

Pact’s people-centered HIV programming

Our commitment to ending AIDS by 2030

Pact’s global health and HIV programs reach an average of 2.4 million people each year and put people at the center, from war-impacted people living with HIV (PLHIV) and health providers in Ukraine, to at-risk adolescent boys and girls in Zimbabwe, to HIV-affected Haitian migrant families in the Dominican Republic. Our embedded community engagement models ensure that our programs give voice to these (and other) priority populations that we serve to influence equitable service design and delivery.

While Pact is best-known for our extensive global expertise in orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) programming, our diverse HIV programming cuts across all major technical areas, including differentiated care delivery (DSD), primary prevention of HIV, HIV testing services (HTS), optimized care and treatment delivery, HIV services for key populations (KPs), and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services. Our dedicated capacity strengthening approach ensures that local governments and partners can scale and maintain the delivery of HIV services that respond to the broader socio-economic and health needs (including mental health) that PLHIV need to stay healthy. Pact is currently implementing HIV programming in 10 countries to advance 95-95-95 goals (Table 1).



TABLE 1: Active HIV Programming (2024)

Project name	Country(ies)
Adolescents and Children HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment and Virus Elimination (ACHIEVE)	Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia
USAID Zambia Integrated Health (ZIH)	Zambia
Community Action for HIV Control (CAHC)	Ukraine
Building Resilience Among Affected Families with HIV	Dominican Republic
Sabelo Sensha (sub)	Eswatini
Sustaining Prevention, Care, and Support Services for OVC (SPACE) (sub)	Zimbabwe
Controlling the HIV Epidemic for Key and Underserved Populations (CHEKUP) (sub)	Zambia

Areas of our HIV technical expertise

Pact's HIV programming offers comprehensive and patient-centered HIV prevention, diagnosis, care and treatment services, with integration of tuberculosis (TB), family planning, reproductive health, maternal and child health, and behavioral health services in communities and health facilities to contribute to reaching, maintaining and sustaining epidemic control.



PRIMARY PREVENTION

Pact serves as a technical leader in HIV prevention and mitigation, particularly for OVC and their caregivers, adolescent girls and young women (AGYW), KP including female sex workers (FSW), men who have sex with men (MSM), and people who inject drugs (PWID), war-impacted populations and hard-to-reach groups such as migrants. We work with national governments to adapt and embed prevention approaches and curricula into official guidelines; expand digital solutions; and increase access to preventive services through enhanced outreach models and integrated service delivery.

Our recent activities include:

- Scaling up **pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)**, enrolling 12,556 AGYW on PrEP in Namibia, Rwanda, and South Sudan under ACHIEVE and enrolling 33,287 individuals on PrEP in Zambia under USAID Zambia Integrated Health. Our programs improve access to PrEP through training for youth-friendly clinical services, enhancing demand creation, and building linkages between community and clinical partners for PrEP initiation and adherence support.
- Working with Zambian government health teams to plan and implement an ambitious 90-day **Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) campaign** under USAID Zambia Integrated Health that conducted 98,670 circumcisions in three provinces. Integrated community roadshows mobilized men for VMMC, distributed 131,264 condoms and 7089 HIV self-testing kits, provided on-site HIV testing for 42,345 people, initiated 3,868 clients on PrEP, and referred over 4,000 women for cervical cancer screening.
- Providing 198,463 AGYW between the ages of 10-29 years with a comprehensive package of HIV prevention services (primary prevention of sexual violence, sexual and reproductive health education, financial literacy, and education support) through **DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe)** programming in Namibia, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Tanzania.

HIV testing services

In partnership with governments, civil society organizations (CSOs), public and private health facilities and community cadres, Pact improved HIV case finding among priority populations using a wide range of available HTS modalities - index testing for biological children and adolescents, social network testing, HIV self-testing (HIVST), and facility-based testing at antenatal (ANC) clinics, TB clinics, and outpatient departments. Our programs play a critical role in pediatric case-finding, such as in Tanzania where community case workers use a standard HIV Risk Assessment tool with OVC households, and, in Zambia, through supportive supervision at health facilities to reinforce universal testing for children in outpatient entry points.

