

# HOPE THROUGH HEALTH

PROGRESS REPORT APRIL - JUNE 2013

### Dear Friends,

I hope that you enjoy reading this report, which details Hope Through Health's progress during the second quarter of 2013. Our hope is that this report will keep you informed about the impact that your support is having on the lives of the patients we serve in Togo, West Africa. In the following pages we share with you an honest portrayal of the successes and challenges we face in attempting to expand access to quality health care in northern Togo.

The second quarter of 2013 brought some exciting developments for Hope Through Health and our partner organization, AED-Lidaw.

- The Togolese Ministry of Health and the UN Population Fund delivered a generous truckload of maternal health equipment and supplies to HTH's Kara clinic.
- Preliminary results from an external evaluation of community-based HIV treatment organizations in Togo concluded that HTH/AED's model is exceptional and should be further studied to inform national best practices in Togo.
- Thanks to your support and a generous matching grant from One Day's Wages, HTH raised a total of \$27,787 to support our pediatric programs.
- We are thrilled to announce that the Boston-based law firm, Bingham McCutchen, has accepted HTH as a pro-bono client.

As with all of our efforts, we welcome your feedback on this report. Please reach out to me or any member of our team with your questions and suggestions. We would love to hear from you and continue this dialogue about the transformative impact your support has on improving the health of individuals and communities in Togo.

With gratitude.

Jennifer Schechter, Executive Director

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### ABOUT HOPE THROUGH HEALTH

### **MISSION**

Hope Through Health works to expand access to health care for all individuals through community driven initiatives in partnership with the public sector in Togo, West Africa.

### **VISION**

Hope Through Health envisions a world in which high quality health care is available to all individuals regardless of their ability to pay thereby promoting equity and human dignity.

### **VALUES**

**HOPE** | HTH believes that better health outcomes are possible even when there is some evidence to the contrary.

**HEALTH** | HTH believes that health is more than the absence of disease or infection but includes the promotion of social, economic, educational and spiritual wellbeing.

**EQUITY** | HTH believes in working to address the root causes of social and economic injustice to ensure that all individuals have an equal right to live healthy and productive lives.

**SOLIDARITY** | HTH believes in working alongside and in collaboration with the people we serve to ensure responsiveness to their specific needs.

**COMMITMENT** | HTH believes in making long-term investments to address global health inequities and bring about greater justice.

### **OPERATING PRINCIPLES**

**PARTNERSHIP** | Establishing long-term relationships with local governments and communities in which all parties have an equal voice.

**HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING** | Strengthening the capacity of the public sector to effectively scale up quality health care services.

**COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING** | Supporting local groups engaged in improving the health of their own communities through medical, psychological and/or educational activities.

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE | Eliminating barriers in order to improve access to quality health care for all.

**GENDER-BASED PROGRAMMING** | Prioritizing services for women and children as the most effective means to strengthening entire communities.

**EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE** | Implementing medical and public health interventions through decision-making based on the best available evidence and information.

**MOVEMENT BUILDING** | Fostering engagement and building connections across the globe in order to combine efforts into a larger movement for social justice.

### SELECTED INDICATORS

Hope Through Health employs a dynamic Monitoring, Evaluation and Quality (MEQ) dashboard, designed with the help of Partners In Health, to enable our team to easily analyze data and make program improvements in real time. A selection of indicators from the dashboard are presented here.

		Central Clinic	Satellite Clinics				
		Kara	Bafilo	Ketao	Kante	Kabou	Total
1	Number of Active Patients	1138	232	132	79	39	1620
	% Children	8%	13%	8%	15%	8%	10%
	% Women	71%	65%	70%	61%	82%	70%
2	Number of Patients on Anti- retroviral Therapy	620	111	47	26	25	829
3	% ART Refill Appointments Respected	84%	NA	36%	58%	32%	53%
4	% ART Patients who had a CD4 Count in Last 6 Months	27%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%
5	% Infants Who Test Positive for HIV	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
6	Number of Patients Benefiting from a Community Visit	214	110	66	23	22	435
7	Number of Beneficiaries at the Community Pharmacy	598	105	70	43	25	841
8	Number of Patients Participating in a Support Group	93	10	0	9	24	136
9	Number of Patients Receiving Psychosocial Counseling	176	30	44	43	16	309
10	Number of People Tested for HIV	194	0	0	0	0	194

### Highlights:

- % ART Patients in Kara who had a CD4 count in last 6 months increased from 6% in Q1 to 27% in Q2 (Row 4)
- Zero infants born to mothers living with HIV tested positive for HIV at 18 months (Row 5)

#### Challenges:

- Continued low reported adherence rates at satellite sites (Row 3)
- Low number of community visits due to current restructuring of program (Row 6)
- Continued low percentage of patients having CD4 count especially outside of Kara (Row 4)

### **CASE STUDY**

The purpose of this case study is to share stories of our work which illustrate the successes and challenges characterizing our efforts to improve global health equity.

#### Introduction

In 2008, a young woman named Nadege discovered that she was HIV positive during a prenatal consultation. As she recalls, "I was shocked. I was in a crisis. I thought it was a death sentence. I cried out and was very upset. The nurse told me that there was help if I was not too ashamed to get it. I said, 'No, I am not ashamed. If there is hope for me and my baby, I will get help. There is no shame in that!" Nadege turned to HTH and their partner organization, AED-Lidaw. Through the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) program supported by HTH, Nadege found the medical, emotional, and social support that allowed her to give birth to a healthy, HIV-free baby. Today Nadege works as a Community Health Worker, providing support to other expecting and new moms living with HIV. Recently, the breadth of services provided by HTH for women like Nadege has expanded. Thanks to increased support and new partnerships, HTH has begun offering enhanced maternal health services, including pre- and post-natal consultations and increased access to family planning, in our Kara clinic.

