Secondhand Dose

Meds recycled into bodies

December 1, 1997 By Scott Hess and Edited by RonniLyn Pustil

A Venezuelan woman’s transcontinental trek kicked off AID for AIDS, a nonprofit that distributes meds to eight Latin American countries. “An old lady appeared [at New York City’s Venezuelan Gay & Lesbian Association] in 1996 and said, ’My son and his wife are infected and don’t know what to do,’” said Julio Roa, who spearheads the scavenger offshoot. “We got the drugs for them.” The activists rely on word-of-mouth to locate drugs destined for the dump. Supplies are then delivered by volunteers to 70 clients a month, who must present detailed documentation. “When people switch treatment, they throw away their drugs,” Roa said. “By collecting all these cast-off therapies, we help a lot of people.”

© 2026 Smart + Strong All Rights Reserved.

http://beta.docker.poz.com/article/recycling-aids-medicine-12582-6907