



## Swaziland Wellness Center Visit

The Uganda National Association of Nurses and Midwives is in the process of establishing a Wellness Centre with support from PEPFAR/BD through the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the ICAP Nurse Capacity Initiative. In September 2010, Cliff Asher Aliga, Coordinator of the Wellness Centre in Uganda, made a weeklong trip to the Swaziland Wellness Centre (pictured above) to learn about the management of Wellness Centre Activities. Linda Carrier-Walker, ICN staff, guided and participated in this tour, which included visiting the National TB hospital and a rural health clinic (both of which have an established Wellness Centre Corner) and a home visit to a Wellness Center client.

## About ICAP Nurse Capacity Initiative

The INCI is a collaboration of the International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs (ICAP) at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, the U.S. government's Health Resources and Services Administration, South Africa's University of Fort Hare School of Health Sciences, Columbia University School of Nursing, and the International Council of Nursing.

## Newsletter Info

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## INCI INTRODUCES NEW PROGRAMMING IN ETHIOPIA

The ICAP Nursing Capacity Initiative has commenced work in Ethiopia, starting with a nursing needs assessment in the 5 ICAP-Ethiopia regions. As the new work began, ICAP-Ethiopia welcomed Jennifer Dohrn, INCI Program Director and Karen Behringer, INCI Program Manager to support the initiation of the INCI activities. The INCI-Ethiopia team, lead by Sr. Tigist Tafese, INCI Coordinator, set the tone for the visit, beginning with meetings with the Ethiopian Ministry of Health (MOH), the Ethiopian Nurses Association (ENA), and the Ethiopian Midwifery Association (EMA). Through these meetings, many urgent issues were identified, including the importance of more emphasis on capacitating nurses within the healthcare system, the high number of Ethiopian women who deliver babies unassisted at home, and the need to connect the issue of maternal mortality to broader nursing issues.

The five region nursing needs assessment will gather a wide range of views on the current state of nursing in Ethiopia. It will solicit not only specific information about the current capacity of nursing and midwifery education institutions, but will query nursing managers in the national and district health ministry on such issues as

quality of nursing care, pre- and in-service training, nurse mentoring and professional issues. The expected date of completion is January 2011. The results and recommendations will then be presented in a nursing stakeholder's forum, and will also be utilized to develop a plan in collaboration with the MOH and support from the ENA, and the EMA, to address the identified challenges.

In meeting with the ENA, important areas for INCI focus were identified. Major support for the Annual ENA meeting to be held January 28-30, 2011 will be given by INCI-Ethiopia, during which INCI-Ethiopia will present on innovative models of nursing in HIV care. A second activity will be to provide technical assistance for the renovation of the proposed Wellness Center facility. The Wellness Center will offer comprehensive health services for nurses and their immediate families, and will introduce sessions on stress relief and coping skills. The INCI Initiative has the full energy and support of the ICAP-Ethiopia team to bring to life activities in Ethiopia that advance the nursing profession and empower nurses to become active leaders in their communities.



## NURSING EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE UPDATE

In late 2010, INCI began the development and implementation of the Nursing Education Partnership Initiative (NEPI). The goal of NEPI is to build the capacity for nursing education within Malawi, Lesotho, and Zambia. To initiate the program, the Columbia University Coordinating Center (CUCC) conducted multiple visits to the three countries. The role of the CUCC is to support NEPI within each country by facilitating the involvement of key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Health, in discussions about the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the initiative.

The CUCC has made significant progress in the implementation of NEPI in Zambia and Malawi. Robin Flam represented the CUCC in visits to Zambia, meeting with the Ministry of Health, General Nursing Council, and other nursing education leaders. The Ministry of Health has agreed to

lead the initiative. In addition, a working group and advisory committee have been formed to support the design and implementation of the project. These groups compiled a list of recommended schools to target with corresponding nursing education interventions.

Jennifer Dohrn has represented the CUCC on the visits to Malawi where the Ministry of Health has also accepted the leading role in the initiative. The NEPI has been integrated into the Ministry of Health's existing Health Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) working group, which has agreed upon broad nursing education interventions which will drive the school selection process.

The CUCC will also be Represented at the second meeting of the WHO technical nursing education reference group from December 14-15 in Geneva.

### Pre-service Curriculum and Support to the Nursing Schools

INCI has supported the Ministry of Health and nursing schools in Swaziland in the development of a competency-based National Pre-service HIV/AIDS Curriculum. This intensive exercise involved three schools, University of Swaziland - Faculty of Health Sciences, Southern African Nazarene University and Good Shepherd Nursing School, as well as the Swaziland Nursing Council and the Swaziland Nurses Association. Quality assurance and peer review was instituted by the Columbia University School of Nursing's Dr. Jennifer Smith and Dr. Rebekah Ruppe.

The curriculum comprehensively covers areas of HIV prevention, HIV treatment and care, prevention of mother to child transmission, HIV and TB co-infection, pediatric HIV, and sexual reproductive health. Integration of the topics is aligned with the Swaziland National Guidelines and fosters strong clinical skills on key HIV competencies.

As part of building capacity for the schools to roll out the new curriculum, INCI/ICAP has given additional support to the nursing schools including classrooms, equipment and training models, lecturers and preceptors. The official launch of the curriculum by the Ministry of Health is scheduled for early 2011.

### INCI Core Leadership Summit

The first INCI leadership conference will bring together INCI leadership from each country on February 21-24, 2011 and will be facilitated by Dr. Tesfa Ghebrehiwet from the International Council of Nurses. The agenda will focus on program development, monitoring and evaluation strategies, and the successes, best practices, and challenges of INCI work in each country. It will be an exciting time for us to learn from each other and recognize nursing leadership within ICAP.

## INTRODUCING NEW INCI STAFF

INCI South Africa has added three new staff to the INCI Campus to Clinic Program (CTC):

Noma Twala, INCI Project Administrator, brings considerable experience in managing a wide range of program activities, including working at JHPIEGO SA as a project officer.

Pamela Valencia Jayiya-Mwanda, Eastern Cape INCI Project Officer, brings a variety of experience in HIV/AIDS care from her work at the Primary Health Care Community Clinic in Port Elizabeth. She has a diploma in general nursing and in midwifery from the Victoria Nursing College.

Mafukuzela Ntombekaya, Eastern Cape INCI Project Officer, worked as an ICAP

nurse mentor in Eastern Cape before joining the INCI team. She has practiced as a primary health nurse and clinical nurse practitioner in the area of HIV/AIDS in a variety of outpatient settings. She completed her training at Edendale Hospital in general nursing and midwifery.

INCI New York welcomes Karin Fenn as the new Nursing Education Partnership Initiative (NEPI) Program Manager. She comes to the program from Washington, DC where she worked in the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC) and brings a wealth of experience in budget oversight and government funding. She holds a Masters Degree in Latin American Studies with an emphasis on political economy and development from Georgetown University.