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### AIDS and HIV Programs and Services for Libraries

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## AIDS and HIV Programs and Services for Libraries

By W. Bernard Lukenbill.  
Englewood, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 1994. 262p.  
paper, \$29.50 (ISBN 1-56308-175-X). LC 94-8898.

In February 1995, the United States Centers for Disease Control announced that AIDS had become the leading cause of death among Americans between the ages of twenty-five and forty-four. As the horrors and ramifications of this disease continue to mount, Bill Lukenbill challenges librarians and library directors to adopt more inclusive and aggressive tactics in providing information on and programs about AIDS-HIV, because "information and education are the only powers we now have."

Much of Lukenbill's data are disheartening. Surveys have shown that libraries are underused as AIDS-HIV information sources and that many librarians do not consider this disease to be an important library issue. Further, most community-based AIDS-HIV organizations fail to recognize or mention public libraries as important sources for information on the disease. Lukenbill and others suggest that the negative, stereotypical image of librarians is one reason for this. The usual demands in libraries are for general background information on AIDS and for school assignment needs.

By far the most interesting section in this very useful volume contains profiles of various library-based programs, such as the AIDS Information Network of Philadelphia and the Rick Rednor AIDS Library of Trenton. The programs run by these and many other libraries coupled with the author's excellent suggestions should provide librarians and administrators with many helpful ideas for establishing, running, and expanding their

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AIDS-HIV resources. With so much information available from so many sources, libraries must cooperate with, and establish contacts with, community-based, state, and even federal AIDS programs. As with any library service, however, aggressive marketing and promotion are vital if the public is to learn about a library's AIDS-HIV programs and services.—John A. Drobnicki, Queens Borough Public Library, Jamaica, New York

