

## **SUCCESS \* STORIES**

**CHANGING LIVES** 

# Meeting of Women-PositHIVas of Rio de Janeiro

The end of inequity and promotion of equality of sexual and reproductive rights of women living with HIV/AIDS.



Wide discussions about aspects of the women's multiple vulnerabilities in relation to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Highlight aspects such as experiences of disability occurred due to HIV medicines (that are not made for female bodies), or how poverty, sexual orientation and discrimination, or lack of human and social rights can afect even more violently women living with HIV. Was a very innovative and effective action.

The discussions were between women living with HIV / AIDS, public health experts, public authorities, feminists and women's organizations, among others and it gave great credibility and was an important qualitative step into a more complex approach to the subject.

Discussions were also very important for the mobilization of new 'multipliers' that have information to take the correct way of transmitting it to women, their families and communities.

For women living with HIV / AIDS whole process has meant a change in their own lives. Throught this project women living with HIV/Aids were able to change their lives, from a very lonely life to a collective group that welcomes, supports, shares the joy of living expressed in different ways as each deals with their difficulties. A big difference for women that can now better deal with their self-esteem and self-empowerment.

#### FOCUS

Action to stop STD/HIV/AIDS epidemia; expand access of women to human rights and citizenship, and to information about HIV/AIDS among women.

#### MAIN OBJECTIVES

The organization of a group of women with HIV/AIDS (with a cooperative and consultative perspective) aimed at individual and collective empowerment. Improve life quality and the prevention of HIV infection among women.

### METHODOLOGY

- Thematic seminar meetings
- o working groups
- o workshops

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