



# Field Notes

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## Twinning Center Partner Dies in Kenya Airways Crash in Cameroon

AIHA is deeply saddened at the loss of one of our partners in the May 5 crash of Kenya Airways flight 507 bound for Nairobi.

Dr. Albert E. Henn, 70, director of Liverpool VCT, Care & Treatment, was returning to his home in Kenya following a site assessment visit to Cote d'Ivoire when the plane carrying him and 113 other passengers and crew crashed soon after taking off from a scheduled stop in Douala, Cameroon. There were no survivors.

Henn recently began working with AIHA's HIV/AIDS Twinning Center through a PEPFAR-funded partnership designed to link Liverpool VCT, Care & Treatment, a Kenyan NGO, with groups needing assistance in Côte

d'Ivoire, Botswana, and Ethiopia. A pioneer of the south-to-south model of building organizational and human resource capacity in developing nations, Henn had been in Côte d'Ivoire to evaluate potential partner sites in that country.

"No words can express the depth of our sadness at the loss of Al Henn. Our partnership with LVCT had just been launched and this was his first trip for us. We had been looking forward to a fruitful collaboration," says AIHA Executive Director James P. Smith. "He was a consummate professional with a long, distinguished career that serves as a testament to his dedication to global public health. We mourn his passing and extend our heartfelt condolences to his family,



Dr. Henn spent much of his career working in Africa.

friends, and the many people whose lives he touched."

In a career that spanned more than 40 years, Henn devoted much of his time to population and health sector reform in Africa. He worked in some 30 African nations, residing in Kenya and various other countries on the continent for nearly two decades.

## Twinning Center Launches New Programs in Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Namibia

The HIV/AIDS Twinning Center has recently expanded its capacity-building efforts in Africa, adding new programs in Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Namibia.

In Botswana, three south-south partnerships have been created. Respectively these new alliances will address voluntary counseling and testing and associated

prevention and care services; palliative care training and advocacy; and HIV reporting in the mass media.

Two south-south partnerships in Côte d'Ivoire will also focus on palliative care and voluntary counseling and testing.

New partnerships are also being established in Namibia. Currently in the planning

stages, these initiatives will focus on building HIV/AIDS-related laboratory capacity; providing medical technology training for lab workers, and strengthening HIV/AIDS training and education for nurses.

In addition, new partnerships are under way in Ethiopia, South Africa, and Tanzania.

**The Twinning Center now has programs in Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zambia.**

## Ghana Workshop Helps West African Caregivers Chart a Course for Improving Palliative Care



Healthcare professionals, policymakers, and allied caregivers from six West African nations gathered in Accra, Ghana, May 9-11 to take part in a palliative care advocacy workshop.

Hosted by the African Palliative Care Association (APCA) with Twinning Center support, the workshop was designed to arm participants with the knowledge and skills they need to more effectively influence palliative care policies in their respective countries—particularly access to crucial pain management medications.

“Through APCA and the other organizations present here, we can work together to manage the pain of those living with HIV,” Dr. Kofi Akmed, chief medical officer at the Ministry of Health of Ghana, told attendees. “This conference offers us a great opportunity to advance palliative care.”

Delegations included senior

pharmacists, ministry of health representatives, heads of oncology and HIV/AIDS treatment facilities, and palliative care providers from Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone.

Palliative care experts from WHO, OSI’s International Palliative Care Initiative, and the Foundation for Hospice in Sub-Saharan Africa presented during the event and consulted with the country teams during break-out sessions. Other speakers included experts from the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organisation, the Pain and Policy Study Group, Help the Hospices, and APCA.

For many participants, the workshop was an eye-opening experience. Explaining that palliative care is not a familiar concept in much of Africa, Dr. Beaugre Kouassi, a neurologist and professor from Côte d’Ivoire, said, “The country reports illustrated that opioid availability is a

real problem that we must solve in order to deliver palliative care. Our work here gives us an idea of what we can do when we return to our own countries.”

With so many people in the region suffering intractable pain, due to cancer or AIDS, improving palliative care services are more critical than ever, according to Dr. Jonah N. Wefuan, director of the Ministry of Public Health in Cameroon. “It is the right of every individual not to have pain. If we can alleviate their suffering in any way, we have done our jobs,” he said.

Charles Munda, a community health officer at Shepherd’s Hospice in Sierre Leone, best summed up the feelings of most people in attendance when he said, “Everyone has the right to the highest possible quality of life. I work in palliative care because I want to serve humanity and attend to poor people who are suffering.”



