

Lighting the Path to a Brighter Future

Programme



- 10:00 – 16:00 hrs** The Public Signing the Quilt at the National Museum
- 15:30 – 16:00 hrs** Public Assemble at the UN
- 16:00 – 16:25 hrs** Public March from the UN to the National Museum
- 16:25 – 16:50 hrs** Introductory Speech of the Event – **Dr. K Seipone**
- 16:50 – 16:55 hrs** Lighting of the candles
- 16:55 – 17:05 hrs** Short Sermon –
- 17:05 – 17:20 hrs** Brief about the three heroes being honored
- 17:20 – 17:21 hrs** Brief moment of silence
- 17:21 – 17:30 hrs** Messages and Commitment from the Public
- 17:30 – 17:35 hrs** Vote of thanks by **David Ngele**
- 17:35 – 17:40 hrs** Prayer and Closing

Get Involved!

21 May, 2006

INTERNATIONAL
AIDS
CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL
www.candlelightmemorial.org

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PETER MAPHANGELA

The late Peter Maphangela was among the first and greatest warriors of HIV/AIDS in Botswana and beyond. He was born in the sixties, in Mabale Ward at Pitsane. He died in December 2005, a hero.

A journalist, Peter fought using his pen as a weapon to defeat HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination. He was also BONEPWA+ Field educator giving a face and a voice to the epidemic and teaching young pupils in schools, he was an ambassador of hope. He encouraged all levels of society to join hands in improving the lives of people affected and infected with HIV/AIDS.

Maphangela is a hero to be remembered as a man whose voice and pen lit/lighted the path for all of us. May God rest his soul in peace and comfort all those close to him. His struggle aimed at making the world a better place for all of us.

MONTHUSI KENOSI

The late Monthusi Kenosi was born in 1971 at Mogapi village. He was a renowned HIV/AIDS Activist. Kenosi was a man of a unique character, soft spoken but with a loud and sharp voice of Heroism on HIV/AIDS. Most memorable about him was his special style of counseling, through which he healed the broken hearted and convinced those who had lost hope to fight on.

In 2004, Monthusi, was democratically elected as a member of BONEPWA+'s Executive Board, a post he held until his death. He served whole heartedly with a strong passion to improve the lives of people affected with HIV/AIDS.

A Hero he was in life, a hero he has remained in death because he lit the path for all of us through his love and passion to serve the community. May God rest his soul in peace. We honor the relatives and friends of our great hero, through whose guidance he managed to achieve his goals.

SINAH KAGWARAE

The late Sinah Kagwarae, her name rings a bell in every HIV/AIDS activist in Botswana because she was a tough figure and a shining hero/heroine of HIV/AIDS. Born in 1977 in Francistown, Sinah had a very challenging life, but as the saying goes "when the going gets tough, the tough get going". Therefore she put up a tough fight up to the end.

Sinah was a woman with a tough voice and a no-nonsense attitude towards stigma and discrimination. This shaped her into a strong community mobilizer whose tough voice was the torch of the voiceless that lit the path of the both the affected and infected, protecting them against stigma, discrimination and exploitation of the aggressors.



Concept International AIDS candlelight Memorial Campaign is a year long mobilization project that encourages communities and Individuals around the World to get involved in the third Sunday of May every year, thus falling 21st of May this year.

The history

The first international AIDS candle light Memorial was held in 1983 when the cause of AIDS was unknown and no more than a few thousand AIDS deaths had been reported. The Organizers wished to honor the memory of those lost to this mysterious disease and demonstrated support for those living with HIV/AIDS. That remains the focus of the event today.



Candle Light Memorial Botswana

We all know that many more of our loved ones have departed from us with many remarkable contributions. We dedicate this day to all of them. And with humility BONEPWA+, as a Network of People living with HIV/AIDS we say:

We should all hold our heads high with dignity, honor and respect to many of our great comrades, who walked their talk of heroism, their hearts focused on victory, no retreat, no withdraw, no surrender. What a degree of heroism!

For sure, they died while holding the golden medals. With their medals, they lit the path for all of us. Nothing for us with out us. They were for us, therefore we have to be for them. Their struggle has made the world a better place for all of us through them we have been liberated from stigma, discrimination, rejection, abuse etc.

Let us honor them for painfully clearing our paths and planting the fruits we are harvesting now.

We can only do this by promoting their cause and uniting our voices behind their struggle. In this way we will [keep our candles burning to light our path and pave the way to victory](#). Together we can make it we have to [Keep the Promise and stop AIDS!](#)

