The B4H plans for the New Decade from Andrew the Millennial

Its now 2020 and our mission to end the impact of TB & HIV in the private sector is in full swing, but

before I dive into the year we had, and man what a year we had, I would like to remind our lovely sponsors and subscribers of our lean, mean, amazing TB butt-kicking team. The team is comprised of four amazing, dedicated and hard-working women and one millennial monkey that swings by the office time to time because being a Uni student means being broke and we all need to find a way to get by, that's me by the way. To call our office four (occasionally five) person team is small is an understatement, we are a tiny team but be sure we make a huge difference.

In 2019 B4H kicked off the year with the first ever TB street festival! It was quite a thing to be involved in a joyous street party about the world most deadly infectious disease, and whilst trying to move office! We we are now based at G4S Konedobu. Special thanks to G4S for hosting us for 2019 and to the Port Moresby Chamber of Commerce for their support in 2018. The TB street festival experiment was a raging success... yes, the National Basketball team shot 6000 points – one for every cases of TB in the NCD in 2018! And yes, hundreds of downtown Mosbi workers learned a little more about what killed over 4000 Papua New Guineans during 2019 at the 20 different stalls offering TB learning challenges.

Apart from 7 workplace TB Wardens training courses, B4H hosted the HIV policy update workshop, ran brilliant booths at the APNG Business council forum, Morobe show, at World AIDS Day 2019 here in Mosbi. B4H edu-tains (that's a new word) 1000s on our social media pages. Most importantly the 99 new TB wardens trained from businesses across PNG businesses have set about supporting the finding, testing, treating and returning to work of people found to have TB! It's massive!

It continuously astounds me how much the team gets done, I, having only joined 12 months ago and seen just how hard the whole team works. Dr Ann, Nerrie, Lorrie and Catherine are drivers of positive behaviour change. Apparently, it's not OK to just stand around, not nothing and watch colleagues or family members die of TB? And when it happens it makes these B4H women really mad! So, I am happy to be the pet millennial here at the office and the girls agree, my job is to write this note. I think they find me mildly amusing.

Working here at the B4H I've learnt many things about TB and HIV which has inspired the thespian/playwright in me to write a new play, which we will sure to keep you updated on. Dr Ann has told me I will win the BBC radio playwriting competition, and if I don't win, she will sack me – again.

Looking on into 2020, the girls, oops I mean women, at the office with or without me have set their sights on continuing and improving the TB Warden's training. They have also created a healthy eating workshop for workplaces...You can be sure this junk food kid will not be invited as a guest presenter.... Crunch...Crumbs...

In 2020 B4H will conduct TB training in not only in Port Moresby and Lae but now for the first time in Kimbe, Madang, Kokopo, Wewak, Hagen and Goroka – thanks to extra support from a new gold sponsor Remington. Also, for those who remember our fabulous TB Street festival we will be doing that again only bigger and better but no spoilers for that! And we have plans for World AIDS Day 2020 and World No Buai Day.... yes.... I know, World No Buai Day, it's not real but don't argue that with Dr Ann. I tried and I failed.

Dr Ann, who's desk I face, just reminded me to "thank you". I forgot, all the work we do here, is because of the businesses that sponsor and subscribe to our training and support us in the national effort to #endTB. So yes, we here at the B4H office we would not be able to do the amazing work we do without all of you. So thank you. Thank you for allowing (and paying) this great team of four women, one millennial and

several fabulous volunteers like Stewart, E'ama and Tanya to help the private sector protect themselves against TB and prevent anyone dying unnecessarily from TB.

My New Year's wish for B4H is to continue to help and I can't wait to see where 2020 takes the team.

From the amazing women and the Millennial

We all wish you a safe, healthy and happy new year! Andrew.



B4H ran PNG's first ever HIV prevention social media competition. Here I am trying to remember how many condoms I put in the jars?!!