



Winner of SWHAP Achievement Award 2010

- *Category for Most Innovative Intervention*

In order to recognize the importance of being innovative when addressing HIV in the workplace, the Swedish Workplace HIV and AIDS Programme (SWHAP) has instituted an award for the most innovative intervention. In 2010, this award goes to SKF Revco in Zimbabwe commending their e-discussion initiative.

Being a company with three branches situated in different towns and a staff regularly using computers in their work, the peer educator team at Revco came up with the idea of starting discussions on HIV via e-mail. Each week a new topic has been introduced and lively discussed via e-mail. The peer educators then review the discussion in the end of the week and hold a lunch awareness session for the employees - going through the facts of the topic and what the discussions showed. The discussions are also referred to in the internal HIV newsletter of the company. The objectives of the e-discussions are, among others, to raise awareness on the topic discussed and on how it affects the HIV epidemic; provide a platform for people to discuss the cultural and societal influences that fuel and influence HIV transmission; challenges to the use of condoms; and behaviour change.

The e-discussions have created a popular and effective platform for everyone to contribute and fully participate in the workplace HIV programme. The success of the intervention is proved by the fact that more than 90% of the employees participate in the discussions and it is used as a basis for general awareness sessions at the workplace. Considering the success of the intervention, the Board of SWHAP is confident that SKF Revco is a highly qualified winner of the SWHAP Achievement Award 2010 for the most innovative intervention. Innovation is not always about complicated schemes, but rather about finding new ways of addressing an old topic. This is precisely the strength of what SKF Revco has done - they have identified a way in which their specific workplace can address HIV and AIDS in a simple but effective manner.

In addition to the above mentioned intervention, SKF Revco has implemented a successful workplace programme that was also shortlisted for the SWHAP Achievement Award in the category for Best Progress in Workplace Programming.

The SWHAP Achievement Award has been given out since 2008. In 2010 the four categories for the award are Most Comprehensive Workplace Programme; Best Progress in Workplace Programming; Peer Educator Achievement Award; and Most Innovative Intervention. For more information on the award, please contact info@swhap.org. For more information on Swedish Workplace HIV and AIDS Programme, please visit www.swhap.org.