

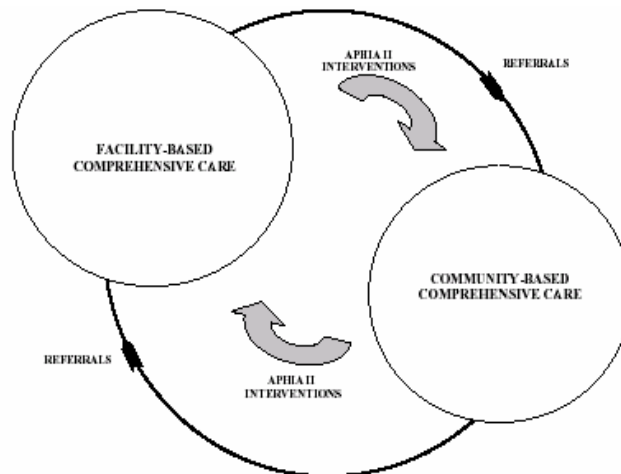
The Program

The AIDS, Population and Health Integrated Assistance Program (APHIA II) in Eastern province, Kenya, was designed to empower local Kenyan communities to address health concerns by strengthening linkages between health care providers and community groups. The five-year program, which began in June 2006, is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) with the support of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), and Population funds.

The program works to improve and expand:

- Facility-based services for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, reproductive health/family planning, malaria, and maternal and child health;
- Civil society activities to increase healthy behaviors; and
- Care and support for people and families affected by HIV/AIDS.

The core of our approach is illustrated in the figure below:



APHIA II Program Eastern Province—Improved and Expanded Network of PREVENTION, TREATMENT, CARE and SUPPORT

Fortunately, Eastern province has been affected by the HIV epidemic less than most other areas in Kenya. Given that the full impact of Kenya’s HIV epidemic has yet to be felt in Eastern province, JHPIEGO, an affiliate of The Johns Hopkins University, and partners have a unique opportunity to mitigate a potential crisis. Due to Eastern Province’s large size, the capacity of the health system to deliver services varies widely among communities, and making uniform improvements is challenging. APHIA II Eastern will work to strengthen the health care system, focusing specifically on HIV/AIDS and reproductive health services, including family planning, safe motherhood, and prevention and treatment of malaria.

“By putting HIV at the center of a stronger comprehensive care network that includes reproductive health and family planning services, we can afford Kenyans in Eastern province every opportunity to access testing, counseling, care and treatment for themselves and others. The APHIA II Eastern Program has the ability to demonstrate one Kenyan region can prevent the kinds of dramatic increases in HIV prevalence rates that have been seen in other parts of the country,” explains Dr. Pamela Lynam, Regional Technical Director, East and Southern Africa, based in JHPIEGO’s Nairobi, Kenya, Office.

Program activities will include: developing human capacity and the corresponding systems; expanding health care services to people living with HIV and AIDS, as well as to orphans and vulnerable children; strengthening community structures and networks to implement behavior change, gender awareness and community mobilization; and linking facility- and community-based services for multiple service delivery points of comprehensive care.

The Partnership

Led by JHPIEGO, APHIA II Eastern has engaged a team of partners whose collective organizational experience offers the residents of Eastern Province and the Government of Kenya technical leadership and strength in advancing evidence-based best practices, delivery of high-quality HIV/AIDS services, and a collaborative spirit dedicated to ensuring the sustainability of quality services. Dr. Kenneth Chebet, who was formerly the head of Kenya's National AIDS Control Programme (NASCO), leads APHIA II Eastern supported by his deputy, Dr. William Obwaka, an experienced obstetrician and gynaecologist. The multi-sectoral program team represents the host Government of Kenya, development partners, researchers, nongovernmental organizations, faith-based organizations and communities in need—each bringing unique strengths, experience and potential.

Working in very close collaboration with USAID and the Government of Kenya, the partners of the APHIA II Eastern consortium are:



JHPIEGO, an affiliate of The Johns Hopkins University: JHPIEGO brings more than 18 years of experience in Kenya to lead the APHIA II Eastern Program. JHPIEGO will leverage its experience and widely-acclaimed training methodologies to create a lasting impact on the health of the residents of Eastern Province.



African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF): AMREF's mission is to improve the health of disadvantaged people in Africa as a means for them to escape poverty and improve the quality of their lives. AMREF will be working in Eastern Province to build the capacities of local community and faith-based organizations through small grants and mentorship.



Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF): EGPAF's mission is to create a future of hope for children and families worldwide by eradicating pediatric AIDS, providing care and treatment to people with HIV/AIDS, and accelerating the discovery of new treatments for other serious and life-threatening pediatric illnesses. EGPAF will provide technical expertise on antiretroviral therapy and services for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV for APHIA II Eastern.



Family Health International (FHI): FHI works to improve lives worldwide through research, education and services in family health. FHI will lead the monitoring and evaluation activities for APHIA II Eastern.



Liverpool VCT Care & Treatment (LVCT): LVCT provides superior technical assistance to the government and others wishing to start high-quality voluntary counseling and testing services in public health care settings. LVCT is responsible for coordination of counseling and testing activities for APHIA II Eastern.



PATH: A major component of the APHIA II Eastern Program is reaching out to groups in Eastern Province to effect behavior change. PATH will focus on promoting preventive and health-seeking behaviors, as well as strengthening links between facilities and communities.