



SOUTH AFRICA PARTNERS

Fostering partnerships between the United States & South Africa

2015 YEAR IN REVIEW



Scalability

“The ability to maintain performance, usefulness or usability from concentration in a local area to a more distributed geographic pattern.”

Our Mission

South Africa Partners builds mutually beneficial partnerships between the United States and South Africa in the areas of health and education. Serving as a catalyst of innovative approaches, South Africa Partners links people, strengthens communities, promotes social justice and fosters leadership in both countries.

Our Vision

We believe universal access to quality healthcare and education are prerequisites for securing a just democracy, and that the shared experiences in South Africa and in the United States offer common ground from which to forge lasting and productive programs that bring us closer to this ideal.

Our Focus

Throughout our work we strive to:

- Facilitate meaningful partnerships that build the capacity of South African organizations
- Nurture strategic collaborations and the sharing of best practices between the United States and South Africa
- Strengthen people-to-people relationships between those living in South Africa and the United States to promote justice and democracy



Message from our Board Presidents & Executive Director

Dear Friends,

For nearly two decades, South Africa Partners has designed and led high impact strategies for health and education programs in South Africa. We know that systemic change requires a long view and working inclusively with a broad range of stakeholders every step of the way. In partnership, we identify critical problems, bring together the expertise to solve them and build local human resource capacity for sustainability. Increasingly we serve as technical advisors, convening partners across sectors – government, academia, non-profit and philanthropic – to design effective approaches, secure funding, leverage resources, set targets, monitor implementation and measure and evaluate progress against expected outcomes. In this report we share our successes, including:

- **Integrated Access to Care and Treatment (I ACT)** – the first standardized pre-antiretroviral treatment program in South Africa for people living with HIV/AIDS, adopted as a treatment strategy by South Africa’s Department of Health (DOH).

- **Strengthening Prevention Services (STEPS)** – designed to prevent the spread of HIV and TB in prisons. Begun in two male prisons, STEPS is currently active in 10 correctional facilities, including female facilities, and we serve as prevention technical advisors to South Africa’s Department of Correctional Services.
- **LinkCARE** – our newest partnership with DOH, is a further expansion of I ACT, focusing at the primary clinic level to improve long-term retention in care and adherence to treatment for HIV, TB and non-communicable diseases.
- **The Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Programme in Health** – graduated its first cohort of Fellows in April. This executive training program for health managers is improving service delivery and the transformation of the country’s healthcare system.

The lessons we have learned in building scalable programs are now being applied to our newest initiative – **Early Childhood Development (ECD)**. Focusing on low-resourced communities, we are partnering with government, universities and other organizations to expand teacher training

and improve early language development to ensure the success of children when they enter school at age 5.

Today’s children are South Africa’s future and they deserve an education that prepares them for the opportunities of tomorrow. As Nelson Mandela reminded us, *“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”*

Your generous support enables us to transform lives in South Africa. Thank you for helping to make this work possible.

With deep appreciation,



Joellen Lambiotte, President



Ilana Hurwitz, President-Elect



Mary Tiseo, Executive Director

Health

We catalyze unique and effective public health collaborations that improve the quality of life for people living with and affected by HIV, tuberculosis and non-communicable chronic diseases.



Integrated Access to Care and Treatment

“For me the major success is that I ACT started as a small program, in a small corner of the country. It was just South Africa Partners. But when we look at it today, the whole country is implementing I ACT. The whole Department of Health knows about I ACT. You go to any province, any Department of Health – they know about I ACT.”

– Vuyelwa Nqapayi, Assistant Director within HIV/AIDS Care, Management and Treatment at the National Department of Health

Integrated Access to Care and Treatment (I ACT)

With 6.4 million people living with HIV, South Africa carries the highest burden of HIV in the world. After years of effort, HIV is now seen as a chronic disease in South Africa and not as a death sentence.

