



"Transforming our communities for the glory of God."

NPO: 038-396
VAT: 4710241813

To Whom It May Concern:

Healthcare Services offered by Touching Nations

HIV in the Workplace:

One of the most serious public health problems facing South Africa is the HIV/AIDS epidemic. It not only threatens the lives of individual employees and employers, but has significant impact on each and every workplace, effective functioning of the labour market and the national economy as a whole.

Touching Nations is a non-profit organization that offers confidential, free Voluntary Counselling, HIV testing and support services as well as education through workshops and talks. This is done in conjunction with the City Health.

The mission of Touching Nations's VCT programme is to improve the health of our clients by providing the highest quality HIV counselling, testing and referral services.

Our Core Values

On Client Focus: We ensure that the needs of our clients come first and are paramount in every decision we make.

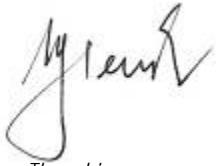
On Respect: All clients are treated non-judgmentally and with respect.

On Confidentiality: We will never compromise our clients' confidentiality.

On Work Ethic: We will seek to reach the maximum number of clients without compromising the quality of the service we provide.

On Teamwork: Although each member has a specific job description, the team work together, above and beyond our job descriptions, to assist one another and to achieve our common goals.

I appeal to your management to favourably consider our team to be of service to the full workforce. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further information. More about our service is outlined on the next pages.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Le Fleur', with a stylized, cursive script.

Thanking you

M. Le Fleur (Director)

The Process: Letter of approval by Management and a meeting with Human Resource Department/Coordinator of the workplace.

Preparation and Arrival

Prior to our team's arrival, a staff member will set up an appointment to arrange a site visit to ensure that the premises is conducive to conduct a VCT campaign. Where necessary, recommendations will be made to the management. It is important that buy-in be sought from the staff, management and any labour-representative bodies. In general the free service offered is welcomed by all. Once an appropriate date and venue has been agreed to, marketing can start.

Voluntary, Counselling and Testing – Procedure

The process of Voluntary Counselling and Testing take about 30-40 minutes per person.

BEFORE TESTING – PRE-TEST COUNSELLING

- ✘ Clients must keep in mind that nothing discussed in the counselling room will be disclosed to others.
- ✘ Helping them to think through their reasons for being tested.
- ✘ The meaning of both negative and positive result, including practical implications such as medical treatment and care, sexual relationships, psycho-social implications etc;
- ✘ The assessment of personal risk of HIV infection;
- ✘ Discussing the "Window period".
- ✘ Ways to cope when tested positive, including who to tell, identifying needs and support services;
- ✘ An opportunity for deciding to take the HIV Test.



TESTING KIT

To ensure accurate HIV testing:

- ✘ We only use highly accurate tests;
- ✘ Conducting confirmatory tests before handing the persons a positive result;
- ✘ Offer the person a new test (ELISA) which will be send to the laboratory;
- ✘ Monitor and evaluate the laboratory procedures.



HOW IS THE TEST CONDUCTED? IS IT ACCURATE?

- ✘ A lot simpler, faster and more effective than ever before.
- ✘ The health worker will prick the finger and a drop of blood will be placed onto a test kit, a chemical agent will be added, and the results will be available within 10-15 minutes.
- ✘ If positive, a second rapid test will be done to confirm the original test.

- ✘ If one test positive and other negative, a blood sample will be taken and sent to the laboratory for a test (ELISA) to confirm.

POST TEST COUNSELLING

If negative we focus on:

- ✘ The need to make changes to your lifestyle so that you remain HIV negative.
- ✘ Advice about whether to return for a second test 3 months after the first test. This will ensure that clients were not tested in the "window period", giving a false negative.
- ✘ Strategies for risk reduction.



If result is positive:

- ✘ Immediate emotional reaction and concerns;
- ✘ Personal, family and social implications;
- ✘ Difficulties a client may foresee and possible coping strategies;
- ✘ Disclosure: Follow up support counselling and
- ✘ Follow up medical care.

The Benefits: To your organization

For Corporates ...

- Testing with Touching Nations helps your employees to stay healthy, whether they test positive or negative. HIV and AIDS are serious burdens on employee productivity; early counselling and testing are the keys to healthy and productive employees.
- Touching Nations provides the counselling and testing services your employees want. Employees who believe that their confidentiality will not be compromised are more likely to test.
- In addition to the City Health HIV Coordinator's quality checks, we carry out our own internal quality controls.
- Touching Nations provides its services free of charge and will bring to your company everything needed to carry out counselling and testing - marketing and education materials, trained counselling and testing staff and a mobile testing laboratory.

For Faith-Based Organizations and Schools ...

- Touching Nations can bring the same high quality voluntary HIV counselling and testing services (VCT) on-site to a church, school or any faith-based organization. You will be expected to provide appropriate



space for counselling and testing and to assist with advertising the counselling and testing services. Touching Nations will bring everything needed for counselling and testing. If you do not have rooms appropriate for counselling and testing, Touching Nations has gazebos that can be used. Community VCT hosts are required to pay nothing but must agree to provide logistical and community mobilization support to the staff of Touching Nations.

Our Details:

Physical Address:

Civic Avenue
Matroosfontein
Elsies River, Cape Town
7493

Postal Address:

P.O. Box 10104
Belhar
7507

Contact Details:

Tel: 021 933 1424
Fax: 021 933 1425
E-mail: info@touchingnations.org
Website: (coming soon!!!!)