



# PEPFAR

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

## Focusing on Children's Early Years in PEPFAR Programs

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**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





**PEPFAR**

**Clinic-  
based care  
HIV and  
MNCH  
health care**



**Community  
& Home  
based care  
Socio-  
economic  
support**





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**Community  
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**Invest in the middle** – I.e.,  
referral networks, “case-  
managers”, multi-service  
community outlets such as  
ECD or social centers where  
appropriate





# OVC SPECIAL INITIATIVE





# Special Initiative Aims/Objectives

- I. Improve the health of HIV exposed, infected and affected children (esp. to Increase access to life-saving HIV testing and treatment for children in PEPFAR program)
- II. Improve the health of women living with HIV
- III. Improve the developmental outcomes of young children affected by, exposed to, and/or living with HIV.
- IV. Foster collaborative work between OVC and clinical programs to provide a coordinated approach for the long-term care of the HIV affected family.





# Populations

- Orphans & vulnerable children aged 0-6, including – exposed, infected, affected
- Parents and other primary caregivers (infected, at risk, affected)





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## COUNTRIES

## PARTNERS

LESOTHO

USAID, MSH, GROW, UNIV.  
STELLENBOSCH

MALAWI (1)

CDC, EGPAF

MALAWI (2)

USAID, FHI 360

SWAZILAND

USAID, M2M, JHU

ZIMBABWE

USAID, WORLD ED., UNIV.  
STELLENBOSCH





# Launching the Special Initiative

- Lorraine Sherr, University College London
- Lucie Cluver, Oxford Univ. & University of Cape Town,
- Mark Tomlinson, Univ. of Stellenbosch
- +2 ECD curriculum specialists





Component	Lesotho	Malawi	Swaziland	Zimbabwe
Design	RCT/Cluster RCT	RCT (or comparison follow up)	RCT (need refining) or pre post follow up	RCT Individual level
Target population	Caregivers	Pregnant women	Pregnant women	Adults (parents) with HIV
Venue of recruitment	Child care centres	AN Clinics	AN Clinics	Adult HIV clinics
Intervention	PARENTING SKILLS/ECD	VSL + ECD	M2M +PARENTING SKILLS/ECD	VSL + PARENTING SKILLS/ECD
Time frame of intervention	4-6 months	12 months	12 sessions?	12 months
Data gathering	Base line 6/12 18/12	Baseline 12/18 month?	Baseline Post intv 12-18 month?	Baseline 12 month ? 18 month



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Measure	Lesotho	Malawi	Swaziland	Zimbabwe
Demographics	Yes	Yes	Yes	yes
Child HIV testing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ECD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nutrition	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Economic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Parenting	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Child treatment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Adherence	Yes	?	?	Yes?
Psychosocial	Yes	?	?	Yes
Mental Health	Yes	Yes	?	Yes





# Parenting Skills Component

- REVIEW & RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON EXISTING SOUTHERN-BASED CURRICULA + CARE FOR DEVELOPMENT, ETC.
- ADAPT/FILL GAPS – I.E., PEDIATRIC HIV
- ADAPT TO COUNTRY SETTINGS
- PROVIDE TRAINING SUPPORT TO COUNTRIES





# Recommendations for Statement

- Consider including an acknowledgement of poverty as an underlying factor
- Highlight the contribution this approach will make to prevention of health risks over a lifetime
- Consider adding a reference to the economic return made by countries on early child development

