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HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights

Founded through support of the Association Francois-Xavier Bagnoud
The François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights was founded at the Harvard School of Public Health in January 1993. The Center considers the promotion and protection of health and the promotion and protection of human rights to be inextricably linked and is dedicated to exploring the conceptual dimensions and practical applications of this critical relationship. Through its concentrated focus on the intersection of health and human rights, the Center also seeks to help revitalize the field of public health and broaden human rights thinking and practice. The Center offers numerous courses on health and human rights at Harvard and around the world, and Center staff publish widely in the field. In addition, analytical and policy-oriented research is carried out through its three programs: International Health and Human Rights, directed by Sofia Gruskin; Humanitarian Crises and Human Rights, directed by Jennifer Leaning; and Human Rights in Development, directed by Stephen P. Marks who also serves as the Center’s director.

The Harvard School of Public Health includes more than 200 faculty members working in various disciplines of public health. The overriding mission of the School — to advance the public’s health through learning and discovery — comprises four objectives: to provide the highest level of education to public health scientists, practitioners and leaders; to foster new discoveries leading to improved health for the people of the United States and all nations; to strengthen health capacities and services for communities; and to inform policy debate, disseminate health information, and increase awareness of public health as a public good and fundamental right.

Since its founding in 1989, the Association François-Xavier Bagnoud (AFXB) has been a leading innovator and pioneer in the fight against HIV/AIDS and the formulation of low-cost solutions to care for those infected and affected by the virus. AFXB works with the conviction that the inextricable link between health and human rights is a key to sustainable development. It currently supports worldwide programs of prevention and treatment, basic education, and nutrition support and advocates for those who have neither the voice nor the power to affect change: namely the children, especially all orphans and vulnerable children. The Association François-Xavier Bagnoud bears the name of a young Swiss rescue pilot who died in a helicopter accident while flying over the desert in Mali in 1986.
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Health and Human Rights is a peer-reviewed international journal dedicated to studying the relationships between human rights and health. The journal examines the effects of human rights violations on health; the impacts of health policies on human rights; and the inextricable nature of the relationship between the promotion and protection of health and the promotion and protection of human rights.

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