

Prevention with Positives Partnership Looks to Scale Up Project in Mozambique

The Twinning Center's CDC-funded Prevention with Positives partnership is gearing up for the expansion of the project to two additional sites in the coming year.

The partnership—which links Beluluane Clinic and the Namaacha Health Center in Mozambique with the University of California in San Francisco (UCSF)—is in the process of looking at potential scale up sites in Sofala and Zambezia provinces.



Members of a community-based education and outreach organization in Chinde display a map that illustrates local sites they support.

A team of Twinning Center staff and partners traveled to Mozambique June 27-July 15, where they conducted a series of meetings with various community-based groups and nongovernmental organizations, including Columbia University's International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs and World Vision's Reduction of the Impact of Transmission of AIDS Project.

Based on these visits, partners will work with the US government team in Mozambique to select the scale up sites.

In the meantime, partners continue to provide training and technical assistance to Beluluane volunteers and staff to improve community-based prevention services. At Namaacha, they are training staff to provide prevention counseling to HIV-positive patients who visit the clinic.

Working together, they are incorporating interventions that help people living with HIV reduce their risk of transmitting the virus to others into existing services.

Community-based programs targeted include support groups and organizations that provide voluntary counseling and testing and home-based care.

In May, four counselors from Mozambique traveled to San Francisco, where they attended an array of meetings, workshops, and other training events related to prevention with positives programs.

This training was continued during the more recent exchange when UCSF partners had the opportunity to observe the counselors in action and provide feedback and mentoring.

Partners have also been working to finalize a monitoring and evaluation protocol, along with seven quantitative and qualitative tools designed to facilitate accurate tracking of prevention activities.

During the July exchange, they met with Dr. Francisco Mbofana, head of the Bio-Ethics Committee at Mozambique's Ministry of Health, to discuss submission of the instruments for Ministry approval in August.