Our recent activities include:

- Providing **AGYW and sexual partners** with HIVST kits in Eswatini under Insika ya Kusasa. Mentors demonstrated how to use the kits and actively followed up with clients after 2-3 days to provide support, collect test results and issue referrals as needed.
- Scaling up HIV self-testing in Zambia under ZIH to **increase testing in men**, by reaching partners of ANC clients, clients of FSW, male youth and sexual partners of index clients.
- Developing a HIV testing chatbot and an online self-test kit ordering platform for KPs in Ukraine under Community Action for HIV Control to empower **FSW, MSM, and PWID** to self-assess HIV risk and find optimal testing services. Between 2022 and 2024, over 87,000 people accessed HIV testing services. The program identified over 2,500 new cases, with a 94% linkage to treatment rate for those testing positive.



OPTIMIZING CARE AND TREATMENT

To accelerate clinical HIV outcomes, Pact, in collaboration with governments and CSO partners, strengthens HIV technical skills of facility-based providers and community-based care providers and scales up packages of integrated health and HIV services. Through our OVC programming, Pact supports pediatric and adolescent enrollment and retention in HIV care by facilitating bidirectional referral systems between facility- and community-based services, enhancing touchpoints and enabling timely client follow-up. Across all programs, our data systems strengthening activities improve government and CSO partners' use of data to close treatment gaps.

Our recent activities include:

- Reaching 43,365 **CLHIV under 18 years** in 2023 with impressive HIV cascade results of 99% known proxy status, 99% on ART, and 97% viral suppression under ACHIEVE in six countries. Our OVC programming also assesses the HIV cascade in **caregivers of OVC** in recognition that having a healthy, supportive parent has the most significant potential to impact a child's well-being.
- Strengthening **integration of RMNCH services** for women living with HIV under USAID Zambia Integrated Health, such as placing volunteers at ART clinics to escort eligible women living with HIV for cervical cancer screening. In 2024 to date, ZIH has achieved 96% viral suppression in breastfeeding women and 93% in pregnant women.
- Collaborating with the Ukraine Center for Public Health of the Ministry of Health on a national information campaign under Community Action for HIV Control to ensure that **PLHIV displaced by war** know where to access ART and avoid treatment interruption, reaching over 30,000 PLHIV in Ukraine and abroad.

KEY POPULATIONS

Pact uses a rights-based HIV response in our HIV programming, engaging KP communities in the design of DSD approaches that consider lifestyles, regional characteristics and needs of each sub-group. We strengthen government and non-government service providers' ability to provide non-discriminatory, confidential care for KPs to fill gaps in epidemic control. Of significance is our work in Ukraine under Community Action for HIV Control with PWID and their sexual and needle exchange partners, MSM and their wives and children, transgender persons, plus people recently released from prison.



Our recent activities with KPs include:

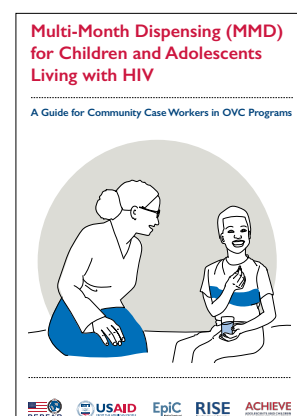
- Strengthening the capacity of 18 local non-governmental partners in 15 regions of Ukraine under Community Action for HIV Control to collaborate with Ukrainian KP communities for **delivery of prevention, testing, and treatment support services** to MSM, FSW, and PWID in 2023. Partners collaborated with KP community consultants to monitor HIV services availability and quality, with a focus on HIV testing, and implemented 57 DSD models for HIV testing.
- **Improving non-judgmental, facility-based HIV services** in Zambia through collaboration on two Pact projects, USAID Zambia Integrated Health and CHEKUP I, through scaleup of high-risk sensitivity training for health workers, strengthening counselors on KP HIV case finding, promoting KP linkage to and continuity on PrEP, and ensuring KP have access to STI screening services and condoms and lubricant.
- Reaching 6,381 KPs with **comprehensive HIV prevention services** in Lesotho in 2022 under EPiC using enhanced peer outreach, digital mobilization tools for demand creation, index testing and a risk assessment screening tool with referrals to HTS and PrEP services.

