



## ANAC Calls for Immediate Full Reinstatement of PEPFAR to Save Lives and Uphold U.S. Leadership in Ending the Global HIV Epidemic

The Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) condemns recent policy actions set forth by the Trump Administration that will catastrophically impact the health of people globally by threatening the lives and welfare of people living with and vulnerable to HIV.

Executive Order 14150 *America First Policy Directive to the Secretary of State* froze aid to President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) programs. Since the initial order a waiver extension has been granted but the effects of the order linger and remain a concern for many governments and clinics. EO14150 has caused confusion and disruption of services and while awaiting clarity as to the fate of PEPFAR, [many clinics in Africa and elsewhere have temporarily halted services.](#)

A 90-day disruption of services will have an [extreme impact](#). PEPFAR funds the critical healthcare workforce, more than 217,000 workers, many nurses, who provide access to HIV care and treatment. More than 20 million people, including 566,000 children, receive life-saving anti-retroviral therapy through PEPFAR.

Each day services are disrupted, 222,333 people will not receive their medications, causing them harm and increasing the likelihood of new infections.

Each day, 136,000 pregnant women living with HIV will give birth without the necessary treatment to avoid HIV infection in their newborns if PEPFAR funds are halted. *Every day.*

PEPFAR is a humanitarian effort *and* supports global stability, without it we may see a return to how HIV infection can harm individuals, families, rural and urban communities, and an entire country's population. PEPFAR is a bi-partisan supported program first introduced by President George W. Bush in 2003. Since then PEPFAR has saved 26 million lives, with 7.8 million babies born free of HIV, and millions of HIV infections prevented. To continue these [great achievements](#), it must be fully funded and supported

ANAC has long recognized the [critical impact of PEPFAR](#). In 2017, we honored President George W. Bush with the prestigious ANAC Public Service Award in recognition of his role in establishing and sustaining PEPFAR. Now, ANAC calls for immediate reinstatement of PEPFAR funding and staff, with clear, unambiguous messaging to PEPFAR recipients and workforce and a long-term commitment to the program, including a full reauthorization and secure and sustained funding.

**Action:** ANAC encourages members to share this message with Congressional legislators, urging them to uphold U.S. strength in global leadership in health and humanitarian aid through the PEPFAR program. Find your legislators [here](#). Call with a simple message - *PEPFAR is a humanitarian effort and supports global stability, and must be fully funded and supported.* Let them know you are a nurse or healthcare provider and a constituent.