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**The following people are available for interviews at ICAAP.**

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**Dr. Susan Paxton**

*Author of Diamonds, Advisor – APN+*

*Panellist, Empowerment and Positive Women’s Leadership in the Asia-Pacific Region: Launch of Diamonds*

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Dr Susan Paxton is director of *Positive Response*, an independent HIV/AIDS consultancy. She holds honorary positions at Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society, La Trobe University; Burnet Centre for International Health; and APN+ (the Asia Pacific Network of People Living with HIV).

She is an openly HIV-positive activist, passionately committed to training other positive people throughout the Asia Pacific region, particularly young women. Her research indicates the significant impact of positive people as AIDS educators, as well as the challenges to meaningfully involving HIV-positive people in the response to AIDS. She was responsible for the first documentation of AIDS-related discrimination in Asia.

Susan carried the Olympic Torch on behalf of HIV-positive people for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. She is the author of ***Diamonds***.

**Ms. Narisa Eroles (Neri)**

*AIDS Activist, Sister Plus, Philippines*

*Panellist, Empowerment and Positive Women’s Leadership in the Asia-Pacific Region: Launch of Diamonds*

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Neri was diagnosed HIV positive in 1994. She has been working as a peer educator of the Angeles City AIDS Council under the City health Office for 5 years. She conducts seminars, lectures and delivers counseling to patients with Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI), and provides support to others at risk of HIV/AIDS and STI. She is also a member of Sister Plus-Philippines. Neri’s story is featured in ***Diamonds***, the publication, as well as the documentary.

**Ms. Kirenjit Kaur**

*AIDS Activist, The Asia-Pacific Council of AIDS Service Organisations (APCASO), Malaysia*

*Panellist, Empowerment and Positive Women’s Leadership in the Asia-Pacific Region: Launch of Diamonds*

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Kirenjit’s story is featured in ***Diamonds***, the publication, as well as the documentary.

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**Ms. Maura Elaripe Mea**

*GIPA Advocacy Officer – PNG-Australia HIV Programme*

*Panellist, Empowerment and Positive Women's Leadership in the Asia-Pacific Region: Launch of Diamonds*

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Maura's story is featured in ***Diamonds***, the publication.

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**Ms. Huynh Nhu Thanh Huyen**

*AIDS Activist, Southern PLHIV Network (SPN+), Vietnam*

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Thanh Huyen, one of the first activist in the movement of the advocacy for the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV in Vietnam in Vietnam, especially in the establishment and development of Southern Network of PLWH to improve the quality of life of PLWH in Vietnam since 2003.

Now, Huyen and her PLWH colleagues have positive contribution to the advocacy for the right of PLWH, to reduce stigma and discrimination and to promote the prevention of HIV among PLWH community in the South of Vietnam. Together with the effort to link PLWH in Vietnam in the community, the network of people living with HIV in Vietnam and the network of women living HIV have been established. Huyen's role now focuses on advocacy for the comprehensive and qualified services for women living with HIV and for PLWHA in Vietnam. Huynh's story is featured in ***Diamonds***, the publication, as well as the documentary.

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**Ms. Pheng Pharoizin**

**Coordinator, Cambodian Community of Women Living with HIV and AIDS (CCW)**

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Ms. Pharoizin is the Coordinator of the Cambodian Community of Women Living with HIV and AIDS (CCW). CCW, established in the late 2004, is a network run by and for HIV positive women. The CCW holds a unique position in representing the "women's voice" in Cambodia's response to the HIV epidemic. The CCW represents HIV positive women in twelve provinces and sixteen self-help groups in Phnom Penh. The CCW aims to extend its scope to become a national representative body for all HIV positive women. Through CCW, the empowerment of women living with HIV and AIDS to provide a united voice, promote HIV positive women's leadership at all levels, and improve the quality of life of HIV positive women throughout Cambodia. Pharoizin's story is featured in ***Diamonds***, the publication, as well as the documentary.