



## GLOBAL HEALTH HIV, AIDS AND TB

Save the Children envision a world where children and families can live free of HIV infection and families that are affected by HIV and AIDS can live positively and productively without stigma and discrimination. Each day in 2016, over 1,100 children and adolescents (age 0–19) around the world became infected with HIV.<sup>1</sup> Ninety percent of them contracted the virus through transmission from their mothers. **If early diagnosis and treatment do not occur, one-third of HIV-positive infants will die before their first birthday, almost one-half before their second birthday, and 80 percent will die before their fifth birthday.**<sup>2</sup> Additionally, tuberculosis (TB) continues to affect those infected with HIV, speeding the progress of HIV infection. In 2015, 1.8 million people died from TB including 400,000 people living with both HIV and TB.<sup>3</sup>

We play a leading role in helping children and families facing the threat of HIV and AIDS. We support better access to comprehensive HIV prevention, care, treatment and support services for children, women and families affected by HIV, in countries where it is most needed. We work in close partnership with governments, local organizations, communities and other stakeholders to develop and implement sustainable, replicable, and facility- and community-based approaches that can be taken to scale. We focus on ensuring those living with HIV, especially children, receive the care and support they need.

As a member of the World Health Organization's Stop TB partnership, we prioritize the continuum of prevention, screening, diagnosis, care and treatment, with the aim of increasing case detection, case notification and treatment success rates; reducing incidence, including TB/HIV co-infections; and improving multidrug resistant TB treatment success rates. We are dedicated to **Stop TB's** goal of reaching zero TB deaths among children and to improving childhood TB control programs in countries with a high burden.

### Key Facts

- 66,700 children under 5 died from AIDS-related causes in 2016 (UNAIDS).
- 1.4 million pregnant women were living with HIV in 2016 (WHO).
- 76% of pregnant women living with HIV receive treatment for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) (WHO).
- 53% of people living with HIV received antiretroviral therapy in 2016 (UNAIDS).
- In 2015, 1 million children became infected with TB and 210,000 died (WHO).

### Our Impact

- Provided HIV prevention services to 11.5 million people.
- Provided PMTCT services to nearly 800,000 women across Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Myanmar and Zimbabwe.
- Enrolled nearly 500,000 people in HIV care.

<sup>1</sup> UNICEF. HIV/AIDS Current Status and Progress: <https://data.unicef.org/topic/hivaids/global-regional-trends/>.

<sup>2</sup> Newell, Marie Louise, et al., 'Mortality of Infected and Uninfected Infants Born to HIV-Infected Mothers in Africa: A pooled analysis', *The Lancet*, vol. 364, no. 9441, 2 October 2004, pp. 1236–1243.

<sup>3</sup> World Health Organization. *Global Tuberculosis Report 2016*.

## Prevention

Our HIV prevention programs help expand access to quality information, services and networks in order to reduce the risk of acquiring or transmitting HIV. In line with our organizational focus on children, our HIV prevention programs primarily target children and adolescents. Using youth-friendly interventions, we help ensure that people make healthy decisions and adopt protective practices. Working with influential adults such as parents, teachers and traditional and religious leaders, we create a supportive environment to ensure young people can get the help they need from their communities. Our HIV prevention strategies include the provision of PMTCT services and medications to treat and prevent the further spread of HIV, and interventions to reduce risk of HIV transmission, including pre-exposure prophylaxis and promoting behavior change, including use of condoms, having only low-risk sex, having sex with partners of the same HIV status, and not having sex. We advocate for using a combination of prevention strategies as well as counseling and testing services.

## Care, Support & Treatment

Care and treatment services help prevent new HIV infections, provide hope to people living with HIV and AIDS, save lives and help realize the global goal of an AIDS-free generation. Our programs focus on ensuring that HIV-positive children and adolescents are provided with a holistic package of care and support interventions at all levels, improving not only their health, but also their social and economic status. We improve community and home-based care and support as well as linkages to clinical services needed by people living with HIV and AIDS and their affected family members. We also support positive-living practices for individuals living with HIV to maintain their well-being and prevent disease progression, to help reduce deaths and illnesses. Finally, using an integrated health care approach, we provide HIV and AIDS clinical care and treatment services, including treatment of opportunistic infections and treatment of TB/HIV co-infections for both adults and children.

## Advocacy

Save the Children works with policymakers globally to ensure the needs of pregnant women and children with HIV are addressed. Using scientific evidence, we aim to increase awareness, political momentum and leadership to achieve the elimination of pediatric AIDS and advocate for continued funding from governments for HIV prevention, treatment and care.

## Tuberculosis

Our TB work focuses on improving childhood case detection, addressing vulnerable populations, including people living with HIV and TB, and increasing multidrug resistant TB case detection and treatment in the community. We work with community and civil society stakeholders to raise awareness, support communities to mobilize, strengthen institutional and managerial capacities related to TB and strengthen the national monitoring and evaluation system to provide high-quality data and information. Our strategy includes providing integrated programming for childhood TB, enhancing case detection in vulnerable populations by using family-centered approaches and strengthening linkages and referral systems between facilities.



**“The thought of being HIV-positive and pregnant was horrifying. I thought of my unborn child and feared my baby would be born HIV-positive.”**

Zeria, a young wife and mother from Malawi, was scared after being diagnosed as HIV-positive while pregnant with her fourth child. She participated in Save the Children-funded community-based counselling and services designed to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV. Zeria was overjoyed to give birth to a healthy and HIV-negative baby girl, who she named Joylet.

### *HIV, AIDS and TB in Humanitarian Settings*

When crisis strikes, the service availability and supply chains can be disrupted. Our HIV, AIDS and TB work in humanitarian settings focuses on the timely reinitiation of antiretroviral therapy and TB treatment and re-establishing PMTCT services.

*Save the Children believes every child deserves a future. In the United States and around the world, we give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm. We do whatever it takes for children – every day and in times of crisis – transforming their lives and the future we share.*