

The African Network for Care of Children Affected by HIV/AIDS (ANECCA)

PSYCHOSOCIAL CARE &

COUNSELING FOR HIV INFECTED

CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

March 2008

ANECCA'S Contribution to the control of the HIV/AIDS Epidemic

The African Network for Care of Children Affected by HIV/AIDS (ANECCA) is a network of clinicians and social scientists committed to promoting ways of improving the quality of clinical and non-clinical prevention and care of HIV in children in Africa. With its easy access to highly skilled health professionals, ANECCA combines local experience with best practices for solutions for elimination of mother to children transmission of HIV and keeping mothers, infants and entire family alive – to create a generation free of AIDS in Africa. ANECCA has a 15-year long experience in the control of HIV/AIDS and has its headquarters in Kampala Uganda where it is legally registered as a not-forprofit non-governmental organization.

ANECCA's flagship products "Handbook of Paediatric AIDS in Africa" and "Psychosocial Care & Counseling for HIV infected Children and Adolescents:



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A Training Curriculum" have been key resource materials for both pre and in-service training in over 30 countries in Africa including Uganda since 2006.

With these resources ANECCA has trained over 2000 inservice health workers in over 20 African countries in care, treatment and support for children and adolescents living with HIV. The Handbook is available as an app for mobile phones and tablets and can be downloaded by the following steps:

Open the app store on your Android, Windows or IOS mobile device and search for "ANECCA" and download the mentorship toolkit or handbook in your preferred language (English, French, and Portuguese). ANECCA is a Principal Recipient of a 3-year Global Fund regional grant to catalyze increased coverage of quality and comprehensive services for Paediatric and Adolescent HIV services in 7 countries – Burundi, Ethiopia, Malawi, Nigeria, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda – to reach over a million children aged less than 15 years and over half a million adolescents living with HIV in those countries.

In Uganda, ANECCA has been providing Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Health to:

 a) Conduct Country-wide assessment of services for adolescents, defined priority gaps and is working with stakeholders to develop priority actions for accelerating and improving the quality of adolescent HIV services in the country.

- b) Strengthen monitoring and evaluation of the national adolescent HIV program by supporting district level support supervision activities for abstraction/collection of adolescent SRH/HIV service delivery data by regional performance monitoring teams, IPs and central MOH teams every 6 months.
- c) Develop and disseminate a standardized set of paediatric and adolescent HIV care and treatment integrated clinical skills and systems improvement mentoring guideline and tools (based on use of modern quality improvement science methodology) so that these are actively used by districts and government partners to support increased coverage and quality of pediatric/ adolescent HIV care and treatment services in Uganda. One National TOT involving 25 trainees was conducted and a total of 232 health workers that included DHOs, HIV/PMTCT focal persons were trained and mentored in 5 districts. The tool has also been made into an app for mobile phones and tablets which mentors and mentees can use to improve facility level quality of services.
- d) Develop an indicator framework for strengthening the monitoring of pediatric and adolescent HIV care, as well as conducting structured national and district level coordination, supervision and monitoring of pediatric and adolescent HIV care and treatment.

ANECCA has provided TA to two of PEPFAR's implementing partners in Uganda.

To EGPAF to improve identification of HIV infected children through high quality HTC services and the successful linkage of those children to care and treatment, and to Baylor to assess the achievements of the project in 90 health facilities supported by Baylor Uganda using PEPFAR's Site Improvement through Monitoring Systems (SIMS) tool.

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