

## The Collaborative Fund for HIV Treatment Preparedness

### People Living With AIDS Empowered to Lead the Fight

The Collaborative Fund for HIV Treatment Preparedness utilizes the tremendous experience and expertise of people living with AIDS to improve their lives and their communities. Ranging from HIV education led by people living with AIDS in Kenya, to connecting transgendered individuals with the medical establishment in India, to former intravenous drug-using health advocates in Russia, programs supported by The HIV Collaborative Fund represent the most innovative, effective, and grassroots efforts to combat HIV and promote treatment in the developing world.

Through a community-driven grantmaking program, The HIV Collaborative Fund promotes treatment access and education while providing resources for technical assistance, regional network support, and program evaluation around the globe. Founded in 2003, The HIV Collaborative Fund has grown to encompass over 25 funding partners representing the biggest names in global philanthropy (see sidebar, page 4).

The active participation of people living with HIV/AIDS in all aspects of The HIV Collaborative Fund's activities is required and represents one of the most far-reaching examples to date of translating the principle known as GIPA—greater involvement of people living with AIDS—from rhetoric into reality.

The HIV Collaborative Fund is a partnership between Tides and the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC). Tides is a U.S.-based public charity with over 30 years' experience in supporting community mobilization and promoting global health. ITPC is a global association of people living with HIV/AIDS and community-based treatment advocates.



“The key to successful treatment education and advocacy is remembering our own dignity as human beings and taking hold of the power of that truth...We are our own cure, we use our voices to educate and advocate, and we will realize our goals.”

**Paisan Suwannawong**

Thai AIDS Treatment Action Group, Thailand.  
a grantee of The HIV Collaborative Fund

#### PROGRESS BEING MADE:

- + Over \$6 million in grants to 700+ organizations in 70 countries
- + Over \$3 million for regional network development
- + Over \$750,000 distributed for technical assistance and evaluation

## The HIV Collaborative Fund Grantees at Work

### Creating a Safe Path into Treatment

South India Positive's (SIP+ ) Transgender Treatment Preparedness Advocacy program represents the largest group of transgendered people in India. Founded in 2006 with support from The HIV Collaborative Fund, the program has greatly enhanced advisory and medical services for HIV-positive transgender individuals, a population facing severe stigma and discrimination in India. SIP+ works closely with medical and service providers in Chennai to educate them on issues specific to transgender people. And, by providing critical outreach to transgender HIV-positive community, SIP+ creates support systems and relationships that encourage individuals to seek treatment and care. These linkages are crucial to helping transgender individuals out of isolation and into treatment programs.

Along with treatment advocacy, SIP+ offers transgender people instruction on treatment issues such as adherence to medication, nutrition, and attention to interactions between hormone and anti-retroviral therapies. SIP+ has been integral in building bridges between the medical establishment and transgender community in Chennai.



### Improving Quality of Life in Affected Rural Communities

Nomadic Integrated Development and Research Agency (NIDRA) is a community-based organization that provides vital healthcare services to the rural nomadic communities of Kajiado and Loitokitok District, Kenya—areas heretofore too isolated to receive reliable medical care. The Massai and other tribes living in the region have been particularly affected by HIV/AIDS due to cultural practices that place them at high risk. With support from The HIV Collaborative Fund, however, NIDRA has been able to effect great change in rural communities by hosting treatment literacy workshops and adherence counseling and trainings for people living with AIDS, and providing mobile clinics to remote villages. The increase in HIV/AIDS education has coincided with improved access to antiviral drugs and ready, affordable treatment services for affected families.

