



# CWGHHR

PROMOTING QUALITY OF LIFE  
THROUGH RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND  
CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS.

**Canadian  
Working  
Group on  
HIV and  
Rehabilitation**

# Who we are

The Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR) is a national charitable organization that responds to the rehabilitation needs of people living with HIV/AIDS through research, education and cross-sector partnerships.

CWGHR bridges the traditionally separate worlds of HIV/AIDS, disability and rehabilitation. Our members include organizations — community-based HIV/AIDS and disability organizations, national professional associations, unions, government agencies, and private-sector companies — and individuals, such as people living with HIV/AIDS, and health care, social care and human resources professionals.

## HIV/AIDS: an episodic disability

There is still no cure for HIV/AIDS. But for many people, HIV/AIDS is a treatable episodic disability.

- **It is episodic** in that periods of good health may be interrupted by periods of illness or disability, with little predictability as to when these episodes will occur or for how long.
- **It is a disability** in that it results in a wide range of barriers to meaningful active living, including:
  - Physical impairments (e.g., pain, fatigue, diarrhea, numbness) from HIV/AIDS or treatment side effects;
  - Activity limitations (e.g., difficulty walking or climbing stairs, carrying groceries or taking a bath or shower); and
  - Barriers to social activities, relationships, or workforce participation (e.g., stigma and discrimination, insufficient income, and unsupportive employment policies).

## The role of rehabilitation

Rehabilitation can involve a broad spectrum of people and services, including:

- **Basic support**, such as income, housing and nutrition;
- **Health care support**, such as rehabilitation services, and complementary and alternative therapies;
- **Psychosocial support**, such as counselling and referrals to peer groups;
- **Vocational support**, such as training and employment counselling; and
- **Social support**, such as referrals to cultural and other community organizations.

Rehabilitation can help people living with HIV/AIDS deal with disability so that they can:

- **stay healthy** and improve their overall quality of life,
- **stay at or go back to work**, and contribute to a stronger economy; and
- **stay active** at home and in their communities.

## What we do

HIV/AIDS affects people from all over the world and from all walks of life — and so does the work we do. CWGHR brings together a wide range of people from many different communities, disciplines and industries.

## We work with

- **People living with HIV/AIDS** to help improve awareness of and access to rehabilitation programs and services;
- **AIDS service organizations** to explain how rehabilitation can be integrated into the programs and services they provide;
- **Rehabilitation and other health care providers** to explain the crucial role of rehabilitation in treating HIV/AIDS and how they can apply their training to give people living with HIV/AIDS better and more integrated care;
- **Employers** to look at ways of diversifying their work force by creating an organizational culture that welcomes and values the experience and perspectives of people living with HIV/AIDS;
- **Governments** to better coordinate policies and programs, and improve legislation affecting people living with HIV/AIDS and other episodic disabilities;
- **Insurance companies** to train front-line insurance staff (e.g. assessors and rehabilitation professionals) and develop more flexible policies to provide access to rehabilitation for people living with HIV/AIDS;
- **Pharmaceutical companies** to promote understanding of how rehabilitation can help people living with HIV/AIDS to stay on their HIV medication by minimizing the side effects;
- **Other health groups** (e.g., breast cancer, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, stroke) to identify common challenges and work together on solutions;
- **Researchers and academics** to identify priorities and emerging issues, and undertake research on rehabilitation and HIV/AIDS; and
- **Journalists** to tell the stories of people living with disabilities related to HIV/AIDS and identify what changes need to be made.

## Help us make a difference

Our work makes a difference, not only in the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS, but in the lives of their families, friends and colleagues. By getting involved with CWGHR, you can help us build stronger communities across Canada. Together, we can make a difference.

## Become a member

Whether you're an individual or an organization affected by HIV/AIDS, disability or rehabilitation, we need your voice at our table. Contact us to find out how your membership in CWGHR can improve the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS — and your own.

Call us at 416 513-0440

E-mail us at [info@hivandrehab.ca](mailto:info@hivandrehab.ca)

Visit us on-line at [www.hivandrehab.ca](http://www.hivandrehab.ca)

## Donate

Your contribution to CWGHR can help fund unique, leading-edge rehabilitation projects that reach people living with HIV/AIDS, and their friends, family and caregivers.

To find out more, please visit

[www.hivandrehab.ca](http://www.hivandrehab.ca).

## Contact Us

Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation

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E-mail: [info@hivandrehab.ca](mailto:info@hivandrehab.ca)

[www.hivandrehab.ca](http://www.hivandrehab.ca)



Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation  
Groupe de travail canadien sur le VIH et la réinsertion sociale

# Membership

To apply for membership, please 1) review our membership guidelines available on our website ([www.hivandrehab.ca](http://www.hivandrehab.ca)) or by mail on request, 2) complete this page (please print clearly), and 3) mail this page with your cheque to CWGHR.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET, SUITE/ APT

CITY

PROVINCE / STATE

POSTAL / ZIP CODE

COUNTRY

TELEPHONE DAY:

EVENING:

FAX:

EMAIL:

## Additional information (optional):

ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATION\* (PAID OR VOLUNTEER WORK): \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION /ROLE: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIFIC INTERESTS IN HIV/DISABILITY/REHABILITATION: \_\_\_\_\_

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT CWGHR?

*(e.g. colleague, professional organization, etc.)*

\*Required for official organizational representative applicants

## Membership Category

## Annual Fee

(Full = voting; Associate = non-voting)

Individual\*\*

Full

\$50

Associate

\$25

Organization\*\*\*

Annual Budget

Full

< \$100,000

\$80

Full

\$100,000 – \$499,999

\$120

Full

\$500,000 – \$1,000,000

\$180

Full

> \$1,000,000

\$200

Associate

Not-for-Profit

\$50

Associate

For Profit / Funding Bodies

*contact CWGHR*

Applicable Annual Fee:

I would like to add a tax-deductible donation of: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*Total Amount payable: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Individual members may apply for a reduced membership fee.  
Please contact CWGHR.

\*\*\* If applying as a representative of an organization please attach a letter of support, including the name and signature of an official contact person.  
A sample letter / template is available on request.

\*\*\*\* Please enclose your cheque made payable to CWGHR and mail with your application to: CWGHR, 1240 Bay Street Suite 600, Toronto ON M5R 2A7 Canada

I have read and accept CWGHR's guiding Mission, Vision, Mandate and Goals, and membership guidelines as outlined in this application:

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_