I ACT is a care and support strategy for people living with HIV (PLHIV) that evolved through a series of interventions developed in partnership with the Eastern Cape Department of Health and PLHIV. I ACT has been scaled up and adopted at the national level and is now available from childhood through adulthood, supporting PLHIV wherever they fall on that continuum.

Number of PLHIV in the Eastern Cape Province reached by I ACT through support groups, education sessions and trainer certification = + 262,000



LinkCARE

South Africa Partners reached a major milestone with the \$17.5 million grant awarded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide technical assistance focused on strengthening the HIV/AIDS continuum of care in South Africa's healthcare system. LinkCARE, a five-year cooperative agreement, will scale-up the "National Adherence Guideline for Chronic Diseases" that includes our Integrated Access to Care and Treatment (I ACT) program as a strategy for educating patients with chronic diseases. LinkCARE will, in partnership with South Africa's National Department of Health, improve the management of chronic diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis and non-communicable diseases for children, adolescents and adults by improving linkages to care, long-term retention in care and adherence to treatment. LinkCARE will advance the health care of millions of South Africans in the years ahead.

LinkCARE
Linkage, Care and Retention





“Through South Africa Partners we have been able to reach the targets for screening. We have a well-informed incarcerated community who are able to refer each other to the nurses. Because peer educators have been capacitated they are also able to form a support base for those who are on treatment.”

– Vuyisile Tokwe, Nursing Service Manager East London Management Area, Department of Correctional Services

Strengthening Prevention Services (STEPS)

STEPS, an adaptation of I ACT, is a prevention strategy to stem the spread of HIV and TB in correctional facilities. Since its launch in 2012, this pilot program has expanded to 10 facilities, and in 2015 extended its reach to female offenders. With a focus on peer-to-peer education, STEPS includes Ubuntu Community Theater performances by trained offenders that deliver HIV prevention messages through drama and create platforms for discussion.

Number of offenders and officials attending education sessions since 2012 = 25,899



AFTER THIS COURSE I KNOW THAT I AM MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES. NOW I CAN STAND PROUDLY IN FRONT OF THE PEOPLE AND SHARE WHAT I KNOW. I ALSO PROMISE TO CONTINUE TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL OF POSITIVE LIVING. I GROW TO LOVE THIS PROGRAMME SINCE I AM ALSO INFECTED. MEANING THEN THAT I HAVE STARTED WITH ME. IT IS EASY TO SHARE WITH OTHER PEOPLE SOMETHING YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED. STEPS COURSE CAME AS A THIEF INTO MY LIFE AND STOLE MY ATTENTION.

– STEPS Peer Educator



“SA Partners, you have just made QA/QI possible. The way it was presented was simplified and made it easy to see implementation taking place.”

– Dr. Anthony Mutiti, Technical Director, ICAP

QA/QI – Quality Assurance/ Quality Improvement

South Africa Partners provides QA/QI technical assistance to implementing partners offering peer education programs for key high-risk populations. The QA/QI methodology improves HIV prevention services through training, mentoring and support activities. South Africa Partners delivered technical assistance to peer education programs in the Provinces of the Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and Free State.



Education

We partner with universities, government and the non-profit sector to develop and support programs to expand educational opportunities across the socio-economic spectrum – in early childhood development and executive training in the health delivery sector.



Albertina Sisulu
Executive Leadership
Programme in Health
Excellence, Innovation, Transformation

The Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Programme in Health (ASELPH)

ASELPH is a partnership between University of Pretoria (UP), University of Fort Hare (UFH), Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (HSPH) and South Africa Partners in collaboration with the South African National Department of Health.

ASELPH strengthens three key components of health transformation in South Africa: (1) service delivery improvements, (2) meeting key policy operationalization goals, and (3) excellence in executive level training. ASELPH is offered through a Post Graduate Diploma in Health Services



Management at UP and a Master in Public Health Executive Leadership at UFH.

To date, 95% of ASELPH Fellows are from the public health sector, representing 8 of South Africa's 9 provinces. During 2015, ASELPH faculty and emerging faculty at UP and UFH led 90% of the ASELPH courses developed in partnership with HSPH.