During the advocacy workshop, participants discussed the status of palliative care in their respective countries and worked together to develop strategies for improving patient access to care and essential medicines.

## HIV/AIDS Twinning Center: The Program in Numbers

As of March 30, 2007, the HIV/AIDS Twinning Center reports the following achievements:

- Organizations receiving technical assistance: 129
- Individuals trained through capacity-building activities: 2,213
- Individuals reached and/or receiving HIV/AIDS-related services: 4,757
- Partnerships established: 15
- Countries funding programmatic activities: 6
- VHC volunteers deployed: 5
- Individuals trained at Learning Resource Centers: 85
- Visitors to the Twinning Center Web site each quarter: 1,470

## Tanzania Preceptors Program Gets Under Way, VHC Sends First Volunteers to Work with Care and Treatment Partners in Mbeya

The HIV/AIDS Twinning Center recently deployed its first two volunteers under the Tanzania Preceptors Program. Dr. James D. Scott and Deborah E. Roseman arrived in Tanzania May 22 to begin their work at Mbeya Referral Hospital in Mbeya, a region of the country that is among those hardest hit by the AIDS epidemic.

Mbeya Referral Hospital—one of five zonal hospitals in Tanzania—has been working with the US Military HIV Research Program through its PEPFAR-funded Walter Reed Program since 2004. Located in Tanzania's Southern Highlands, the hospital provides training, coordinates and oversees the quality of treatment, and establishes health service referral systems throughout the Mbeya, Iringa, Rukwa, and Ruvuma regions, which are home to more than 6 million people.

Scott, a clinical pharmacologist specializing in infectious diseases and HIV/AIDS, is an

assistant professor of pharmacy practice at Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, California. He is helping the zonal pharmacist in Mbeya design an ARV resistance monitoring system and develop a system that can facilitate more effective management of patients on ART and pre-ART care.

Scott is also collaborating with local partners to design a methodology for generating information about which models of treatment delivery are successful in treating the largest number of patients at the lowest cost. In addition, he is helping to initiate collaboration among pharmacists at regional, district, and institutional levels, design training options for paraprofessionals, and develop refresher training for pharmacists across the zone.

Roseman, an MPH candidate at Yale University, has more than 12 years of experience developing and implementing community-based HIV/AIDS

programs. As the lead health planner for HIV care and treatment services at the HIV, AIDS, and Hepatitis Branch of the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, she coordinated community planning for Ryan White CARE Act Title I and II funds. She also managed the San Diego HIV Health Services Planning Council and supervised center staff out-stationed at the HIV, STD, and Hepatitis Branch. Roseman is helping Walter Reed Program staff develop a strategic plan to provide a road map for the next three years, including preparation of Country Operating Plan narratives, as well as identifying the human resource and institutional capacity needs of Walter Reed grantees.

The newly launched Preceptors Program facilitates the placement of skilled volunteers at PEPFAR-supported sites to help build local capacity to provide HIV and AIDS care and treatment in Tanzania.



James D. Scott and Deborah E. Roseman are the first Volunteer Healthcare Corps (VHC) recruits placed through the Twinning Center's Tanzania Preceptors Program.

## Improving the Quality of Pediatric ART Services in Zambia through Pharmacist Training

The Pediatric ART Centers of Excellence in Lusaka and Livingstone, Zambia, are partnering with the Center for International Health (CIH) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to improve the quality of HIV-related treatment and care available to children and young adults in Zambia.

With PEPFAR support, partners are building local training capacity to enable pharmacists in Lusaka and Livingstone to better organize and manage pharmacy services thereby enhancing the delivery of quality HIV/AIDS

care to mothers, infants, and children.

CIH experts conducted an assessment visit to Zambia in November 2006. A team of four partners from Zambia then traveled to Milwaukee April 1-7.

During this visit, the Zambian partners learned about the pharmacy and other related resources of CIH consortium institutions, as well as local community-based programs relevant to the partnership's objectives. Other highlights included a tour of Children's

Hospital of Milwaukee, where they shadowed pharmacists on patient rounds and toured the School of Pharmacy at the University of Wisconsin - Madison Health Sciences Center. Partners also met with key clinical staff and faculty, and finalized their year-one work plan.

The next series of exchanges is slated for fall, when six Zambian pharmacists will participate in a "training of trainers" course in Milwaukee prior to initiating training for others in Zambia with the help of CIH experts.



