

CARE's Fields of Service:

- Psycho-Social
Counselling
- Home Based
Care
- Poverty
Alleviation
- Defaulter
Tracing
- Training &
Capacity
Building
- Nutrition
- Youth
Education
Programmes

Inside this issue:

- HIV &
Nutrition 2
- HWSETA
Recognition 2
- UJ Students 2
- Farewells &
Welcomes 3
- HIV in the
Workplace 3
- Monica's Story 3
- SAW Course 4

Global Changes in Funding for AIDS

The economic downturn is no longer breaking news. Industries, countries, communities and families



from every corner of the globe have been affected. While corporations are balancing budget sheets, and people are curtailing cash spending, an area that is often overlooked is the realm of non-profit organisations. Just when millions of people join the ranks of those seeking support services and the need for NGOs increases, donors are hard pressed themselves, and frequently have a narrower capacity to give. One such instance that has received increased attention in recent months, and directly affects organisations like Community AIDS Response, is the tightening of international aid directed towards HIV and AIDS programming. The *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post* and

South Africa's own *Mail & Guardian* are just a few of the publications that have addressed the changing global health climate in relation to HIV and AIDS.

Two of the primary contributors to AIDS funding around the world are the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Both grant making organisations have been open about the fact that existing commitments will have to be adjusted in order to channel funds into other areas of national and global economies.

PEPFAR, which had been reauthorized in 2008 by the U.S. Congress to allocate \$48 Billion (USD) to address AIDS through 2013, is appearing to keep this year's funding "flat" – with little to no increase in funds available to scale-up existing programmes. According to statements made by some of the United States' top PEPFAR officials, the U.S. is seeking to transition to an ongoing and sustainable response to the global AIDS crisis, rather than the emergency scale funding that has been flowing in increasing measure over the last 7 years. At the same time, the Global Fund has cut the rate at which it funds its grants by 10% across the board for the year. While it is understandable that the nations who carry the bulk of the

international aid burden – the U.S., U.K., Sweden, the Netherlands, Germany, France and Norway – would need to change their funding approach during times of economic decline, the list of those needing ARV treatment only continues to grow. These changes in funding allocations could present a significant setback in efforts to meet South Africa's goal of universal access (available to a minimum of 80% of those in need) to ARV treatment by 2011. For the first time since AIDS was identified a quarter-century ago, both new infections and AIDS-related deaths are on the decline globally. Just when organisations and institutions addressing AIDS are beginning to catch up with the infection curve in some regions, thousands, if not millions, seeking to begin ARV treatment may be turned away from clinics due to the financial limitations caused by frozen international aid budgets. The South African government seems to be stepping into the funding gap where it can, providing emergency funding for some shortfalls, but as is being felt across the globe, emergency responses aren't sustainable long term. It is our hope that as economies begin to experience recovery, budgets will be re-evaluated to a degree that needs are met for programme scale-up in countries hardest hit by AIDS.

A Note From the Executive Director

The team at Community AIDS Response has always worked with dedication to provide our clients with the highest quality of services. Recently, we have seen some exciting indicators of just how that hard work is paying off. In February, the Community Adherence Support Project (CASP) team, tracing HIV positive individuals who have defaulted on their ARV treatment, successfully reintegrated more

clients back to treatment than over the course of the entire first year of the CASP programme in 2007. The fact that we are now seeing those statistics in a single month is a testimony to the great team of fieldworkers that are in place. I am equally proud of our Training Department. Their long hours and commitment have allowed us to scale up our HWSETA accredited short skills and full qualification

courses in order to equip the upcoming generation of health workers. Thank you for your continued interest in, and support of, the mission and vision of CARE. You play a vital role in our continued success as an organization and we are grateful.

Keith Muloongo,
Executive Director

Integrating HIV & Nutrition By: Ndumiso Tshuma

Nutrition plays an integral role in the health and wellbeing of individuals, even more so for people living with HIV. Research has been undertaken to underscore the importance of the practice of good nutrition among HIV/AIDS infected individuals. Traditionally, nutrition and HIV programmes have been run separately. The nutrition programmes largely revolved around food parcel distribution and nutrition gardens, while HIV programmes did not emphasize the aspect of nutrition. However, CARE has integrated nutrition in its HIV programmes, primarily through the addition of a nutrition component in the training of counsellors and caregivers. Through field visits, health talks, and counselling sessions,