PEOPLE-CENTERED APPROACHES FOR CONTINUITY OF TREATMENT

Pact's OVC programs are instrumental in closing the pediatric treatment gap and retaining children in lifelong HIV care. We engage children, adolescents, and families using human-centered design, community-led monitoring (CLM) and stakeholder consultation to ensure that programs are designed to address barriers to care. To improve continuity of treatment, we strengthen the health and social welfare systems environment to improve effectiveness of HIV service delivery and expand DSD model implementation by facility and community service providers.

Our recent activities include:

- **Strengthening DSD for children living with HIV** under ACHIEVE, which facilitated nearly 30,000 CLHIV globally to shift to multi-month dispensing.
- **Using human-centered design with young adults living with HIV** in Zimbabwe under SPACE for OVC to develop a package of services. Their input led to a Youth Design Taskforce Guide, Youth Community Wellness Days, and Youth Club Toolkits.
- **Implementing CLM for Haitian migrant families** living in the Dominican Republic under Building Resilience Among Affected Families with HIV to shape and improve approaches to their HIV care. CLM ensures that their community safely receives the health, HIV and social services they need, upholding their dignity in a highly stigmatized environment.



CROSS-CUTTING SERVICES FOR HIV TESTING, PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OUTCOMES

Pact's community-led program models reduce new HIV infections and support long term ART adherence by strengthening networks of care and expanding access to family-centered social-economic, education and behavioral health services.

Pact builds capacities of local partners to deliver comprehensive **OVC programming** through comprehensive case management services which provide family-centered pediatric HIV case finding and ART treatment support services. In the Dominican Republic, Building Resilience Among Affected Families with HIV Activity works within the marginalized Haitian migrant community to provide HIV information and services to OVC and their caregivers and gives referrals to nutrition, education, livelihoods, and gender-based violence (GBV) education and services. Across our OVC programming, we strengthen local partner capacities to prevent and respond to **Violence against Children** by conducting policy audits and monitoring compliance to procedures. Find out more about our OVC and DREAMS activities in our OVC technical brief.

Our **GBV programming** expands preventive and responsive capabilities of governments, local partners, and service providers. In South Africa, under ACHIEVE, we developed a curriculum for prevention of GBV focused on adolescent boys and young men. In Namibia and South Sudan, Pact trained paraprofessionals to deliver first-line support for persons who disclose experience or fear of violence with referrals for post-GBV clinical and social services.

Pact is testing several integrated models of **behavioral health interventions** for PLHIV, including models for integrated mental health care for war-affected PLHIV in Ukraine and group therapy for AGYW in the DREAMS program in Zambia who demonstrate symptoms of moderate to severe depression. Find out more about our behavioral health activities across our HIV and global health programs in our Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services technical brief.



Throughout all of Pact's HIV programming, we incorporate intentional capacity strengthening activities to promote sustainability of the HIV response. We transfer skills and tools and bolster systems and processes that will sustain country-owned and managed HIV programming. Pact collaborates with government and CSO partners to identify their sustainability priorities, develop plans with measurable milestones, and tailor capacity strengthening activities with the goal of transfer of technical and/or organizational leadership and management responsibilities. As an example, to sustain KP services in Indonesia, Pact worked with sixteen KP-led local implementing partners and three local KP networks to improve their business and fundraising skills and strengthen their organizational capabilities, including uptake of a social contracting mechanism initiative. Find out more about our capacity development methodology and successes across our HIV programs in our technical brief.

LEARNING FROM OUR GLOBAL HIV PROGRAMMING

Pact compiles learning documents, webinars, and fact sheets to share our learning across a global audience on our website, pactworld.org. Selected resources include:

- Posters and our satellite session on HIV and Mental Health from the 25th [International AIDS Conference](#) (2024)
- Situational reports from the [Community Action for HIV Control](#) in Ukraine
- Blog posts and other feature [articles](#) with updates on our HIV projects around the world.
- ACHIEVE manages [OVCSupport.org](#), a resource database focused on improving the lives of orphans and vulnerable children by connecting the global community and providing the most up-to-date information on HIV and other adversities.



For More Information

Gloria Sangiwa

Vice President, Global Health
gsangiwa@pactworld.org

Pact builds systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and governments that create sustainable and resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant. On the ground in nearly 40 countries, Pact's integrated adaptive approach is shaping the future of international development.