In April, partners conducted their first professional exchange to Milwaukee. Standing left to right are Mark Anderson, Fred Tavill, Chipepo Kankasa, Tom Lausten, Rachel Sikabalu, Enock Chikatula, and Tyson Muongo.

## Tanzania Nursing Partnership Conducts First Master Trainer Course in Dar es Salaam



Nurse tutors familiarize themselves with the new curriculum.



Participants learn about proper condom use during the life skills module.



Thecla Kohi and Joyce Safe of Muhimbili's School of Nursing join TACAIDS Chair Fatma Hafidhi Mrisho after the awards ceremony.

The first group of nurse tutors trained through the Tanzania HIV/AIDS Nursing Education (THANE) Program completed a two-week HIV/AIDS master trainer program on May 11.

Dr. Fatma Hafidhi Mrisho, executive chairman of the Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS), presented the group with certificates during a ceremony at the Tanzania Episcopal Centre in Kurasini, Dar es Salaam.

Through a Twinning Center partnership supported by PEPFAR, nursing faculty at Muhimbili University College of Health Sciences (MUCHS) have been collaborating with counterparts at the University of California in San Francisco on the THANE Program. The partnership's dual objectives are designing new HIV/AIDS teaching materials for use in all 58 of Tanzania's nursing schools and training a core group of master trainers capable of implementing the expanded curriculum.

These 18 nurse tutors were the first to be trained using the curriculum and materials. Partners have developed 12 modules on HIV/AIDS covering topics such as the role of nurses in HIV prevention,

care, and treatment services; stigma and discrimination; occupational safety; and life skills for healthcare providers.

As the primary care providers for most of the population, nurses must play a leading role in scaling up health services for the more than 2.2 million people in Tanzania who are living with HIV or AIDS. While HIV/AIDS in-service training courses are increasingly being held for practicing nurses, care for people living with the virus has not yet been fully integrated into the pre-service curriculum for nursing students. Partners are working to change this through the THANE Program.

Addressing participants on the opening day of the training, Tanzania's Minister of Health and Social Welfare Prof. David Mwakyusa stressed the fact that education is critical to efforts to combat the stigma and discrimination that shrouds HIV/AIDS. As nurses, he said, they carried a moral and ethical responsibility to care for people, including those living with HIV or AIDS.

Stressing the importance of personal and professional

safety, Mwakyusa told the group they should always remember that their own lifestyle choices and behaviors can put them at risk of contracting HIV or other infectious diseases.

US partners Prof. Carmen Portillo and Jennifer Okonsky served as faculty for the training along with the experts from MUCHS.

It is anticipated that modules and training materials developed by partners will eventually be integrated into the curricula of nursing programs throughout the country and that all nursing students in Tanzania will acquire improved skills to support people living with, or affected by, HIV/AIDS.

Sharing her thoughts on the project, Dr. Thecla Kohi, dean of the nursing faculty at MUCHS and principle investigator of the THANE project, "This collaboration between the United States and Tanzania provides nurse tutors with a vital opportunity to equip themselves with the knowledge and skills they need to better support and prepare nursing students to care for people affected by HIV/AIDS in their future workplaces."

## New South-South Media Initiative Links ZAMCOM with the Media Institute of Southern Africa

The Twinning Center launched in April a new partnership linking the Zambia Institute of Mass Communication Educational Trust (ZAMCOM) in Lusaka with the Botswana chapter of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) in Gaborone.

This south-south partnership is designed to strengthen the capacity of journalists in

Botswana to effectively disseminate accurate, timely, and relevant information about the country's HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Partners will select key focus areas—such as HIV stigma and discrimination, gender issues, or women and HIV—and conduct at least two practical, skills-based training workshops to improve the

reporting skills of 40 journalists in Botswana. Each workshop will include classroom sessions and intensive field work and production components.

An initial assessment visit was conducted by ZAMCOM staff April 23-27. Botswana partners traveled to Lusaka May 27-June 1 for their first professional exchange.

Changes in media coverage about HIV/AIDS have been slow to come throughout most of the world, particularly in developing countries.

## Twinning Center, APCA Launch New Palliative Care Partnerships in Botswana and Côte d'Ivoire

The African Palliative Care Association (APCA) is now providing technical assistance to Botswana and Côte d'Ivoire through two new south-south partnerships established in support of PEPFAR by the HIV/AIDS Twinning Center.

