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Positive Women Network (PWN+)

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POSITIVE WOMEN NETWORK (PWN+), an exclusive network of women living with HIV is a national voice that represents issues affecting women and children across India. Since 1998, PWN+ has been actively advocating for changes that help women and children lead quality lives. PWN+ strives to create better opportunities for women and children with the support from government (central, state and local), UN agencies, national and international support organisations.

VISION

Women living with HIV/AIDS, children living with HIV and children affected by HIV Are all empowered to live a life of dignity and equality, free from stigma and discrimination.

MISSION

PWN's purpose is to change the existing situation of all women living with HIV/AIDS, children living with HIV and those children affected by HIV in India towards a better life. We build capacity, increase access to rights, develop partnerships and advocate for programme & policy changes.

VALUES

We believe in equal rights
We believe in inclusiveness and partnership
We emphasize on ethical working practices
We value and respect humanity
We assure complete confidentiality
We value clear information

STRATEGIES

All the strategies of PWN+ take a rights based- approach, are centered in GIPA, are sensitive to gender issues and reduce stigma and discrimination

- Action Research
 Advocacy
- Capacity Building Livelihood Out reach / Services

OBJECTIVES

- To build an active national network of women living with HIV representing the different states, diverse groups and collectives from rural, urban and tribal areas.
- 2. To work towards the social integration of women living with HIV/AIDS in all sectors at district, state and national level, and advocate for inclusive policies and programmes
- To improve access to information on HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support to women living with and vulnerable to HIV/AIDS.
- To improve access to services for women living with HIV in the areas of counseling, HIV treatment, prevention, sexual & reproductive health, general health care and drug rehabilitation.
- 5. To work towards the protection of human rights of women living with HIV in all settings domestic, community, medical, employment, educational, political, religious and legal spheres
- 6. To provide affirmative action for women living with HIV/AIDS in the area of livelihood, employment, vocational training and credit inputs.
- To ensure social security and rights of children infected and living with HIV and children affected by HIV in all settings domestic, community, Medical, educational, political, religious and legal spheres.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

- Bringing together women living with HIV from all walks of life in the country and providing opportunities for increasing their capacities to improve their lives
- Providing Outreach services and information that enables women living with HIV to make decisions about their life and future.
- Continuing advocacy at the district, state and national levels specifically addressing the areas of health, livelihood, property rights, stigma & discrimination, prevention, and care and support of women an children living with HIV.
- In an effort to mainstream the issues of women living with HIV, PWN+ has actively worked in assessing the existing schemes of various government departments and has been advocating for making the existing schemes and policies cover the needs of women and children living with HIV.
- PWN+ is involved in action research in all the project implementations and has been instrumental in providing inputs and recommendations to UNGASS, CEDAW, CRC and MDG The network strongly believes in the role of women living with HIV at all levels and has been equipping women as positive speakers, project managers, trainers, facilitators, leaders of positive women groups and advocates in representing diversified issues of women and children.
- Social security for women is being provided through livelihood opportunities from the government schemes and the business unit 'Social Light Communications' (www.sociallight.in) for women established by PWN+ making them self reliant





