



Ensure children are born HIV-free

Reauthorize the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

Introduction

In 2003, the U.S. stepped up as a global leader in the HIV response, launching the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). PEPFAR has proven to be the most successful global health and development initiative by any nation in history. It has saved more than 25 million lives in countries most affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Now, 20 years later, PEPFAR's innovative, target-driven, and science-based prevention and treatment programming has fundamentally changed the course of the HIV pandemic.

Why it matters

The bold vision of the PEPFAR program, paired with enduring, consistent bipartisan Congressional support, is responsible for saving 25 million lives. Faith-based organizations play a critical role in the success of PEPFAR, addressing stigma and delivering health services to affected communities. Since its launch in 2003, FBOs have remained steadfast PEPFAR partners.¹

In 2022, PEPFAR supported life-saving anti-retroviral treatment for 20.1 million people and through PEPFAR support, over 7.1 million orphans, vulnerable children and their caregivers accessed critical care and support services. Since its inception twenty years ago, more than 5.5 million new infections have been averted in children. Additionally, PEPFAR has helped train 340,000 health care workers to deliver and improve HIV care and other health services and its infrastructure has been leveraged to combat other global threats, like COVID-19 and Ebola, by providing laboratory and supply chain capacity, strengthening surveillance systems, preparing countries for vaccine delivering, and rapidly coordinating with governments.

PEPFAR legislation also authorizes the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. By working hand in hand with countries and partners like PEPFAR, the Global Fund's efforts have saved more than 50 million lives since its inception in 2002. PEPFAR's goal is to eliminate HIV/AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

ASK

The successes of the PEPFAR program and the Global Fund are only possible because of the longstanding bipartisan congressional and presidential support for the programs. With your leadership, we could end AIDS around the world. World Vision asks Congress to reauthorize PEPFAR as simply and expeditiously as possible, ensuring the PEPFAR program remains the cornerstone U.S. global health program that bipartisan members of Congress are proud to support.

PEPFAR DREAMS project in Uganda

The DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, Safe) initiative is one of PEPFAR's successful programs which is focused on reducing the impact of HIV/AIDS on adolescent girls. World Vision implemented the program in Uganda, with the goals of reducing risks of early marriage and pregnancy, gender-based violence (GBV), HIV infection, and supporting girls to stay in school.

The program supports adolescent girls by identifying girl leaders in schools who other girls would reach out to if they were at risk of dropping out of school due to financial constraints, prospects of early marriage, sexual abuse, or poor academic performance. This triggered quick action from the girl leaders to reduce dropout of school. The girl leaders also partnered with their teachers who committed to protect all children from abuse and violence.

Out of the 44,351 adolescent girls served by the program, 99.7% stayed in school, reducing their vulnerability to HIV infection and gender-based violence. The program also engaged faith leaders and congregation members in girl's advocacy, school retention, and HIV prevention.



Reference

¹ <https://www.devex.com/news/pepfar-s-top-10-faith-based-health-partners-99501>

QUICK FACTS

- ▶ Since 2010, PEPFAR has achieved a 50% reduction in new HIV cases for young women between 15 and 24 years of age and a 65% reduction in new HIV cases for young men between 15 and 24 years of age.
- ▶ Between 2004 and 2020 new HIV infections in PEPFAR-supported countries dropped by half.
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- ▶ Only roughly half of HIV-positive children currently access treatment, which is especially disturbing because half of them will die before their second birthday if they remain untreated.
- ▶ 1.5 million people are still newly infected with HIV annually, a number that remains essentially stagnant