

## People with HIV & AIDS

PEOPLE WITH HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) or  
Autoimmune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

Having an impaired immune system, so their bodies have trouble fighting off infections.

You cannot catch HIV from casual contact.

Such as shaking hands so do not be afraid of touching or being touched by a person with AIDS.

A person with HIV or AIDS is at significant risk of picking up an airborne infection.

Be conscious of not putting someone else at risk.

If you have a respiratory infection or any other easily transmittable illness be considerate of all your customers and employees and stay home, if possible.

Many people with AIDS feel stigmatized.

Let the person know that they are accepted. It will mean a lot to them.

### A WORD ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY:

You may really care, or you may just be curious about a person with a disability who is in crisis, suddenly ill, or misses work for unexplained reasons.

Despite your concern, please respect the privacy of a person with a disability.

Allow them to discuss their situation if and when they feel comfortable doing so.