



Empowering African churches for ministry to persons living with HIV/AIDS

New Zambia Initiative

Cry Africa continues to partner with CHEZA (Community Health Evangelism in Zambia).

Missionary Christine Little of Zambia reports a new initiative CHEZA plans to launch later this year. The supplemental feeding program, conducted through local Community Health Evangelism projects, will teach individuals how to grow Moringa trees and make their own HEPS (High Energy Protein Supplement). The project will focus on clients with signs of malnutrition who are HIV positive, or under 5 years of age.



Introducing Georgian Ugah

Georgian is the national director for compassionate ministries for the Assemblies of God in Nigeria (NAG). While she was still a student in Bible School, God began speaking to Georgian about serving and ministering to the deaf. She and her husband launched an outreach shortly thereafter, which ultimately led to a national appointment to serve people with special needs.

Today the NAG has 25 churches for the deaf, 10 deaf pastors, and 15 pastors who are qualified sign language interpreters. They host a national deaf retreat every year, and have started a Bible school for the deaf. Georgian and her husband have adopted two daughters with special needs, one who is blind and another who is deaf. She hopes to see more AG churches across Africa get a burden for the deaf. Some sources estimate as many as 12 million deaf persons in Nigeria alone.

Last fall, Cry Africa helped fund special services at the NAG's annual deaf retreat – including HIV screening and counseling. Over 300 persons attended the retreat, which featured presentations on trafficking, rights of the deaf, HIV awareness, personal health, and spiritual renewal. Cry Africa salutes the efforts of Georgian and her team.

Expanding Our Reach

In an effort to keep pace with the ever changing health landscape in Africa, and respond to other key health issues stemming from HIV and other diseases, Cry Africa is expanding its reach. While continuing to give priority to HIV/AIDS initiatives, Cry Africa will also address other areas such as malaria, diarrheal disease, child nutrition, training in home visits and care of vulnerable children.

One way that Cry Africa is helping equip churches for holistic ministry is through training in Community Health Evangelism (CHE). CHE provides a framework for training volunteer health educators in the community.

In the past year, these trainings have taken place in Zambia, Malawi and Togo, with additional trainings in the coming months scheduled for Mali and Ghana. Issues crucial to HIV/AIDS such as palliative care, gender issues, treatment and prevention are emphasized. Every training event builds skills not only related to physical health, but also for living and sharing the Gospel.

While continuing its primary focus on HIV and AIDS, Cry Africa is expanding its reach to include additional health challenges in sub-Saharan Africa.

Empowering Churches for Healthier Kids

According to the World Health Organization, children in sub-Saharan Africa are 14 times more likely to die before the age of 5 than children in developed regions—most often from pneumonia, diarrhea and malaria. In almost half of these deaths, malnutrition is also a contributing factor. Many of these deaths could be prevented through simple and affordable interventions.



In partnership with Africa's Children and Africa AG Care, Cry Africa is helping to develop a new children's health curriculum. The program features a discipleship club-type approach to teaching children key health messages about HIV/AIDS, malaria, diarrheal disease, nutrition, first aid, and multiple other topics. Health is presented as the result of living in harmony with God, each other, ourselves and our environment. Children can earn achievement awards as they apply health lessons at home and in the community. Please pray with us for wisdom as we complete the development of this curriculum and begin to introduce it later this year.