

GRAM BHARATI SAMITI (GBS)

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Press release

Jaipur, Nov. 30. Gram Bharati Samiti will be organizing a conference with youth and students on 'Youth to play a key role in prevention of HIV/AIDS in the rural areas of Rajasthan' in Amber tomorrow on the occasion of World AIDS Day. Beginning at 10 a.m. the conference will go for whole of the day (until 5 p.m.). Ms. Shakira, an HIV+ women will be the key note speaker of the event and sharing her experiences whereas Mr. Ishwarlal Saini, the elected ward member for Amber and a senior community leader will be inaugurating the conference. Bhawani Kusum, secretary, GBS will be chairing the conference.

Gram Bharati Samiti, the first NGO initiating work on HIV/AIDS in Rajasthan in the year 1991, has been involved in many activities i.e. awareness, education and counseling, treating STIs/RTIs, peer education, condom promotion etc. during past 15 years.

An exhibition of Peace Tiles murals will be organized in the conference. Peace Tiles are the creative artistic collages developed by the students in the workshops organized by GBS on HIV/AIDS in different colleges at many places in Rajasthan. Also Bhawani Kusum visited USA during July, 2006 and facilitated 3 such workshops in Marquette (Michigan) where the students made peace Tiles. 500 beautiful Peace Tiles prepared by the students of India and America are the visual voices of youth and give a vibrant message on HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Kusum Jain, Joint Secretary, GBS and Project director, HIV/AIDS cell will be highlighting the details of Peace Tiles exhibition and Ms. Sarita Yogi, Field Coordinator, GBS conducting the conference program. Over 200 students of the colleges and schools of the area will be participating in the conference.

Ms. Shakira, the HIV+ and key note speaker of the event will be awarded by GBS on her courageous fight against the pandemic.

Bhawani Shanker Kusum
Secretary & Executive Director, GBS