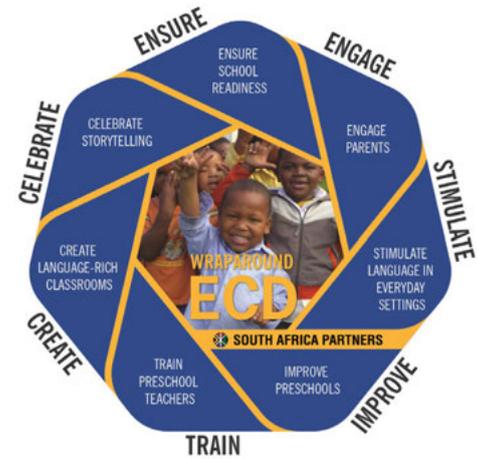
“My personal goal is to make a difference. My vision is to have health services be accessible to my community, and to serve the community with professionalism. I’m looking forward to transforming the Department of Health in the Eastern Cape. I’m looking forward to seeing that the health reforms are being implemented. And I’m looking forward to making change in the administration of health and helping people in the rural communities understand that they can lead a healthy lifestyle and live longer.”

– Sindiswa Gede, District Health Manager, Department of Health of the Eastern Cape



“Our biggest challenge as health professionals is managing limited resources efficiently. This against the backdrop that although there are guidelines and frameworks for health resourcing, there is also a constant shift in the number of citizens we have to serve, as well as expectations of health-care service delivery that need to be met. We remain grateful to all ASELPH partners in providing us this opportunity to learn and contribute to health transformation in our respective provinces and the country as a whole.”

– Dr. David Liburu, Clinical Manager with the North West Department of Health



“At the beginning it was very difficult for me to teach the children. I did not know what activities to do with them because I was not trained to be an ECD practitioner. Now I have learned how to set-up my classroom using what I have learned; I used to just copy from other daycare centers. Now I am truly able to plan and teach a daily program for the children!”

– Fikiswa Goxo, ECD practitioner at Sinothando Day Care Centre, Duncan Village

Wraparound Early Childhood Development (ECD)

Wraparound ECD improves the school readiness of young children from low-income communities in South Africa so they can be successful when they enter school at age 5. We are testing this approach in the informal settlements of Duncan Village, a low-resourced community in East London.

Our idea is simple but innovative. Within a target community we look for multiple ways to enrich children's daily experiences from birth to age 5 and support their development. Reaching from home to day care centers to everyday environments, we are facilitating a suite of interventions to help ensure these children are not falling behind before they even start.

We have facilitated an academic partnership between the University of Fort Hare (East London) and Wheelock College (Boston) and are working collaboratively with in-country training partners and our implementing partner Masibumbane Development Organisation. Together we are improving access to quality teacher training for ECD practitioners, providing books and materials to preschools, and leveraging other professional resources that are contributing to better outcomes for children.





“I took three toddlers with me to the shop yesterday and I asked them, “Where does milk come from?” “Cows!” I asked what else we get from cows and they said “Amasi” and “Yogurt.” I was surprised to learn they already know this. I learned what they know, that they have knowledge I was not aware of. Once you start speaking to them, it makes it easy for them to open up, to speak to you and ask questions, and not just simple questions. Once you start explaining things to them, they understand you much better and it is better than just giving instructions to the child. I am speaking with my child, not speaking to my child. We were so excited when we were doing this together!”

– Parent in East London

Sifunda Ngokuthetha (We learn by talking together)

A trip to the supermarket and medical clinic are perfect opportunities for parents and caregivers to engage in conversation with their children – expanding their vocabulary and offering context for using new words. A simple question can lead to open-ended discussions and discoveries for both child and parent and help to develop the architecture of young minds.

Sifunda Ngokuthetha is a pilot program that uses child-friendly signage to promote the development of positive parent-child interactions in informal, everyday environments. Students from the University of Fort Hare are evaluating the program results.



