

FALL 2011

AIHA PARTNERSHIPS IN MOZAMBIQUE

- Universidade Católica de Moçambique / University of Pittsburgh
(HIV Care and Treatment)
- Mozambique Open Architectures, Standards, and Information Systems / JEMBI
(e-Health Systems)
- Associação Nacional dos Enfermeiros de Moçambique / St. Luke's School of Nursing at Moravian College
(Nursing Leadership)
- Edward Mondlane University / University of California Los Angeles
(Pediatric Surgery)

CONTACT US

For more information about our projects in Mozambique, please contact Sandra Guiamba, AIHA Country Representative, at sguiambak@gmail.com.

HIV/AIDS Twinning Center Partnerships in Mozambique

Prevalence of HIV infection in Mozambique is estimated to be 11.5 percent among people aged 15-49 and varies across different provinces. Some 1.4 million Mozambicans were living with HIV as of 2009. Currently, regional economic developments and employment opportunities are expanding, resulting in more migration, more disposable income, a disintegrating family structure, and an increase in the commercial sex industry, thus compounding infection rates. With support from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the US Government team in country, the American International Health Alliance's HIV/AIDS Twinning Center currently manages four partnerships in Mozambique and operates a small country office in Maputo.

Scaling Up HIV Treatment in Sofala Province

Mozambique faces a human resource shortage that is hindering its ability to rapidly scale up efforts to provide ART to people living with HIV. Adding to the complexity of the situation is the fact that approximately 17 percent of the public healthcare workforce is infected with HIV and in need of care themselves. Mozambique's Ministry of Health recognizes the need to train additional healthcare workers to combat HIV/AIDS and is now targeting in-service training for mid- and lower-level healthcare workers as a key component of its national HIV/AIDS strategic plan. In an effort to support this Ministry initiative, AIHA has linked the Universidade Católica de Moçambique (UCM) with the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania. The overall goal of this partnership is to increase the availability of quality HIV services in Mozambique's Sofala Province, with specific objectives including increasing the numbers of qualified healthcare workers in trained in HIV/AIDS and creating a model clinic that provides quality HIV care and treatment services, as well as serves as a clinical training facility for healthcare professionals. UCM opened the St. Luke Health Center in June 2009. Since then, staff have treated more than 12,000 patients and launched a training program at St. Lucas for medical students and Agentes de Medicinas. In addition, partners initiated mandatory rural site visits for 5th and 6th year medical students and established clinical rotations to provide medical students the opportunity to gain critical patient care skills. UCM was granted permission by the Ministry of Health to begin providing ARV drugs and is currently waiting for final confirmation from the government. Plans for the coming year include adding two more Mozambican physicians to the St. Luke's staff, launching onsite HIV counseling and testing services for high-risk individuals, and collaborating with the Ministry of Health to ensure reliable access to ARVs and other pharmaceuticals.

Partnering to Strengthen e-Health Systems

Partners at the Mozambique Open Architectures, Standards, and Information Systems (MOASIS) are working with South Africa-based NGO JEMBI to strengthen Mozambique's access to international health resources through the correct use and implementation of e-health and health information systems. Key objectives of this partnership are to support JEMBI as a social enterprise and investigate sustainable models to grow the organization in future. Partners are also working to build the organizational capacity of MOASIS, bolster performance of the Ministry of Health's human resources development activities, and support collaboration of the principles with other key stakeholders. Partners recently completed their year one work plan, which includes developing specialized e-health business plans for MOASIS and participation in the World Health Organization Family of International Classification (WHO-FIC) collaborating centers conference hosted by the South African Medical Research Council in Cape Town.

Developing Strong Nurse Leaders



Mozambican nursing professionals participate in a small group session during the final session of the MNLi pilot program conducted by Twinning Center partners and AONE technical experts in August 2011 in Maputo.

Associação Nacional dos Enfermeiros de Moçambique (ANEMO) — the National Association of Mozambican Nurses — has been collaborating with St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing at Moravian College in Pennsylvania since 2008 to strengthen ANEMO's capacity as the leading autonomous professional nursing association in the country. The American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) also supports the work of this partnership, providing technical assistance on nursing leadership.

Key objectives of this alliance are to increase ANEMO's capacity to develop in-country nurse leaders through the Mozambican Nursing Leadership Institute (MNLi), to develop ANEMO's organizational infrastructure, and to elevate the association by strengthen the relationships, linkages, and visibility among national and international stakeholders.

The successful completion of the year-long pilot MNLi program in 2010-2011 represents a major achievement of this partnership. Some 43 Mozambican nurses — along with a small number of international participants — graduated from MNLi in August 2011 and ANEMO faculty trained through the process conducted the first training for the second, locally facilitated MNLi session. In addition, both US and Mozambican partners attended and co-facilitated workshops and presentations during ANEMO's regional Inhambane general assembly meeting. They also completed development of ANEMO's web site and finalized began disseminating quarterly newsletters to ANEMO members.

Plans for the coming year include conducting local nursing events during International Nursing Week and National Nursing Week; facilitating two additional MNLi sessions; and participating in AONE's annual meeting. They will also conduct health fairs and other community service projects.

Strengthening Pediatric and Newborn Care

In 2011, AIHA launched a university-based partnership linking Mozambique's Edward Mondlane University (UEM) with the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). The overall goal of this partnership is to improve quality of care at UEM with a particular focus on pediatric services. Key objectives of this new partnership are to improve newborn care and pediatric surgical care at UEM's Maputo Central Hospital, as well as to strengthen the institution's capacity to care for critically ill children.

UCLA technical experts have thoroughly assessed the pediatric and neonatology units at Maputo Central Hospital and, together, the partners have completed their year one work plan. The US partners have also provided hands-on trainings and mentorship for pediatric surgeons at Maputo Central Hospital. In the coming year, they plan to focus on training local healthcare providers — including nurses working in labor and delivery and with newborns — on neonatal resuscitation techniques. They also plan to develop and implement guidelines for management of common neonatal diagnoses, such as severe infection and sepsis, preterm infant care, asphyxiated newborn, jaundice, and respiratory distress.

AIHA/Mozambique

The HIV/AIDS Twinning Center

Sandra Guiamba, Country Representative
Av. Mao Tse Tung Nr 820
Caixa Postal 149, Maputo, Mozambique
Tel: (258) 21490433
Fax: (258) 21490427
Mobile: (258) 821350507
E-mail: sguiambak@gmail.com
www.TwinningAgainstAIDS.org

