

# **HIV-Nordic**

# Annual report 2023



Hiv-Norden - Samarbetsorganet för de nordiska paraplyorganisationerna för personer som lever med hiv, organization number 802408-2508.

HIV-Nordic - The co-operative body of the Nordic umbrella-organizations for people living with HIV (PLHIV).

# **HIV-Nordic**

# **Annual report 2023**

The Board of HIV-Nordic Annual report from 1. January – 31. December 2023.

### **Members**

HIV-Danmark (Denmark), HIV-Island (Iceland), HivNorge (Norway), HivFinland (Finland) and Hiv-Sverige (Sweden).

### The Board

The Board has consisted of 10 Directors, 2 from each member organization. The Board is elected for one year at the Annual Meeting:

Chair	Emanuel Karlström	Sweden
Vice Chair	Jacob Hermansen	Norway
Treasurer	Sini Pasanen	Finland
Director	Nonni Mäkikärki	Finland
Director	Einar Jónsson	Iceland
Director	Svavar Jonsson	Iceland
Director	Michael Funch	Denmark
Director	Gertrud Bjørning	Denmark
Director	Simon Blom	Sweden
Director	Bente Bendiksen	Norway

# **The Operations**

Hiv-Nordic arranged the 3rd - 5th March 2023 a weekend workshop and network meeting in Helsinki. At the workshop Kim Fangen held a virtual presentation covering the implementation of peer-coordination at the Hospital of Southern Norway in Kristiansand, which was followed by discussions/workshop on how we as patient organizations can influence and improve the care given for people living with HIV.

Other main topics were how we can present and showcase the diversity among people living with HIV, country updates, future projects and planning and coordination for the seminar in Oslo.

During the country updates all countries shared past, current and future activities. In particular recent surveys and the level of knowledge among healthcare personnel was in focus. These discussions were instrumental in shaping the content and focal point for the Oslo seminar, which subsequently was named "Knowledge about HIV in the Nordic countries".

In summary, the meeting in Helsinki increased knowledge about patient led initiatives in healthcare settings. People living with HIV should in the future become an integral part of hiv-care, to increase patient centered care, empower individuals and decrease stigma. As organizations we need to work to put people living with HIV at the center of developing and influencing how care is provided. Thorough sharing and knowledge exchange did also take place, especially in terms of campaigns, lobbying and policy development

Hiv-Nordic and HivNorge arranged a joint seminar on the theme "Knowledge about HIV in the Nordic countries" on the 1st of September. The seminar took place at Trekanten in central Oslo and all Nordic countries were represented. At the seminar, representatives presented surveys and data on current knowledge from their respective countries. Anders Dahl from Denmark put forward statistics from surveys conducted among people living with HIV, healthcare personnel and the public between 2016 - 2022. Among several noteworthy findings, only 11% of healthcare personnel were aware of the nonexistent risk of transmission for people living with HIV on treatment, also known as U=U. Similar numbers were reported from Finland, as only 14% of the general public knew that people living with HIV on treatment can't pass on the virus. The results were presented by Sini Pasanen from HivFinland. From Sweden, Emanuel Karlström from Hiv-Sweden reported that between 15-40% of respondents of surveys done in the general population knows about U=U, with a higher percentage among women and younger people. The presentations were followed by a discussion among panel members, including patient advocates and representatives from The Norwegian Directorate of Health and the City of Oslo. On the 2nd of September Hiv-Nordic held a board meeting to evaluate the seminar and discuss future meetings, projects and events.

Lastly, the cooperation during the year has also created spin-off activities outside the formal meetings and events. As a few examples, we have assisted each other in preparations and campaigns around World Aids Day, compared drug pricing and helped each other find literature about children living with HIV.

To conclude 2023, we need to continue to work for implementation of patient centered care models and overall empower people living with HIV in all aspects of society. These ambitions lay the foundation for 2024 and onwards for our organization. We will continue to work with a bottom up approach, where member organizations feed knowledge into Hiv-Nordic, which in turn can spark new projects and put a light on persisting and emerging issues for people living with HIV.

# The Strategic Plan

We aim to:

- 1) Strengthen our role as the collaboration body for PLHIV in the Nordic countries.
- 2) Develop collaboration in the Nordic countries between organizations working with HIV.
- 3) Develop new collaborations in the Baltic countries.
- 4) Empowering PLHIV.
- 5) Strengthen our information work.
- 6) Strengthen our advocacy work in the region.

## **Economy**

HIV-Nordic relies on Nordic Welfare Center's support to operate. In 2023 HIV-Nordic was granted support for networking. The fee for membership is collected from member organizations and in 2023 it was 5000 SEK per year.

# Financial Report January 1 - December 31 2023

#### **INCOME**

MEMBER FEES	25 077,03 SEK
NORDIC WELFARE CENTER FOR NETWORK	25 000,00 SEK

TOTAL INCOME	50 077,03	SEK

#### **EXPENDITURE**

BANK COSTS	-1 203,50 SEK
WEBPAGE COST	-1 158,75 SEK
MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS	-55 051,33 SEK

#### **OUTGOING BALANCE**

-7 336,55 SEK

# Annual Meeting, 15th February 2023

Chair	Emanuel Karlström	Sweden
Vice Chair	Nonni Mäkikärki	Finland
Treasurer	Sini Pasanen	Finland
Director	Svavar Jonsson	Iceland
Director	Einar Jónsson	Iceland
Director	Simon Blom	Sweden
Director	Jens Peder Høeberg	Denmark
Director	Vacant	Denmark
Director	Bente Bendiksen	Norway
Director	Jacob Hermansen	Norway