Community Learning

We promote opportunities for people-to-people exchanges to deepen connections between the United States and South Africa. In coming together we share lessons learned and build on our common history to inspire social transformation in both countries.

Innovation and the Public Good: Massachusetts & South Africa

This one-day symposium explored areas of public health and citizen engagement where innovative technological solutions are being developed and implemented in South Africa and in Massachusetts to benefit the public good. Panel discussions on “Mobile Health for Public Health” and “Technology and Citizen Engagement,” featured panelists from both the U.S. and South Africa. More than 100 participants attended the session; an additional 50 participants from South Africa joined the session online. Participants left the day energized by the sharing of ideas and opportunities for future collaborations.

This symposium was made possible with funding from The Curtis International Council Fund at The Boston Foundation.

Positively Beautiful: life and love in the age of HIV

On International Women’s Day, South Africa Partners joined with program partners to screen *Positively Beautiful: life and love in the age of HIV*, a documentary film about living with HIV/AIDS in South Africa today. Following the screening there was a panel discussion featuring Douglas Brooks – Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, Diveena Cooppan – producer and director of the film, Mary Tiseo – Executive Director of South Africa Partners and Mickey Aramati – Assistant Professor of Global Health at Tufts Public Health.

This program was co-hosted by the United Nations Association of Greater Boston, Tufts Public Health, American Association of University Women, Boston Network for International Development, Center for Women’s Health & Human Rights and South Africa Partners.



POSITIVELY BEAUTIFUL

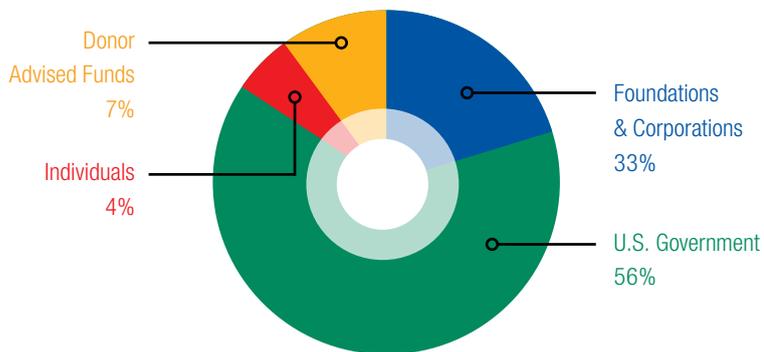
a film about life and love in the age of HIV



FY 2015 Philanthropy at a Glance

Sources of Philanthropic Support

FY 2015 Revenue = \$4,843,745 (unaudited)



How Your Gift Supports South Africa Partners

FY 2015 Expenditures = \$4,961,039 (unaudited)

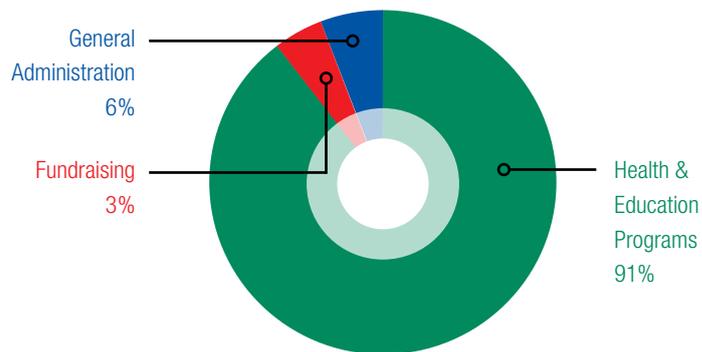


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Our Partners

Integrated Access to Care and Treatment (I ACT)



Strengthening Prevention Services (STEPS)



LinkCARE: Linkage, Care and Retention



Albertina Sisulu Executive Leadership Programme in Health (ASELPH)



ASELPH is made possible by generous support from:



Wraparound Early Childhood Development (ECD)



Sifunda Ngokuthetha (*We Learn by Talking Together*)