Headquartered in Kampala, Uganda, APCA is working with the University of Botswana School of Nursing to establish a "training of trainers" program that will help the country scale-up and expand palliative care education and services, as well as better integrate palliative care into existing HIV/AIDS programs.

In Côte d'Ivoire, APCA is collaborating with Hope Worldwide, an international NGO that began working in the West African nation in 1989. Together, the two organizations are working to ensure improved patient access to a broad spectrum of palliative care services and bolster related training.

Another critical function of both partnerships is advocating for the availability of appropriate palliative care drugs and expanded pre- and in-service training for healthcare workers and allied caregivers.

"APCA's mission is to facilitate the scale up of palliative care services across Africa by providing technical support and assistance targeted to meet the unique needs of individual countries and communities," explains Dr. Faith Mwangi-Powell, the organization's executive director. "To accomplish this, we ensure all stakeholders—particularly people living with HIV/AIDS—are involved in the development process."

**APCA is one of the Twinning Center's first partners in Africa and is also helping build capacity through PEPFAR-funded partnerships in Mozambique and Zambia.**

## Why Disclose Your Status? Because When It Comes to HIV, You Cannot Survive Alone

Sabina Biolane, 35, is a single mother who lives with her 2-year-old daughter in Bapong, a small village near Brits, South Africa. She's had HIV for 10 years now and says she feels a sense of pride when she recounts stories from a decade spent overcoming stigma and obstacles.

"I live with HIV," Sabina says, explaining that others can do the same, but not by themselves. "You cannot survive alone," she maintains. "You need help because when you start getting sick, you have to rely on others for food and care or you will lose everything. If you have disclosed your status, you can get the support you need, so it is better to be open."

It is not easy to tell others, though, especially at first. Sabina admits that she has encountered rejection when disclosing her own status, but she never gave up. Since she began talking openly about being HIV-positive, many people approach her for sup-

port and advice. "After I spoke to counselors and my family, I started to accept my status and I joined Madibeng Support Group for PLWH," Sabina acknowledges.

"People asked me questions and thanked me for giving them the support and information they needed," she says. The way she manages her illness—and how she deals with HIV stigma—encourages others to disclose their own status.

Sabina started ART in August 2004 when her CD4 count dipped to minus-1 and she weighed only 39kg. She also had TB, an infection that kills many people living with HIV.

By July 2006, her CD4 count had increased to 761, her viral load was undetectable, and her weight increased to 65kg. After two years on treatment, Sabina is living proof of the efficacy of the life-saving medication. Today, Sabina receives treatment at Brits Hospital's ARV Clinic

thanks to a PEPFAR-funded Twinning Center partnership linking the South Africa-based Foundation for Professional Development with Brits Hospital ARV Clinic.

As a volunteer at the clinic, Sabina was such a source of hope and inspiration to the other HIV patients that clinic managers decided to employ her as a counselor.

By disclosing her HIV-positive status, Sabina has not only been able to access the treatment she needs, but also to obtain a job, learn new and marketable skills, and boost her self-esteem.

Noting that she has overcome the stigma and discrimination and is fighting the virus every day, a satisfied smile softens her features and she says she will continue to meet with others who have HIV because of the support and respect she both gives and receives. "I feel very happy," Sabina professes. "Everyone is OK with me."



Sabina Biolane was able to turn her life around once she accepted her diagnosis and sought treatment and support. Now she is an inspiration to others who are living with HIV or AIDS.

## Catholic University of Mozambique Prepares to Open Model HIV Clinic and Training Center



An artist rendering of the HIV/AIDS Clinic that will soon open at Catholic University of Mozambique's campus in Beira.

The Universidade Católica de Moçambique (UCM) in Beira, Mozambique, will soon be home to a new model clinic and training center.

UCM has been working with the University of Pittsburgh through a Twinning Center partnership designed to improve educational and skills-building opportunities for healthcare professionals in Sofala Province.

The new clinic will help partners further this goal in support of a Ministry of Health initiative to train

additional healthcare workers to provide quality treatment and care to people living with HIV or AIDS.

Partners have been working to establish an organizational structure for the training center and define clinical competencies, as well as to design training curricula and monitoring and evaluation policies and procedures.

So far, they have trained 25 local instructors using updated materials that are consistent with the latest evidence-based research and

current Ministry of Health guidelines.

