



IntraHealth
INTERNATIONAL
Because Health Workers Save Lives.



ZAMBIA

Since 2007, IntraHealth International has partnered with the Zambian government and other stakeholders to increase access to high-quality HIV counseling and testing services and to prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission. Zambia suffers a 12.3% adult HIV prevalence rate and IntraHealth is working with the Zambian government to build the capacity of the national response.¹

IntraHealth works with local communities to provide basic HIV education and prevention services and to empower lay counselors to offer HIV counseling, testing, and referrals for treatment and care. IntraHealth has provided HIV testing to 559,009 people and has demonstrated success in implementing HIV testing services for key populations. IntraHealth has identified 59,955 people as HIV positive and enrolled 51,561 (86%) of those people in treatment.

IntraHealth recognizes the importance of health workers in addressing HIV and other issues as well as strengthening health systems in Zambia and has worked across various projects to empower communities and frontline health teams to help create a healthier Zambia.

Improving and Expanding Access to and Uptake of HIV Testing and Counseling (2012-2018)

Through this US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded project, IntraHealth works with district health offices and communities to provide HIV education, testing, and counseling via lay counselors. So far the project has trained almost 400 additional lay counselors, building on the achievements of IntraHealth's previous Improving Access and Uptake of Routine Confidential Counseling and Testing project.



Nearly one in six adults in Zambia live with HIV



Over 550,000 clients counseled and tested for HIV



Almost 400 lay counselors trained in door-to-door HIV counseling and testing

¹ ZAMPHIA 2016



In line with PEPFAR and Zambian government priorities, the project provides testing and counseling for key populations (including female sex workers and men who have sex with men), priority populations (including pregnant women, young men aged 10-29 years, and young women aged 15-24), and vulnerable populations (such as prisoners and migrant/mobile populations). The project implements the DREAMS Initiative at 11 sites, which works to reduce new HIV infections in adolescent girls and young women and helps them develop into Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe women. IntraHealth is implementing the Test and Start initiative in 11 sites of Lusaka District. The Test and Start initiative is expanding uptake of HIV testing services and ART treatment of boys and men ages 15-29 who are possible partners of adolescent girls and young women.

Lay counselors advise clients living with HIV about the importance of adhering to their antiretroviral medication, how to avoid transmission or re-infection with HIV or other sexually transmitted infections, and the proper use of condoms. Counselors also assist HIV positive couples to make informed decisions about family planning and pregnancy.

IntraHealth is collaborating with the Zambian Health, Education, and Communication Trust (ZHECT) to train volunteers in social behavior-change communication to address stigma and other barriers clients face when they consider testing and counseling services.

Primary Health Care To Communities (PHC2C) (2015-2017)

Through the PHC2C consortium funded by Johnson & Johnson, IntraHealth is working to strengthen community systems, empower frontline health teams, and advance universal health coverage in Zambia by building the leadership competencies and management skills of nurses and midwives serving as rural health facility heads. IntraHealth developed a Certificate in Leadership and Management Practices for nurses, a year-long blended learning program. The use of a mobile app to deliver videos and course content helps to build nurses' and midwives' confidence and skills using technology. Nurses complete a Community Health Improvement Project, which allows the nurse in charge to apply his or her learning to a real community challenge. Results have brought improved management practices and innovative service improvements and the project has been scaled nationally as continuing professional development training delivered by the University of Zambia School of Nursing.

Past projects and funders

- Pratt Pouch, 2013-2014 (USAID)
- Partnership for Integrated Social Marketing (PRISM) Project, 2009-2014 (USAID)
- Improving Access and Uptake of Routine Confidential Counseling and Testing, 2007-2012 (CDC)
- Capacity Project, 2004-2009 (USAID)
- PRIME II Project, 1999-2004 (USAID)

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