### Background

When Hope Through Health was founded in 2004, the goal was simply to provide essential health care services where they were not otherwise available. This meant providing care and treatment, including lifesaving antiretroviral therapy (ART), to individuals living with HIV in northern Togo. In 2005, after initiating the first patients on ART outside of Togo's capital Lome, HTH started the first PMTCT program in northern Togo. Thanks to generous donor support,



Community Health Worker, Nadege, a community leader for maternal health services

HTH was able to make medical advances. which dramatically decreased the likelihood of HIV transmission from mother to child. available to mothers in Togo. In 2005, a baby girl named Deborah was the first baby born through HTH's PMTCT program and 18 months later she tested negative for HIV. HTH continued to refine and strengthen its PMTCT program, quickly adding an essential home-based support and follow up component delivered by Community Health Workers (CHWs). In 2007, HTH was asked by the Ministry of Health to assist with the pilot of the first public PMTCT program in the Kara Region. Since then, the success of HTH's approach has been widely recognized. As a result, HTH has recently received additional support to expand its PMTCT program to offer greater maternal health services to women living with HIV.

#### **Welcoming New Team Members**

To implement the expanded maternal health program, HTH recently added some wonderful new team members to the staff of the Kara Clinic. The first of these new faces is that of Physician's Assistant, Gloria Kloukpo who has assumed the role of Maternal Health Program Coordinator. After a year of full-time volunteering with AED through Togo's National Service Corps, HTH hired Gloria to direct the expanded Maternal Health Program. Gloria will soon

be featured in a film about Togo's National Service Corps, as her job offer from HTH marked the first time in the national program's history that a volunteer was retained by their placement organization. Highly impressed with Gloria's strong work ethic and commitment to her patients, HTH was honored to offer her the opportunity to direct the expanded maternal health program.

Gloria is assisted by HTH's first full-time midwife. Hired in May, following a competitive application process, Clarisse Gnang "literally jumped for joy" when she learned she would be joining the HTH team. The midwife position is especially important, as it allows HTH to begin offering pre- and post- natal consultations in the Kara clinic. This development will enable women living with HIV to receive both their HIV and maternal health care in one center.

In May, HTH also hired Doguiga Dadjo to serve as a full-time nurse for the maternal health program. In addition to her strong clinical skills, Doguiga demonstrates tremendous respect and compassion for her patients. She has experience caring for close family members who are living with HIV, which enables her to better understand and connect with her patients. This mindset has not only resulted in Doguiga's patients' sky-high satisfaction with care and treatment but has also warmed relations between other clinical and community-based staff.

These three incredible women are supported by Nadege and the rest of the team of CHWs, who extend clinic services into the community. With a strong team in place the expanded maternal health program now provides pre- and post-natal consultations, family planning, tests, prophylaxis medications, nutritional assistance, psychosocial support, and home-based follow up to expecting and post-partum mothers. Our hope is that the growth of this program will both improve access to care for women and lead to even greater health outcomes, including zero new infant HIV infections.

### **New Equipment**

This fantastic new team is now equipped with new and better equipment which will allow them to provide high quality maternal health services. Earlier this month a large truck pulled up in front of the Kara clinic to deliver a surprise donation. Filled to the brim with maternal health supplies, this delivery of an examination table, lamps, various methods of birth control and other essential materials, was sent from the Togolese Ministry of Family Affairs and the United Nations Population Fund. HTH thanks these organizations for their faith in HTH's ability to put the donated materials to the best use possible.

We have the tools at our disposal to help women, mothers, live longer, more productive lives. We have the capacity to ensure that no new child is born with HIV. These are not goals that we aspire to. These are moral imperatives that we must achieve.

### **New Partnerships and Future Goals**

Building on the momentum generated by the growth of the maternal health program, HTH is currently exploring new partnerships, which will bring even greater health services to more women in Togo. This marks a tremendous opportunity. We have the tools at our disposal to help women, mothers, live longer, more productive lives. We have the capacity to ensure that no new child is born with HIV. These are not goals that we aspire to. These are moral imperatives that we must achieve. By continuing to collaborate with local and international partners, being led by amazing community leaders like Nadege, and with your support, HTH will continue to ensure all women and children in Togo have access to high quality health care services.

### **DEVELOPMENT METRICS**

Year to Date Raised	Year to Date Target	% Raised	Annual Budget
\$141,508	\$150,000	94%	\$282,350

January - June 2013

Donation Amount	Total Monies Raised	Number of Donors
<100	\$2,227	55
100-499	\$26,991	155
500-999	\$11,330	19
1000-2499	\$14,246	10
2500-9999	\$16,550	4
10,000+	\$70,164	3
TOTAL	\$141,508	246

January - June 2012

Donation Amount	Total Monies Raised	Number of Donors
<100	\$5,613	130
100-499	\$16,639	92
500-999	\$7,706	14
1000-2499	\$22,214	14
2500-9999	\$12,148	3
10,000+	\$20,000	1
TOTAL	\$84,320	254

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(January - June 2013)



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