

## **DURBAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY HIV/AIDS DESK**

Adapted, with kind permission, from DCI website

In responding to the most threatening epidemic ever to confront business, the Chamber's HIV/AIDS Desk aims to:

- Provide current accurate information in order to minimise the impact of the epidemic on businesses;
- Provide specialist assistance in the development of clear workplace policies and effective HIV/AIDS programmes for those suffering from the Virus;
- Continuously update members on pertinent information such as legislation, employee benefits and the provision of treatment;
- In consultation with members, develop codes of best practice in managing the epidemic, including codes on voluntary testing, nutrition, stress management and treatment.

### **AIDS FORUM**

The Chamber will continue to hold the quarterly AIDS Forum, wherein business leaders, HR practitioners and other relevant persons are able to discuss current HIV/AIDS-related topics, such as the provision of drug treatment to employees, and the legal issues surrounding testing.

### **HIV/AIDS WORKPLACE POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

The Chamber offers all members a generic HIV/AIDS policy for development and subsequent implementation in their businesses.

### **ADVICE AND TRAINING**

Subsequent to training staff on the implementation of a comprehensive policy, the Chamber offers comprehensive training in:

- \* HIV/AIDS Programme development and implementation
- \* Awareness and Counselling
- \* The prevention of unfair discrimination;
- \* The management of incapacity and ill-health.

### **CERTIFICATE COURSE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF HIV/AIDS**

The Chamber is also in the process of developing the curriculum for the Certificate Course in HIV/AIDS Management. It is anticipated that, subject to

accreditation by the South African Qualifications Authority, the course will be offered by no later than March 2002.

### **CODES OF BEST PRACTICE**

In association with HEARD (the Health Economics and HIV/AIDS Research Division of the University of Natal, Durban), the Chamber will be publishing a Best Practices Journal for employers. It is expected that the Journal be published by the end of February 2002.

### **REFERRALS & NETWORKING**

The Chamber offers members access to an extensive database of service providers. The Chamber, through a number of avenues, including but not limited to the AIDS Forum, allows members to network extensively.

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Staff members of the Durban Chamber are always willing to speak at conferences and workshops.

For further information contact BRAD MEARS at the AIDS Desk on (031) 335 1034 or email [mearsbk@durbanchamber.co.za](mailto:mearsbk@durbanchamber.co.za)

Link: [www.durbanchamber.co.za](http://www.durbanchamber.co.za)