The partners are collaborating with Amsterdam Medical Center, a current provider of technical assistance to UCM's Medical School in the form of onsite teaching and curriculum development. In addition, they are working with a local faith-based organization, ESMABAMA, to provide enhanced prevention and adherence support to the rural community surrounding the UCM-affiliated clinic in Mangunde.

## Giving Back: VHC Volunteer Yohannes Getachew Offers Technical Assistance to His Homeland



VHC volunteer Yohannes Getachew (center) assists ALERT Clinic staff as they input patient records into a database designed to improve case management and reporting related to HIV or AIDS patients.

When Yohannes Getachew learned about the Twinning Center's Volunteer Healthcare Corps (VHC) last year through NEPID—the Network of Ethiopian Professionals in the Diaspora—he was immediately interested.

"I've always wanted to work in Ethiopia and thought the VHC would give me an opportunity to do so," says the 45-year-old information technology specialist from Alexandria, Virginia.

"I also wanted to learn about the business environment and establish a network of contacts," Getachew continues, explaining that he left Ethiopia when he was 12 to attend school in Kenya. He then attended university in the United States, where he's lived since.

The VHC put Getachew's information management and technology skills to good use, placing him with two PEPFAR-supported organizations in Addis Ababa that were look-

ing to develop capacity in those areas. He arrived in his homeland in September 2006 and started working with staff at the Ethiopian Public Health Association (EPHA) to develop the organization's Web site. He also began working with staff at ALERT Clinic and their partners from Johns Hopkins University to enhance the ARV treatment facility's capacity to collect and analyze patient data.

Getachew accomplished everything he set out to do during his 6-month volunteer assignment, despite some difficulties that are a fact of life in Ethiopia—such as poor Internet connectivity and frequent power outages.

"EPHA is entirely self-sufficient with regard to their Web site," Getachew reports, noting that he is particularly proud of training staff who had no Web design or HTML experience at all prior to his arrival. "Now they can update and maintain the site themselves," he says.

The database project at ALERT Clinic was also successful, according to Getachew. "After implementation, clinic staff were able to generate reports that once took seven days in a matter of minutes," he explains.

The primary purpose of the database was to automate the monthly and cohort reports required by the Ministry of Health, but Getachew says the project yielded some unintended yet very positive byproducts. "Because the process necessitated a thorough audit of patient records, several hundred errors were caught and corrected," he explains.

Although his VHC assignment was completed in March, Getachew remains in Ethiopia where he is pursuing a business venture. Summing up the experience, he says, "It is very satisfying to know that what seems like such a small effort to me is received with such great appreciation."

## Blending Christian Faith and African Culture, Partners Work to Prevent HIV in Kenya

Using a unique blend of African culture, Christian values, and proven social marketing techniques, Twinning Center partners at the Kenya Episcopal Conference-Catholic Secretariat (KEC-CS) and Chicago's DePaul University are working to stem the growing rate of HIV infections among Kenyan youth.

Partners developed a multi-pronged HIV prevention program targeting youth between the ages of 10-14 that has been implemented in 15 of Kenya's 26 Dioceses.

Called "Making Life's Responsible Choices: Love Life, Live and Talk!," the intervention includes both a multi-session school-based curriculum delivered by local teachers and a radio messaging campaign that airs on a national Catholic radio station.

Building on the Kenyan Ministry of Education Science and Technology's National AIDS Education Syllabus, the school-based program incorporates group discussions, story telling, skits, role-plays, and interactive activities based on Bible verses and traditional African proverbs

and stories. The program uses an "intermedia" process that combines mass and interpersonal communication to promote behavior change and public health awareness.

Christian and African values reinforce the program's HIV prevention messages because they parallel psychosocial factors—such as self esteem, self respect, the value of human life, and assertiveness in relationships—that can moderate behavior.

Collaboration across a wide range of disciplines and units within each institution contributes to the creation of sustainable, culturally-sensitive programs targeted to the unique needs and conditions of Kenyan youth.

Above all, the intervention seeks to give accurate HIV information, thereby encouraging young people to refrain from high-risk activities. On another level, it encourages them to break the cultural taboo and talk about HIV/AIDS among themselves and with others.

Adults who participate in the intervention's training workshops learn to clarify their

own understanding of HIV/AIDS and start conversations in their own relationships and communities.

