

**PETITION TO THE 2016 ROCKY MOUNTAIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**TITLE: 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VALENTINE’S RESOLUTION ON GLOBAL HIV AND AIDS**

**ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:**

- 1 RESOLVED, that the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference endorses the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund as a  
2 “mission of the month” for February, 2017; and
- 3 1. Urges every congregation on February 12 or 19, 2017, to take a special collection to support the United  
4 Methodist Global AIDS Fund (Advance No. 982345) and send those funds to the Rocky Mountain  
5 Conference Treasurer;
  - 6 2. Reaffirms the previous theme of “Have a Heart—Reach Out,” emphasizing the relationship of Valentine’s  
7 Day (February 14, 2017) and Christian love and care;
  - 8 3. Reminds our congregations of the biblical mandate to “care for the widow and the orphan” and how Jesus  
9 “went about all the cities and villages, . . . curing every disease and every sickness” (Matthew 9:35) and  
10 instructing his disciples also “to cure every disease and sickness” (Matthew 10:1) without condition or  
11 qualification;
  - 12 4. Combines the offering with a special presentation in each church that notes how personal and social injustice  
13 is perpetuated by stigma and discrimination against persons infected and affected by HIV and AIDS,  
14 demonstrating how Christian love overcomes hate and how Christian hope heals;
  - 15 5. Directs the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference Global AIDS Fund Committee to specifically use 25% of  
16 the offering to help (a) AIDS orphans in Meru, Kenya, and (b) support a rural Women and Children’s Center  
17 in Namakkal, India;
  - 18 6. Authorizes the Rocky Mountain Global AIDS Committee to invite others to join them in jointly developing  
19 materials, flyers, videos, bulletins, etc. promoting the Annual “Have a Heart—Reach Out” Sunday, and to  
20 help provide education information and sermon ideas related to our efforts at becoming known as an  
21 anti-stigma and anti-discrimination church committed to global health;
  - 22 7. Encourages communications by email and other ways to educate the church about this opportunity to  
23 celebrate Valentine’s Day with a focus on those living with HIV who too often experience not hope, but  
24 hostility, not acceptance, but alienation, not love but hate;
  - 25 8. Invites the District Superintendents and Bishop to consider sending out pastoral letters relating global HIV  
26 and AIDS and the church’s response; and
  - 27 9. Requests members across the Conference to remember in prayer those living with HIV and AIDS both  
28 locally and around the world.

**PETITION DETAILS**

This Petition is

- A Legislative Petition (Binding on the Annual Conference)  
 A Resolution (Not Binding)

Effective Date: July 1, 2016

Termination Date: June 30, 2017

Does this Petition modify the Annual Conference Standing Rules and Operational Procedures (SROP)?

- Yes  
 No

If "Yes," please complete the information below.

- This petition will modify Paragraph x.x.x  
 This petition will create a new Paragraph x.x.x

Conference Agency responsible for implementation and termination review:

NOTE: All paragraph numberings within the SROP and the final designation of the Conference Agency responsible for implementation and termination review are subject to review by the Rules Committee.

**ORIGINATOR OF THE PETITION (individual, church, or organization):**

Name Rev. Dr. Donald E. Messer  
Chair, Rocky Mountain Global AIDS Committee  
Address 7185 S. Niagra Circle  
City, State, Zip Centennial, CO 80112  
Email globalaids@gmail.com  
Phone 303-877-1955

and members of the Rocky Mountain Global AIDS Committee:

Gilbert Caldwell, Thomas Cross, Youngsook Kang, and others

**PERSON TO PRESENT PETITION AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

Name Rev. Dr. Donald E. Messer  
Chair, Rocky Mountain Global AIDS Committee  
Address 7185 S. Niagra Circle  
City, State, Zip Centennial, CO 80112  
Email globalaids@gmail.com  
Phone @ Conference 303-877-1955

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Will there be any identifiable financial impact to the Conference?

- Yes  
 No

If "Yes," please fill in the information below.

To Be Completed by the Originator of the Petition

Cost: \$500 - \$1,000  
Period  
 One Time  
 One Year  
 Multiple Years

To Be Completed by Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CFA)

Review by CFA 04/22/2016

Included in proposed 2017 budget

- Yes

No

Amount if included \$500 - \$1,000

May be considered for budgets in future years

Yes

No

Projected Amount \$500 - \$1,000

Recommendation by CFA concerning funding: Approved

Reason for recommendation:

Supports one of the United Methodist global health priorities.

**RATIONALE (Debatable):**

1 HIV and AIDS are not over yet. About 37.4 million people are living with HIV, with millions of persons dying  
2 every year. Almost one-half are women. Some 15 million children have been orphaned. In the United States, more  
3 than 50,000 people are newly infected every year. A total of 1.2 million people are estimated to be infected in the  
4 United States, with some 25% not knowing their status.

5 United Methodism has made global health a high priority, particularly diseases of poverty like HIV and AIDS.  
6 The United Methodist Global AIDS Fund is an Advance Special and supported by actions of General Conference.

**ATTACHMENTS (For Information / Not Debatable):**

None