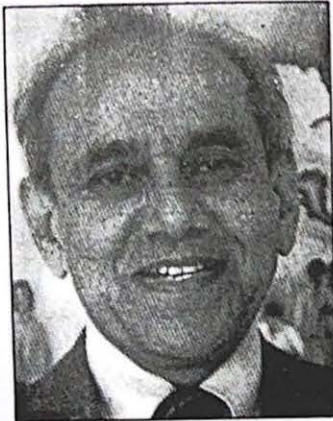


The South End

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# WSU targets middle school children in new AIDS research programs

By Ave Tabaka  
South End Staff Writer



All Naqvi, director of the WSU AIDS Research and Education program said "Although we will have more programs after this one, the goal of this one is to get children who are pre-adolescent and adolescent interested in learning about how to stop the spread of AIDS." See story at right for details.

With the spread of AIDS on the rise, Wayne State is working to educate middle school students on AIDS prevention in addition to its tradition of hosting special programs for local high schools.

"What we are trying to do is to teach young people how to protect themselves from the AIDS virus, and how to stop the spread of AIDS," said Ali Naqvi, director of WSU AIDS Research and Education program.

THE WSU AIDS Research

and Education program is co-sponsoring an AIDS Action Day with Wayne County Commissioners Jackie Currie and Bernard Parker for area middle school students on Friday May 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the McGregor Memorial Conference Center.

"We chose to use middle school students because we are training them about preventing AIDS and when they get to high school they will become peer counselors for the program," Currie said.

According to Currie, there will be a separate workshop for parents on learning how to listen to their children, "because

sometimes as parents we don't always listen to what our children have to say."

In addition to the lectures and workshops, students can participate in three projects: poster design, doing something musical, or performing in a skit dealing with safe sex or preventing AIDS.

THERE WILL BE about 350 student attending the program from five area middle schools; McMichael, Butzel, Hutchins, Hamilton and Joy.

