



Photo: Heather Mason/EGPAF, 2014



**Elizabeth Glaser
Pediatric AIDS
Foundation**

THE MALAWI PROGRAM

Working with Women, Children, and Families to End Pediatric AIDS

EGPAF IN MALAWI

Approximately one million people are currently living with HIV in Malawi. There are approximately 550,000 women aged 15 and over living with HIV in Malawi. 97.9% of the HIV-positive women are reported to be on antiretroviral therapy (ART), which indicates high coverage of interventions for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT)

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) began collaborating with local partners in 2001 to initiate one of Malawi's first programs to provide PMTCT services. Currently, EGPAF-Malawi supports provision of comprehensive adult, adolescent, and pediatric HIV prevention, care and treatment services to 147 Malawian Ministry of Health (MOH) and faith-based facilities including district-level health teams and community-based organizations (CBOs).

COUNTRY PROFILE*

Population	18,622,000
Number of people living with HIV	1,000,000
Adult (15-49 years of age) HIV prevalence rate	10.6%
Women aged 15 years of age and older living with HIV	550,000
Children (0-14 years of age) living with HIV	110,000
Children infected with HIV due to mother-to child HIV transmission	4,300
Deaths due to AIDS in 2016	24,000
Number of new HIV infections in 2016	30,000

KEY PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Since 2001, EGPAF-Malawi has:



Started over 219,059 individuals on ART, including over 36,751 children



Ensured nearly 55,523 pregnant women and over 50,000 children received antiretroviral prophylaxis

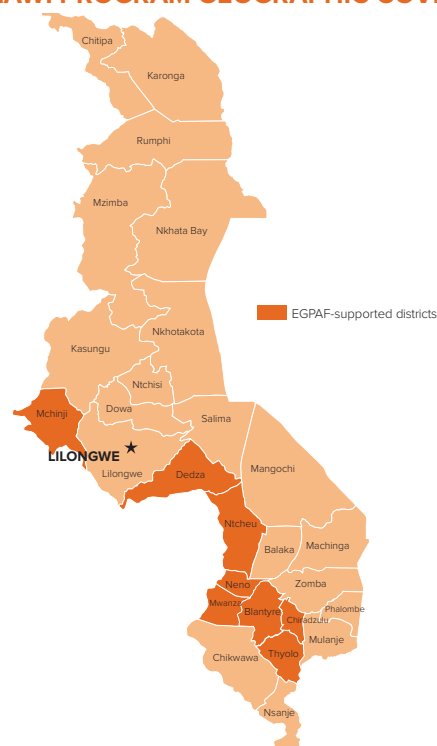


Provided PMTCT services to more than 993,507 women



Tested more than 1,118,530 women for HIV

EGPAF-MALAWI PROGRAM GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE



* Sources: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS, HIV and AIDS estimates (2016) and World Bank, Malawi population projection (201), Malawi Population Based HIV Impact Assessment (2015-2016).

** Data as of May 2018

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Achieving HIV Epidemic Control through Scaling-up Quality Testing, Care and Treatment in Malawi (2017-2022)

EGPAF, in close collaboration with Malawi's MOH, is implementing this five-year project under the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with funding from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The project is implemented in 147 facilities across eight districts. It aims to deliver HIV care and treatment and TB services in line with Malawi's National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan for 2015-2020 and PEPFAR's 2017-2020 Strategy for Accelerating HIV/AIDS Epidemic Control.

Catalyzing Pediatric Tuberculosis Innovations (CaP TB) Project (2017-2021)

CaP TB is a four-year project, funded and supported by Unitaid, which aims to reduce pediatric TB morbidity and mortality in nine sub-Saharan African countries, including Malawi, as well as in India. The project will be implemented in 40 high-TB burden health facilities in seven districts. In collaboration with the National TB Program, EGPAF will identify innovations for diagnostics, treatment, and service delivery models to tackle pediatric TB case finding, prevention, care, and treatment services.

