



## Promoting HIV Quality Improvement in Zimbabwe

**Duration of activity:** October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 (1 year)

**Anticipated funding for first year:** U.S. \$726,000

**Description:** Strengthening High-Impact Interventions for an AIDS-free Generation (AIDSFree), through the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF), is assisting the Zimbabwe Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) to strengthen the quality of HIV services provided at all levels to improve HIV testing, linkage of people living with HIV to treatment, adherence and retention in care, and ultimately, viral suppression in clients receiving antiretroviral therapy, in accordance with the 90-90-90 targets. AIDSFree is providing technical assistance (TA) on quality improvement (QI) interventions in Zimbabwe. QI activities are planned and implemented based on gaps as identified by the QI performance measurement framework, which tracks 14 nationally agreed-upon quality of care indicators; and through prioritization of key problems by subnational groups implementing HIV care. To enable full implementation of the QI program, AIDSFree is implementing the following activities, primarily through EGPAF-supported, district-level QI coaches:

- Training health care workers in performance management and QI
- Providing TA at the national level for QI and quality management (QM) program development and implementation, including support for national monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the QI program and tracking of QI projects and trainings
- Training and mentoring health care providers to continuously and systematically improve the quality of their programs at all levels, targeting a total of 240 health workers trained in the 80 prioritized sites (three per site).

### Planned AIDSFree Zimbabwe Key Activities

**Capacity Building:** For sites to fully implement QI projects, health care workers must have exposure to two types of trainings—performance measurement and quality improvement. Nationally, there is an existing pool of healthcare workers trained in either performance measurement or QI. AIDSFree will build on this pool to train additional health care workers from the 80 sites on performance measurement and/or QI. These didactic trainings for doctors, nurses, and health information personnel involved in HIV care services are based on the national QI curriculum adapted from HEALTHQUAL International. They are conducted over five days: three days are devoted to the concepts of performance measurement; and two days to practical application in a clinical setting. EGPAF and MOHCC QI Technical Officers who are already



national QI trainers facilitate the trainings and provide technical support to district-level QI coaches, in collaboration with other key partners.

**Development and Implementation of National Level QI/QM Program:** AIDSFree, in collaboration with other PEPFAR partners, is supporting the MOHCC to adapt QI/QM materials to national HIV program guidelines. National performance measurement systems for QI have also been developed and integrated into existing health management information systems. Additionally, EGPAF supports level of effort for the national PMTCT and pediatric HIV prevention, care, and treatment coordinator to ensure that implementation of QI initiatives in this area is not neglected.

**Implementation of District-Level TA in QI/QM:** At the district level, to build capacity for efficient implementation of the QI program, EGPAF Technical Officers who are trained as national QI trainers work with existing MOHCC national, provincial, and district-level staff to provide ongoing QI-focused TA and mentorship to the district QI coaches/trainers and District Health Executive teams.