Reporter, San Francisco’s weekly LGBTQ newspaper, publishes its first mention of “gay men’s pneumonia.” The short item encourages gay men experiencing progressive shortness of breath to see their physicians. (1982)

17 – Fire in the Belly: The Life and Times of David Wojnarowicz by Cynthia Carr is published. (2012)

19 – President Bill Clinton launches the Leadership and Investment in Fighting an Epidemic (LIFE) initiative to address the global AIDS epidemic, which leads to increased funding. (1999)

21 - Zero HIV Stigma Day

August

Getty Images/Okea

5 – Mark Sigers, a gay man living with AIDS, is removed from a Delta Airlines flight after a flight attendant questions whether he can fly without oxygen and a travel companion. Following protests by AIDS activists, Delta apologizes and pledges to educate its employees about HIV and AIDS. Sigers dies later that month on August 29 at age 31. (1986)

Tom Duane

Courtesy of Tom Duane

8 – Tom Duane, an openly gay candidate in the race for a New York City Council seat, reveals he has HIV. In November, he becomes the first candidate living with HIV in the country to win public office. (1991)

20 - Southern HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

NatNational Faith HIV/AIDS Awareness Day logo

30 – National Faith HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

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