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Sent: Sunday, December 07, 2008 5:13 PM
To: Editor Angela Cortez (angela.cortez@thedesertsun.com)
Cc: Editor Rick Green (rick.green@thedesertsun.com); Publisher Michelle Krans (michelle.krans@thedesertsun.com)
Subject: Letter to the Editor

Dear Angela,

I am submitting the following "Letter to the Editor" by email to allow you to verify my facts with the included footnotes. Thank you for your consideration of publishing my submission.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Darling, DDS: [Past National Public Citizen of the Year \(NASW\)](#)
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"Critics argue against AIDS funding" article just, accurate

Kudos for your balanced reporting. Contrary to Brinkman's letter, one may note the following:

- Total US funding on HIV/AIDS is \$275 billion.^[i]
- 2009 HIV/AIDS budget is \$24 billion and AIDS funding has included billions to help with housing (HOPWA)^[ii], cash and medicine.^[iii]
- HIV/AIDS receives 10% of the entire research budget.^[iv]
- HIV/AIDS deaths have plummeted 90% in many states^[v].
- \$48 billion budgeted for global AIDS, TB and Malaria. Research funding on every disease known to man is \$29 billion.^[vi]
- Bill Gates has spent \$7 billion on HIV.^[vii]
- Our country's top HIV/AIDS researcher, Anthony Fauci, MD, said, "...the scientific advancements that have been made in HIV are breathtaking, highly effective drugs to suppress HIV to the point where what was a death sentence in the early eighties to now having patients who look and feel well, who are leading very productive, very gratifying lives.." ^[viii]

Diabetes kills more Americans than AIDS and breast cancer combined and cardiovascular disease kills 871,000 to 14,016 for HIV/AIDS. The USA is spending \$39 and \$29 on the former versus \$2,774 on each HIV/AIDS patient. Cease the favoritism in donations/funding for HIV versus non-AIDS illnesses killing millions more Americans.

Dr. Richard Darling, DDS
President & CEO: FAIR Foundation

^[i] Henry J. Kaiser Foundation reports \$150 billion HIV funding up to 2004. Every year thereafter the amount budgeted has been \$20+ billion including \$24.1 billion for 2009. In addition, one must note the \$48 billion PEPFAR funding, of which approx \$30 billion is for global AIDS. That amount is only federal and does not include Gates, Warren Buffet, Hollywood (Survivor, Donald Trump, American Idol, etc. shows), amfAR and other organizations that support HIV funding.

^[ii] <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/aidshousing/programs/>

^[iii] <http://www.kff.org/hivaids/upload/7029-041.pdf>

^[iv] <http://www.nih.gov/news/fundingresearchareas.htm>

^[v] http://fairfoundation.org/states/hiv-aids_deaths_by_state.htm

^[vi] http://kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=53609

^[vii] http://fairfoundation.org/news_letter/2006/04sept/newsletter.htm

^[viii] <http://fairfoundation.org/fauci.wmv>