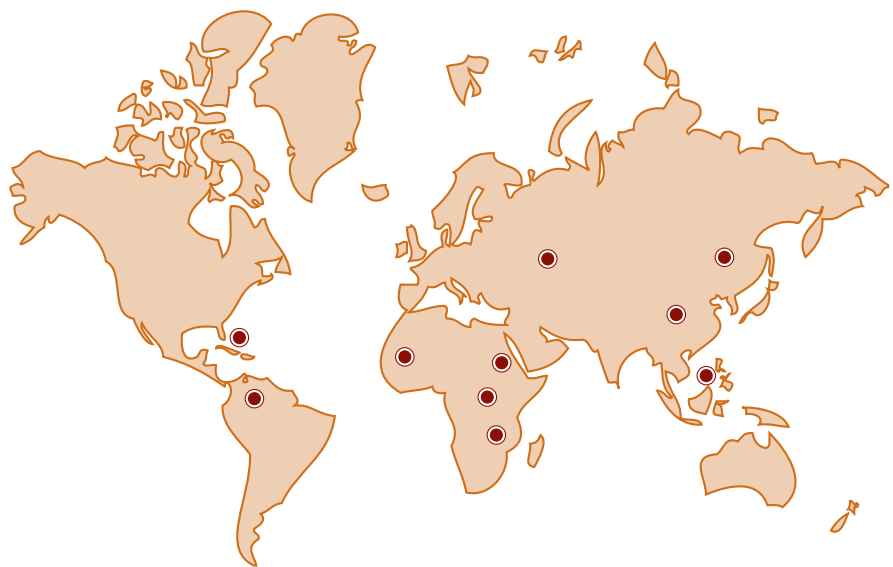


### Stopping the Spread of HIV by Spreading Information

Zambia's **Living in Hope** prepares HIV-positive activists to educate their own communities about HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. With support from The HIV Collaborative Fund, Living in Hope has developed weeklong workshops to train advocates in anti-retroviral drug regimen adherence and in combating the stigma and discrimination that often accompany with living with HIV. Living in Hope activists make presentations to local schools, work with drama groups to develop performances on these topics, and even go door-to-door to share this critical health information. The campaign has resulted in thousands more individuals seeking counseling, getting tested, and adhering to their anti-retroviral drug program.

### Advocates for Improved, Equitable Healthcare

After receiving its first round of funding from The HIV Collaborative Fund in 2006, Positive Initiative, an ambitious group in Orenburg, Russia made up of people living with HIV/AIDS representing intravenous drug users, set out to conduct trainings on peer counseling, self-help groups, legal consultations, and media and communications activities. The program was an immediate success, as membership and public representation flourished. A once publicly-repudiated and marginalized group, Positive Initiative and its coalition of people living with AIDS were recognized by their government and were asked to serve on the Oblast AIDS Coordination Council and the Orenburg Commission on Prevention of Alcoholism, Drug Addiction, and HIV/AIDS. In 2007, Positive Initiative successfully campaigned for a new law to ensure support for networks of people living with AIDS as part of AIDS programming. Positive Initiative has evolved from an internal support system to an external political force that continues to make strides in achieving robust representation by advocating for the rights and interests of people living with AIDS at the regional policy level.



#### The HIV Collaborative Fund's Funding Regions

- Caribbean
- Latin America
- West Africa
- East Africa
- Central Africa (not in graphic)
- Eastern Europe / Central Asia
- China
- Southern Africa
- Women & Children in Africa
- South Asia
- Southeast Asia

### Tides: A Partner with A Proven History of Anti-AIDS and Global Health Work

The Tides mission is to partner with activists, philanthropists, foundations, and organizations across the country and around the globe to promote economic justice, robust democratic processes, and the opportunity to live and work in a healthy and sustainable environment where human rights are protected.

Tides brings over 30 years of experience in providing nonprofit infrastructure to organizations like The HIV Collaborative Fund on the leading edge of social change work. Tides' services include large- and small-scale global grantmaking, giving collaboratives, comprehensive back-office administration, and communications support.

Tides connects resources to social change throughout the world. Since 2000, Tides has granted more than \$67 million to organizations working for social change outside the United States, including over \$11 million to support HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention efforts. In addition to The HIV Collaborative Fund, Tides hosts the AIDS Relief Fund for China and the Trust for Indigenous Care and Health. Hundreds of Tides projects and grantees are engaged in health access, health education, healthcare reform, and global health initiatives including anti-AIDS programs in the U.S. and abroad. Domestically, Tides is one of the leading funders of syringe exchange prevention efforts and through Syringe Access Fund and other funds has moved more than \$12 million in this field. For these reasons and many others, it made perfect sense for The HIV Collaborative Fund to carry out its work as part of the Tides community.

### THE HIV COLLABORATIVE FUND'S FUNDING PARTNERS INCLUDE:

- + Aids Fonds Netherlands
- + American Jewish World Service
- + Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- + Department for International Development (UK)
- + Elton John AIDS Foundation
- + The Ford Foundation
- + HIVOS
- + Johnson & Johnson
- + MAC AIDS Fund
- + Open Society Institute
- + The Overbrook Foundation
- + Stephen Lewis Foundation
- + Tides Foundation
- + United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- + World Health Organization

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