

Sample letter to Government Official

Your Name
Address
City, State, Zip Code
Phone Number
Email Address

Date

Dear Mayor/Senator/Representative _____,

I am writing as a global citizen and activist from [insert the name your youth group or school] to encourage your leadership in the fight against the AIDS pandemic on World AIDS Orphans Day, May 7, 2006. As you know the epidemic represents one of the most devastating crises in history. A child loses a parent to an AIDS-related cause every 14 seconds, and more than 15 million children have been orphaned by AIDS worldwide.

As a global citizen and fellow youth, I feel it is my responsibility to raise awareness about this issue and join in solidarity with youth around the world who are affected daily by this horrific epidemic. Children who lose their parents to AIDS are being denied a future where they can grow up healthy and attend school, because many have taken on the role of the parent, or have no money or resources to continue their education.

While the statistics are discouraging, there are solutions to this problem. The U.S. Congress recently approved \$2.8 billion for HIV/AIDS for this year's budget and 10% of that money will be used for programs for orphans and vulnerable children.

I invite you to join in solidarity with youth around the world being affected by HIV/AIDS. To acknowledge that this epidemic is not too big to conquer, and to show that we care about youth, and will not stand by while children lose their parents and also lose hope for the future.

Please attend our Circle of Hope/Tree of Hope event and show your support for vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDS. [name your school or organization] will plant a Tree of Hope/Hold a Circle of Hope on [insert the date of your event] at [insert location of your event].

Please contact me as soon as possible and let me know if you are available to support our event or if you have any question or concerns.

Sincerely,

[Sign your name here]

[Print your name here]