

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation

The *Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric Aids Foundation* is CWA's Charity of Choice and over the course of twenty plus years CWA has donated over 6.5 million dollars. The Foundation's goal is to prevent pediatric HIV and to eradicate the disease through research, advocacy, prevention and treatment programs. Each minute a baby is infected with HIV and nearly one half million will die each year.

In 1981 Elizabeth Glaser was infected with the AIDS virus through a blood transfusion. She and her husband, actor Paul Glaser later learned she had unknowingly passed the virus onto her daughter, Ariel and subsequently to her son, Jake. At the time it wasn't widely known HIV/AIDS could be passed from mother to child in utero or when breast feeding.

Following Ariel's death in 1988, Elizabeth and two of her best friends created the foundation with a critical mission: to bring hope to children and families affected by AIDS. The hope was to establish a strong voice for children by raising awareness and funding for Pediatric Aids research.

While new cases of HIV infected children has declined the disease has exploded in underdeveloped third world countries. World wide estimates are 1100 children are infected everyday with 90% acquiring the disease from their mothers.

Before losing her own battle in 1994 Elizabeth was a force on Capitol Hill meeting with elected officials and policy makers. She spoke to the National Media and was a guest speaker during CWA's Convention in San Francisco.

CWA is proud to support this charity which has continued with help from her husband, her son, her friends and the Foundation. The Foundation feels the vast majority of deaths in children with AIDS is preventable but they are not reaching nearly enough children with the treatment that can save their lives.

When it comes to eradicating Pediatric Aids, no organization, government, corporation or individual can do it alone. Only by working together can real solutions be discovered to give to children and their families. Your support is needed. (somewhere in here highlight it so when they click on it they will be taken to www.pedaids.org)