nutritional information has been taken to the communities. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), nutritional support is an integral part of any comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS. HIV imposes a series of dynamic shocks on livelihoods and food security, and these cannot be addressed in the same way as droughts and other short term emergencies. There is evidence that nutrient intake can improve antiretroviral absorption and tolerance. Receiving appropriate nutrition can help improve the health and quality of life of HIV infected individuals. Men and women who receive antiretroviral therapy (ART) with appropriate nutrition are more likely to regain weight and more likely to adhere

to their medications, thus helping them rejoin the work force and improve food security for themselves and their families. The integration of nutrition and HIV/AIDS programmes takes time and commitment, but the extent and scope of combining nutrition and HIV/AIDS in programmes run by health workers improves the quality of service offered to patients. HIV and AIDS affect the most physically active in society and those on whom others usually depend. It is in this regard that good nutritional practices need to be emphasised as a key aspect of comprehensive care for those living with HIV.

“An organisation must do something extraordinary to earn this distinction.”

CARE's HWSETA Recognition

It is a great achievement, and the highest form of compliment, when the experts in a field recognise the efforts of an organisation like Community AIDS Response. Last year, the Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority (HWSETA) conducted an extensive audit of the training programmes and education systems within CARE and the results are finally in! On 4 February 2010, Community AIDS Response was informed that it has been recognised by the HWSETA as a

category I training service provider. Out of the four possible category ratings, only 18 of the 82 organisations working with the HWSETA achieved a category I distinction. In order to be listed in this category of top providers, an organisation must demonstrate excellence and consistent best practice policies. The necessary requirements also clearly state that an organisation must do something extraordinary in order to earn this distinction.

“Receiving category I standing is like having the auditors equate us with a 5-star service provider. It's an honour,” reflected CARE Training Manager, Lorraine Gumede.

Congratulations to the staff members at CARE who contributed to the work recognised by this outstanding achievement!

Social Workers of the Future

Didintle Legobye (L) and Lesego Mathye (R)



Didintle Legobye and Lesego Mathye are close to accomplishing their dream of becoming social workers. As third year social work students at the University of Johannesburg, Didintle and Lesego have been chosen for internships at Community AIDS Response in order to gain practical experience that will contribute to their education and abilities as they seek to serve at risk populations in South Africa. “We want to help people. I grew up in a rural area and saw people struggle. I want to empower

them to help themselves and give hope,” explains Lesego. Didintle continued to elaborate, “In the cities and townships there are clinics and services, but not in rural areas. South Africa has a big shortage of social workers and I want to help make the profession known.” From February to September of 2010, Didintle and Lesego will spend 8 hours each week at one of the clinics that is staffed by CARE counsellors. The two young women will work with individual CARE clients, putting

their counselling training into practice, and creating reports and intervention strategies that will benefit those seeing CARE's services and support. In addition, the UJ students are required to plan for, and implement, a community project that addresses a need that they have identified through observation over the course of their internship. We look forward to the creativity and innovation that Didintle and Lesego will bring to the CARE team!

A Fond Farewell & Warm Welcome!

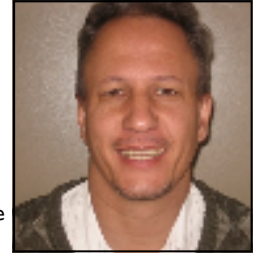


Since CARE first began in 2000, Debbie Hoffe has faithfully served the team as Financial Manager. For years, she has been insisting that her retirement was eminent, but her institutional memory

was too valuable to let go of quite so easily! In December 2009, convincing everyone that she was serious this time, Debbie stepped down from her day to day role at CARE. She will be missed, but it is our hope that she will still serve CARE in other capacities as time goes on! We are so thankful for her many years of dedication to CARE's staff, clients and funding partners!

Joining the CARE team in Debbie's place is Gert van der Merwe. Gert brings years of financial experience in the world of NGOs to the table, and we are thrilled to be the beneficiaries of his wealth of knowledge and experience! Having worked with NPOs

addressing HIV and AIDS in Limpopo and Mpumalanga, Gert easily describes the mindset that drives his work, "My passion for the last 7-10 year has been in the NPO industry, especially the war against an unfair and discriminating disease called HIV-AIDS. I look forward to contributing to CARE in their process of growing and developing to full potential. My role is to assist and support management and staff with information in my field, this information should empower them in making informed decisions, and the unlocking of potential markets and funding areas." We hope that you'll join us in extending the warmest of welcomes to Gert!



"It's critical that employers be able to offer support to employees who may be positive."