Technical Assistance to Community-Based Organizations (2017-2020)

Through funding from ViiV's Positive Action for Children Fund, EGPAF provides technical assistance and capacity building to CBOs identified by ViiV. As of March 2018, EGPAF was supporting five CBOs in four districts. Capacity building focuses on governance, organizational management including human resources, procurement, awards and finance, program management, monitoring and evaluation, advocacy and resource mobilization. With this capacity building, the CBOs will be able to sustainably improve HIV outcomes through their incremental improvement in organizational and technical capacity.

Delivering Technical Assistance (DELTA) Project (2013-2019)

EGPAF launched the DELTA project in 2013 with PEPFAR/CDC funding. The purpose of DELTA is to provide targeted and cost-effective technical assistance and program implementation expertise in PMTCT and pediatric and adult HIV care and treatment service programs in high HIV prevalence settings. The following DELTA initiative are currently underway in Malawi:

EXTENSION FOR COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE AND OUTCOMES (ECHO) (2018): EGPAF is collaborating with Lighthouse to pilot the ECHO mentorship model in Malawi to develop and demonstrate an effective telehealth clinical mentorship model for advanced HIV care and treatment services in a resource-constrained setting

ADAPTATION AND EVALUATION OF THE PMTCT COMMUNITY SCORE CARD APPROACH IN DEDZA AND NTCHEU DISTRICTS (2016-2018): This project,

in partnership with CARE, will adapt the CARE Community Score Card (CSC) to PMTCT settings across 11 sites in two districts in Malawi. The CSC engages both service providers and users within a clinical setting in dialogues to identify solutions to the perceived barriers with health service delivery and utilization. The adaptation of the CSC will be evaluated through a pre-post design to measure the change in maternal retention on ART, change in maternal retention across the PMTCT service cascade, and uptake of early infant diagnosis (EID) services following CSC implementation. Additionally, the project will estimate the cost and cost-effectiveness of the adapted CSC implementation.

MALAWI HIV DRUG RESISTANCE (HIVDR) SURVEY (2016-2018): EGPAF, with support from CDC and the MOH, is conducting a survey for HIVDR surveillance to assess nationally representative levels of HIVDR and VL suppression in both adults and children receiving ART (acquired drug resistance, or ADR) and those initiating ART (pre-treatment drug resistance or PDR) using cross-sectional study designs

ADVOCACY

EGPAF-Malawi participates in numerous national technical working groups focused on PMTCT, HIV care and treatment, TB, human resources for health, sexual and reproductive health, program monitoring and evaluation, and quality assurance. EGPAF continually promotes solutions to reduce the pediatric treatment gaps.

RESEARCH

EGPAF Malawi conducts operations research to better understand patient perceptions of HIV prevention, care, and treatment services, and to increase opportunities to improve EID, care and treatment, and PMTCT/ART services. Findings provide important information to improve service delivery. Some of the continuing studies include:

THE ADAPTATION AND EVALUATION OF THE PMTCT COMMUNITY SCORE CARD APPROACH IN DEDZA AND NTCHEU DISTRICTS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MOH AND CARE (2016-2018): The adaptation of the CSC will be evaluated through a pre-post design to measure the change in maternal retention on ART, change in maternal retention across the PMTCT service cascade, and uptake of EID services following CSC implementation.

THE MALAWI HIV DRUG RESISTANCE SURVEY: Using a cross-sectional study design, this study aims to assess nationally representative levels of HIVDR and VL suppression in both adults and children receiving ART (ADR) and those initiating ART (pre-treatment drug resistance or PDR).

AN EVALUATION OF THE EXTENSION FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE OUTCOMES (ECHO) PROJECT: This study aims to increase the workforce capacity of the national ART program of Malawi to provide high quality HIV care and treatment through twinning of existing centers of excellence to other referral level ART clinics through hub-and-spoke, knowledge-sharing networks that use multi-point videoconferencing.

The activities described here were made possible by the generous support of the American people through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention under the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, Unitaid, and ViiV Healthcare's Positive Action for Children Fund. The content included here is the responsibility of EGPAF and does not necessarily represent the official views of these donors.

