

Bertman Receives Robert F. Kennedy Award for Social Justice



A **Sandra Bertman, PhD, FT** was recently honored with the 2018 Robert F. Kennedy award for Social Justice on September 21, 2018.

The message below was written by Leonard Alberts, MD President, NEAHOF National Association on HIV Over Fifty to inform Sandy of her award.

For more than twenty-five years since the struggle against AIDS began, your work has exemplified true dedication to the principles evoked by Robert F. Kennedy in a speech delivered in Capetown, South Africa in 1966:

Few will have the greatness to bend history; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation ... It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is thus shaped. Each time a (wo)man

stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, (s)he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

Your work in the Humanities and Arts has served as a pathway for those who have experienced grief and loss due to the HIV epidemic. The many workshops and seminars that you have made available for providers in the United States and in the International arena have brought the concepts of management of Grief and Loss to PLWHA, families and providers who are over fifty. You have given many hours of time and effort to better the experience for those who are touched by the HIV epidemic. You shined a light on the ways that social injustice impacts PLWHA even in the end of life experience and more importantly you brought us examples of how to provide quality grief and loss support even in the face of inequity.

We honor your many efforts and applaud your continued support of the National Association on HIV Over Fifty, PLWHA's and providers who serve them.