ELIZABETH GLASER PEDIATRIC AIDS FOUNDATION

FACT SHEET

photo: Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

International Programs

Program Success: Beatrice, Tanzania

Beatrice was 20 years old when she discovered she was both pregnant and HIV positive. Afraid to disclose her status, Beatrice hid her infection from her family and her boyfriend until she was seven months pregnant. Late in her pregnancy, Beatrice began receiving antenatal care and HIV treatment through a Foundation-supported facility in Tanzania. She eventually delivered a healthy baby girl, Lightness Andrea, who tested negative for HIV.

The Foundation is working to make healthy lives a reality for children, women, and families living in regions hardest-hit by HIV/AIDS. By supporting women like Beatrice and her daughter, the Foundation is giving more mothers the opportunity to deliver healthy babies and more children the chance at living healthy lives. Each healthy baby, and every happy childhood, is one step closer to our ultimate goal: a generation free of HIV.

Setting the Stage: The Global Pandemic

More than 20 years ago, Elizabeth Glaser inspired a movement that led to the near elimination of pediatric AIDS in the United States and Europe. Today, fewer than 200 babies each year are born with HIV in the United States, and other high-income countries are achieving similar results as well. Extending that success around the globe, work by the Foundation—and other global organizations and governments—is reducing the spread of HIV and providing more children and families with access to the services they need to remain healthy. In 2010, 48 percent of HIV-positive pregnant women in countries hardest hit by the AIDS pandemic received medicines for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV, an increase from 15 percent just five years earlier. Likewise, 42 percent of HIV-exposed infants received medicines that help to prevent mother-to-child transmission in 2010.

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Although successes like these are encouraging, much work remains to be done—each day, more than 1,000 children become newly infected with HIV, with 90 percent of those contracting the virus through mother-to-child transmission. Without treatment, almost half of these children will die before their second birthdays.

As HIV continues to disproportionately affect sub-Saharan Africa—and as rates of mother-to-child transmission of HIV increase in Eastern Europe and Central Asia—a global response is imperative for reaching the goal of eliminating pediatric AIDS worldwide.

Foundation Response

In support of this goal, since 2000, the Foundation has worked on the ground in countries around the world, partnering with governments and existing facilities to provide effective responses to the spread of HIV. Specifically, Foundation programs include the following:

- Provision of PMTCT services
- Provision of HIV care and treatment for children and families, including antiretroviral therapy (ART), which keeps HIV from replicating and causing additional damage to the immune system
- Linkages between PMTCT services and care and treatment in order to provide a continuum of care
- Research to identify better technologies and interventions in PMTCT and HIV care and treatment
- Documentation of replicable models in PMTCT and care and treatment
- Training of local research and program leaders in the continuation and advancement of Foundation programs and initiatives

The Foundation is currently working in more than 5,400 sites around the world. Since its international efforts began,* Foundation-supported programs have

- Provided more than 14.2 million women with services to prevent transmission of HIV to their babies;
- Tested nearly 12.4 million women for HIV;
- Enrolled more than 1.6 million individuals, including more than 125,000 children, into HIV care and support programs; and
- Started more than 850,000 individuals, including nearly 70,000 children under the age of 15, on antiretroviral treatment.

The Foundation's international programs are supported with resources from the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, and the U.K. Department for International Development, as well as contributions from Johnson & Johnson, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Boehringer Ingelheim, Abbott Fund, and ViiV Healthcare, and essential support from other private corporations, foundations, and individuals.

There is hope for mothers like Beatrice. The Foundation, along with partner organizations and governmental agencies, is leading the way in the global fight to eliminate pediatric AIDS and is helping make HIV prevention, care, and treatment a reality for the most vulnerable children and families. Until all children have the opportunity to grow up happy and healthy, the Foundation remains dedicated to Elizabeth's dream and our critical mission to eliminate pediatric AIDS.

Elizabeth Glaser acquired HIV through a blood transfusion and unknowingly passed the virus on to her daughter, Ariel, and her son, Jake. Following Ariel's death in 1988, Elizabeth joined with two close friends with one goal: to bring hope to children with AIDS. The Foundation that now bears Elizabeth Glaser's name has become a global leader in the effort to eliminate pediatric AIDS, working in 15 countries and at more than 5,400 sites around the world to prevent the transmission of HIV to children and help those already infected with the virus. The Foundation's global mission is to implement prevention, care, and treatment; further advance innovative research; and give those affected by HIV and AIDS a voice to bring dramatic change to the lives of millions of children, women, and families worldwide.

*Data through December 31, 2011