"There is so much silence around issues of HIV and AIDS, and we hope to play a role in breaking that silence about this pandemic," says Gary Harper, a Professor of Psychology and Director of the Masters in Public Health program at DePaul University. "We do not see ourselves as coming in and 'saving' these communities, but instead, helping to find their areas of strength and then working side-by-side to build their capacity to lower the rates of HIV infection."

As of April 2007, more than 16,000 pupils across 252 schools throughout Kenya are receiving the program and 1,000 teachers have been trained to implement the curriculum.

The partnership is currently working to add a parent component to the intervention and expand the program to all 26 of the country's Dioceses.



DePaul partners Leah Neubauer and Gary Harper demonstrate active listening during a session on interpersonal communication at a teacher training workshop in Murang'a in March.



Partners are working to keep students at Catholic schools in Kenya—such as the group pictured above at Kianjiruini Primary School in Murang'a Diocese—healthy by providing them with the life skills they need to avoid behaviors that put them at risk for HIV and other diseases.

## New Partnership Will Help Ethiopia Build Pharmacy Capacity to Improve HIV/AIDS Care

The University of Addis Ababa in Ethiopia is partnering with Howard University's College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Health Sciences and Pharmacists and Continuing Education (PACE) Center to train current and future pharmacists to support provision of quality ART in Ethiopia.

HIV/AIDS care is highly complex and it necessitates a

more patient-centered, clinical approach to pharmacy services. This is especially true in Ethiopia and other countries where there is a shortage of healthcare professionals.

With Twinning Center support, partners will train faculty and build the information resources needed to shift the existing didactic paradigm

at Addis Ababa University away from more traditional pharmacy studies toward a clinical pharmacy education, training, and practice.

Partners are working with the Ethiopian Drug Administration and Control Authority to build local capacity, help with drug information centers, and facilitate continuing education opportunities.



Partners and Twinning Center staff collaborate on their work plan during the May exchange.

## Conferences, Grants, and Opportunities



### 2nd Annual African HIV/AIDS Update and Church Leadership Development Conference

June 7-8, 2007  
Nairobi, Kenya

### PEPFAR Implementers Meeting

June 16-19, 2007  
Kigali, Rwanda

### Deaf Women and HIV/AIDS in Africa: No Time to Wait

June 21-23, 2007  
Johannesburg, South Africa

### International Women's Summit: Women's Leadership in HIV and AIDS

July 4-7, 2007  
Nairobi, Kenya

### 9th International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reactions and Lipodystrophy in HIV

July 19-21, 2007  
Sydney, Australia

### Ghana International Youth Cultural Conference on AIDS

July 27-August 4, 2007  
Multiple locations in Ghana

### 4th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment, and Prevention

July 22-25, 2007  
Sydney, Australia

### 2nd International Workshop on HIV Transmission: Principles of Intervention

August 26-28, 2007  
Washington, DC

### HIV/AIDS Counseling: Trends and Challenges

September 4-6  
Nairobi, Kenya

### Palliative Care in Africa: Keeping it Real

September 19-21, 2007  
Nairobi, Kenya

### 38th Union World Conference on Lung Health: Confronting the Challenges of HIV and MDR in TB

Prevention and Care  
November 8-12, 2007  
Cape Town, South Africa

### International Summit on Infectious Diseases

November 20-24, 2007  
Abuja, Nigeria

### Under African Skies: The Imagination of Poetry and Storytelling in the HIV/AIDS Pandemic

Nov. 29-Dec 1, 2007  
Nairobi, Kenya

### 2007 Global Summit on AIDS and the Church

Nov. 28-Dec 1, 2007  
Lake Forest, California

### East African Conference on the Role of Future Health Professionals in Community-based HIV/AIDS Control

December 11-15, 2007  
Butare, Rwanda

## HIV/AIDS Twinning Center

### American International Health Alliance

1225 Eye Street, NW  
Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202.789.1136  
Fax: 202.789.1277

Visit us on the Web at

[www.TwinningAgainstAIDS.org](http://www.TwinningAgainstAIDS.org)

*The HIV/AIDS Twinning Center mobilizes and coordinates the resources of US healthcare providers to effectively build capacity to reduce HIV infection rates and provide care to those infected with, or affected by, HIV/AIDS in support of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.*

*Funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration, the HIV/AIDS Twinning Center is a project of the American International Health Alliance, a US-based nonprofit organization dedicated to helping resource-constrained communities and nations make positive, sustainable changes that improve accessibility to a broad range of high-quality health-care services and preventive programs.*

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