

The FAIR
Fair Allocations In Research
FOUNDATION

www.FAIRFoundation.org

07/12/08

The Nashville Tennessean
1100 Broadway
Nashville, TN 37203

RE: Opinion Editorial in response to "Black churches take up fight against HIV" (6/30/08)

Kudos to the 26 predominantly African-American churches around Nashville for educating their parishioners about HIV/AIDS; however it should be noted that the State of Tennessee deserves severe scrutiny and prodding to reduce the death rate from this disease.

Our organization tracks HIV/AIDS deaths in this country and the Tennessee Department of Health reports 333 HIV/AIDS deaths for 2006,¹ which is only a 50 percent reduction from the high of 547 in 1995.² Only the District of Columbia reports worse results (33 percent) in fighting this malady while many states report death reductions of 80-95 percent.

The physician in charge of our county's HIV/AIDS research efforts, Anthony Fauci, MD, has stated, "...the scientific advancements that have been made in HIV [research] are breathtaking [with] highly effective drugs to suppress HIV to the point where what was a death sentence in the early eighties to now having patients who look and feel well, who are leading very productive, very gratifying lives..."³

Clearly that is not the case in Tennessee.

Hopefully all Tennessee citizens and state-wide media will cry out to your Governor and the Department of Health for better treatment to lower the death rate and greater preventive education such as that exhibited by the black churches on how to prevent HIV infection.

Sincerely,



Dr. Richard Darling, DDS
President & CEO
FAIR Foundation

¹ http://fairfoundation.org/states/hiv-aids_deaths_by_state.htm

² <http://fairfoundation.org/states/tennessee.htm>

³ http://fairfoundation.org/CNN_Fauci.wmv

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The Leaf-Chronicle
PO Box 31029
Clarksville, TN 37040-0018

RE: Opinion Editorial in response to "Black pastors set HIV test example in Nashville"
(7/5/08)

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