The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) has over 30 years of experience in global health and pandemic response. What started as a funding mechanism to enhance research to prevent and treat HIV in children in the U.S. has now become a mission-driven organization devoted to the healthy lives of children and families in close to 30 countries.

How: Our Set of Solutions to Address Global Health Crises

- **Technical Assistance:** EGPAF bolsters support to health programs using several mechanisms. One of the most important is technical assistance. We apply customized and diverse models of support to address critical areas of need in health programs (such as limited health force, outdated health protocol, poor infrastructure and limited health worker knowledge and skills). Our technical assistance package has featured national trainings, mentorship, staff exchanges, and secondment of staff. [Read More.]

- **Direct Service Delivery Support:** We work hand-in-hand with ministries of health, and our own staff, comprised of host country nationals, to provide localized, specific support to health care facilities and civil society organizations. In all, we have supported close to 15,000 health care clinics around the world. [Read more about the work we do from our supported country locations.]

- **Innovations and New Technology:** Keeping close watch of clinical and programmatic innovations, EGPAF has built a model to provide accelerated access to the latest innovations in diagnostic technology, in prevention therapies, and in treatment of HIV and AIDS as well as TB and cervical cancer.

- **In-house Advocacy:** EGPAF’s in-house advocacy team’s efforts seek to drive global and local focus, support, leadership, and resources needed to support in children, adolescents, and families. [Read more.]

- **In-house Research:** Every program and support structure we provide is guided by evidence gathered by in-house research. We continuously use the evidence we gather through our over 100 active clinical and operations research studies to inform better health programs.

Experts in:

- Integrated and comprehensive child health programs
- Adolescent health programming
- Point-of-care diagnostics
- HIV prevention, care, and treatment for children
- Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV
- Integrated adult health care
- Reproductive and maternal and child health, including cervical cancer screening and treatment
- Advanced HIV disease
- Adult and childhood TB
- Emerging pandemic response

Call to action: HIV continues to play a major role in the lives of millions of individuals, particularly among communities in low- and middle-income countries. HIV is interconnected with family health, to education, nutrition, community support, and human rights. EGPAF holds and applies expertise in all areas to reach closer to a generation free of HIV.
A Focus on Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe is one of the countries hardest hit by the AIDS epidemic. Since 2001, EGPAF has brought clinical HIV expertise, a focus on strengthening data quality and health systems, and a wealth of expertise on community-level interventions to address this epidemic in-country. In 2011, the Zimbabwe’s Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) made elimination of new pediatric HIV infections a national goal and renewed commitment to decrease the rate of new HIV infections among children to 5% and leaned on EGPAF to make that goal a reality. EGPAF-Zimbabwe contributed to the steep decline in the mother-to-child transmission rate in Zimbabwe, down to 5.7% in 2016.

EGPAF has since supported a package of district-level activities focused on health systems strengthening and HIV prevention care and treatment. Over the last 5 years, our focus has been on retention in care, HIV prevention, TB prevention, cervical cancer, HIV case identification among high-risk groups (young men, young women, key populations, mobile populations). We’ve procured, placed, and trained health staff on use of point-of-care diagnostics to both identify children early in their HIV journeys, but also to help the national program monitor viral load among all patients. We’ve worked alongside the MOHCC to offer more effective and user-friendly pediatric antiretroviral therapies to every HIV-positive child. And to offer (donated) second and third-line regimen drugs to children and adolescents in need. We’ve also helped the country create and use a national health data database to more effectively inform programmatic decisions in real time. We’ve worked with a variety of clinics, districts, and national leaders to offer pediatric TB identification, preventive therapies, and treatment and to offer services to both prevent and treat advanced HIV disease and other opportunistic infections. We’ve created a peer support platform, to combat stigma and retain children, adolescents and youth on treatment. Finally, a number of research activities in Zimbabwe have allowed us to inform service delivery, not just in Zimbabwe, but worldwide, including studies on violence against children, on use of early diagnostics in children, the critical effects of not testing women for HIV throughout pregnancy and postpartum (to name a few). Read more.

Country Expertise

Through each of our countries are supported by expertise at a global level, EGPAF-Zimbabwe has local experts focused on the delivery of:

- Health systems strengthening
- Technical assistance
- Advocacy
- Operations research
- Pediatric HIV care and treatment access, including pediatric treatment optimization initiatives
- Point-of-care diagnostics for HIV, TB, CD4 cell count, and COVID-19
- Combination HIV prevention, including PrEP
- Reproductive health including Cervical cancer
- Diagnosis, treatment and support of advanced HIV disease
- Prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission, including birth testing
- Comprehensive adolescent health service delivery
- OVC
- Psychosocial support
- Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of TB

Beneficiary Perspectives

This EGPAF-Zimbabwe program has impacted the lives of many Zimbabweans. It’s bolstered the health system and created a comprehensive response to old and new pandemics. Read more about our impact on the lives of the people we aim to serve.