World AIDS Day (WAD) on 1 December is celebrated to bring people from all over the globe together, to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and demonstrate international solidarity in the face of the pandemic. The day is an opportunity for all the related sectors to talk about the pandemic's status and promote HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care. Between 2011 and 2015, WAD's are held under the theme of “Getting to Zero: - Zero New HIV Infections, - Zero Discrimination, and - Zero AIDS-Related Deaths.”

South Africa launched the theme in 2011 with an intensified testing and treatment campaign. The impact of the campaign is best seen by the far fewer people dying of HIV related causes and SA reaching its target to decrease mother-to-child transmission. Currently less than 2% of babies born of HIV positive mothers are HIV positive at the age of six weeks. Sadly the rate of new infections increased from 300,000 (2010) to 469,000 (2012). Stigma and discrimination is more difficult to measure but findings of the 2012 Human Research Council National HIV Prevalence, Incidence and Behaviour Study shows one in two people would keep their HIV status a secret.

I take responsibility:

☑️ For my status and will not become part of the statistic for new infections
☑️ To ensure my baby stay HIV negative even if I am positive
☑️ To advocate for acceptance and reduce stigma and discrimination
☑️ To prevent HIV related deaths by promoting treatment

☑️ Close the gap to zero new HIV infections
☑️ Close the gap to zero AIDS-related deaths
☑️ Close the treatment gap
☑️ Close the gap for HIV/Tuberculosis
☑️ Close the access gap

• http://fightforrhinos.com/tag/poverty/