

PRESS RELEASE



Burleigh Heads Beach will see the launch of AIDS Awareness Week on the 27th November and to mark the significance of World AIDS Day on December 1st.

An Art Competition has also been launched. An iPod Touch is up for grabs as first prize. The Art Competition is asking people on the Gold Coast what message they would like to see their community get around HIV/AIDS. For more details on how to enter visit the website on www.qldworldaidsday.org.au/2010 and go to *news and events*.

Christine Smith, the State Member for Burleigh will open the event which kicks off in the picnic area at 11am. There will also be a community walk from Miami to Burleigh Heads Beach from 10.30am to raise awareness of the event. Everyone is asked to wear red to highlight the significance of the red ribbon for World AIDS Day.

There will be a free sausage sizzle, local performers, face-painting as well as a range of information provided by local service providers on the Gold Coast. Everyone is welcome!

This year's World AIDS Day theme is *2010 World AIDS Day. Take Action. No Discrimination.*

Ged Farmer, Health Promotion Officer for the Gold Coast from Queensland Association for Healthy Communities said "the theme this year is quite significant. We all need to take action around HIV/AIDS and continue to educate ourselves so we fully understand the impact of HIV. We also need to continue to break down the barriers of Discrimination so people living with HIV can shed the stigma that is often applied to them."

The Gold Coast World AIDS Day committee have organised a very interactive event in the Gold Coast because it brings the issue of HIV and stigma out in the open. Ged Farmer also said "This stigma can lead to isolation, inhibit access to appropriate services and hinder people's health. HIV can affect anyone so it's up to each of us to keep informed as new issues and information arises"

For more information about the event at Burleigh Heads beach picnic area on the 27th of November, contact the Gold Coast Organising Committee on 3017 1731 or email gc@qahc.org.au or visit the website on www.qldworldaidsday.org.au/2010

Ged Farmer for the Gold Coast World AIDS Day Committee



For further information please do not hesitate to contact me further.

My contact details are below.

Kind regards

Ged Farmer

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I acknowledge the traditional owners of the land I work on as the first people of this country