Out of the Clinics and Into the Workplace

Through partnership with the City of Johannesburg and Jhpiego (a global health affiliate of Johns Hopkins University), Community AIDS Response recently conducted a 3 week initiative following World AIDS Day to raise awareness and conduct HIV counseling and testing at workplaces across Johannesburg. Part of the City of Johannesburg's 5 year programme focusing on workplace wellness and HIV, CARE was pleased to be approached with the task of implementing this initiative. By providing health

talks and VCT to workplace enterprises with large numbers of employees, conversations about AIDS can begin among co-workers, extending the network of available support to people affected by the virus. During the HIV in the Workplace campaign, 20 of CARE's counsellors visited 35 sites - including Piki Tup, City Deep Fruit & Veg and the Johannesburg Zoo - resulting in over 500 people choosing to be tested for HIV. "This programme was important because something that we hear so often

is that clinics are only open from Monday to Friday, during the hours that most people are at work. This way, we could bring VCT to them. It's critical that employers be able to offer support to employees who may be positive," emphasised Ben Ndomunang, Programme Coordinator for CARE. Hopefully the success of HIV in the Workplace will lead to coordinated efforts to increase the level of conversation, information and support regarding HIV and AIDS in places of employment.

Monica's Story

Monica's bouncing daughter is the first to welcome you to their home. The two year old runs to the door and takes your hand to draw you in. To her, everyone is a new friend. Her mother is shyer, watching with eyes filled with caution and uncertainty.

Monica's story began in Zimbabwe, where she first learned that she was HIV positive in 2002 after an injury to her leg was failing to heal. She courageously shared her status with her family, allowing her siblings to show

their support through their faithful care. When Monica started ARVs in 2004, they helped to restore her strength and gave her the courage to seek out a different life for herself and new hope for her family.

In 2005, Monica arrived in South Africa searching for a job that could help her to support her family. Not long after, she was connected to CARE's Home Based Care services through the clinic where she collected her ARVs. Since that time, Monica has receive assis-

tance from the CARE team in management of the leg pain that continues to plague her, and emotional support as she raises her daughter in a country that sometimes feels so far from home.





Community AIDS Response

26 Grant Avenue
Norwood, 2192
Gauteng, South Africa

Phone: 011.728.0218
Fax: 011.728.8057
E-mail: info@care.co.za

Banking Details:
FNB, Killarney, Branch Code: 256205
Account Number: 62183647399

Our Vision

A South Africa that uplifts and upholds the dignity of individuals and communities regardless of health and economic status.

Our Mission

To be the preferred organization partnering with individuals and communities to find and cross the bridge that provides hope, opportunity and choices over HIV and AIDS and other chronic/communicable diseases in order to promote the well being and sustainability of communities.

Our Values

Open Conversations
Dignity & Respect
Integrity & Honesty
Passion & Commitment



Training a Social Work Support Team

Since November of 2009, the Training department at CARE has been dedicated to scaling up its accreditations, offerings and quality of services in order to provide clients, corporations and partnering organisations with the highest calibre of training relevant to the field of HIV and AIDS. Recently, the team, led by manager Lorraine Gumede, received the "ag ahead" from the HWSETA to offer a one year course in Social Auxiliary Work. This was the culmination of an extensive process of curriculum development and auditing to determine whether CARE met the qualification criteria.

Beginning on 29 March 2010, CARE will begin offering the Social Auxiliary Work training programme in three cities across South Africa. The sites include Port Elizabeth, East London and Durban. It is our hope that additional venues will be added in the future. For each of the three sites, CARE is partnering with the Academy of Business & Computer Studies, offering our accredited course at their learning facilities.

Each month of the course consists of one week of classroom instruction followed by 3 weeks of on site training and experience in HWSETA registered settings where learners will be able to put their skills into practice under the supervision of qualified social workers.

Graduates of the programme will be qualified to enter the field of social work armed with both classroom and practical experience. With understanding of the core social concerns in South Africa - including poverty, unemployment, HIV and AIDS, child abuse, crime, housing and domestic violence - learners will be trained to offer support to social work teams in a wide variety of settings and circumstances. Participants will also be prepared to offer competent support in the areas of research, finance and administration. Social Auxiliary Work learners will be registered with the South African Council for Social Work Profession upon embarking on the course.

For those interested in learning more about CARE's Social Auxiliary Work

programme, and for future course opportunities, please contact Lorraine Gumede at lorraine@care.co.za or on 011.728.0218.



Tomorrow's Social Auxiliary Workers!