



2007 Program Highlights

The mission of the Global AIDS Alliance (GAA) is to halt global HIV/AIDS and mitigate its impacts on poor countries hardest hit by the epidemic. Specifically, we are committed to (1) achieving universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care by 2010; (2) advancing children's well-being, with a focus on prevention and treatment of pediatric HIV/AIDS, basic education, and care and support for orphans and vulnerable children; (3) advancing women's equality, with a focus on integrating sexual and reproductive health and HIV services and preventing violence against women; and (4) securing increased financial resources and ensuring they are utilized to maximize on-the-ground results. Over the past year, we combined media outreach and public education with targeted coalition-building and grassroots mobilization in order to raise awareness and inspire activism in support of advocacy to advance these policy objectives. Following are highlights of GAA's activities and accomplishments during 2007.

ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL ACCESS BY 2010

Over the past year, GAA achieved significant progress toward the intermediate outcomes of (1) holding stakeholders accountable for their commitments to universal access; (2) ensuring that the U.S. government advances a comprehensive, evidence-based HIV prevention strategy; (3) expanding access to affordable AIDS medications; and (3) strengthening health systems and overcoming the health worker shortage.

Holding Stakeholders Accountable

- ◆ GAA played a lead role in advocacy to ensure that UNAIDS produced resource need estimates that reflect the costs of achieving universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment by 2010.
- ◆ Advocacy by GAA and others helped persuade G8 leaders to reaffirm their commitment to achieving universal access to HIV/AIDS services by 2010.
- ◆ GAA focused media attention on US efforts to include a reduced 50% treatment target in the final communiqué from the G8 summit in June 2007, which would have undermined the G8's commitment to universal treatment access.
- ◆ We continued to monitor the Global Fund, PEPFAR, and the World Bank to track progress toward the goal of universal access and identify potential roadblocks.

Promoting a Comprehensive HIV Prevention Strategy

- ◆ GAA's advocacy helped ensure that proposed House and Senate appropriations bills eliminated the requirement that the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) spend at least one-third of its HIV prevention budget on abstinence-until-marriage programs, and blocked amendments to the FY2008 foreign operations appropriations bill that would have eliminated a provision allowing the President to waive the abstinence-only earmark.
- ◆ GAA is playing a lead role in efforts to shape the PEPFAR reauthorization process to ensure that the next phase of the U.S. global AIDS response advances a comprehensive prevention strategy.
- ◆ In December, GAA, the Kenya Treatment Access Movement, and Health GAP convened a meeting of 21 African civil-society advocates in Nairobi, Kenya, that produced a series of recommendations that have been welcomed by Capitol Hill staffers drafting PEPFAR reauthorizing legislation.

This consultation marked the debut of GAA's Local Voices initiative to engage African civil-society advocates in efforts to shape policy dialogues, and hold governments accountable for ensuring that global investments in health and development produce concrete results.

- ◆ In conjunction with First Lady Laura Bush's trip to Africa in June 2007, GAA worked with local HIV/AIDS organizations to focus media attention on the shortcomings of US prevention policy.
- ◆ In May, President Bush announced plans to request a five-year, \$30-billion extension of PEPFAR, and GAA responded with media outreach highlighting the fact that the White House proposal actually represents only a modest funding increase and would reduce US support for HIV/AIDS treatment. Media coverage included articles in the *New York Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Washington Post*, as well as an op-ed in the *Los Angeles Times*.
- ◆ In April, GAA coordinated a five-state speaker tour with South African HIV/AIDS educator and activist Monalisa Ngqisha that focused on the need to reform US prevention policy.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy and media outreach highlighted concerns about PEPFAR's prevention strategy raised in a March 2007 Institute of Medicine report, and generated coverage in the *Boston Globe*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and *Washington Post*.

Expanding Access to Affordable HIV/AIDS Medications

- ◆ GAA joined with Doctors Without Borders, Oxfam, and others in urging Novartis to drop a lawsuit that could restrict access to low-cost AIDS medications. (In August 2007, Indian courts rejected the Novartis lawsuit, finding that India's Patents Act meets World Trade Organization requirements.)
- ◆ GAA supported efforts to defend Thailand's use of compulsory licensing to expand access to the antiretroviral Kaletra and oppose retaliatory measures by its manufacturer, Abbott Laboratories.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy helped secure congressional action to ensure greater transparency in PEPFAR's procurement of ARVs, and we continue to monitor PEPFAR's reporting on its drug purchases.
- ◆ GAA continued to monitor PEPFAR's Supply Chain Management System and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval process to ensure they prioritize affordable, effective alternatives.

Strengthening Health Systems

- ◆ GAA is supporting the *African Health Capacity Investment Act of 2007*, which requires the U.S. to develop and fund a coordinated approach to help African countries strengthen health care systems and improve the training, retention, and support of health workers.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy helped shape the U.K. government's September 2007 announcement of a new International Health Partnership that will promote health system strengthening by supporting national efforts to achieve the health-related Millennium Development Goals.
- ◆ GAA is supporting efforts to persuade the Global Fund to institute a new grant application process that would allow country applicants to submit approved national strategies for scaling up an effective response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, or malaria.

ADVANCING CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING

A 2007 update from UNICEF's Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS campaign acknowledged the critical role of civil-society advocacy, and cited GAA's "[strategic] leadership role in shaping the AIDS policy debate and organizing coalition-based campaigns." Over the past year, we achieved important progress toward the intermediate outcomes of (1) advancing a policy framework for achieving children's well-being; (2) expanding access to pediatric prevention and treatment, including prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission; (3) accelerating universal basic education and school fee abolition; and (4) ensuring comprehensive care and support for orphans and vulnerable children.

Defining Children's Well-Being Advocacy Framework

- ◆ As part of the PEPFAR reauthorization debate, GAA is advocating for increased U.S. efforts to promote children's well-being, including providing community-based care and support for OVC, prioritizing pediatric treatment, and scaling up both PMTCT+ and youth prevention programs.

- ◆ In March 2007, GAA, Global Action for Children, and UNICEF co-convened an advocacy summit in Brussels, Belgium, that led to the creation of a new advocacy platform to achieve universal basic education, accelerate youth HIV prevention, eliminate pediatric AIDS, ensure social protection for AIDS-affected and other vulnerable children, and mobilize financial resources.
- ◆ GAA produced a briefing paper on children's well-being and aid effectiveness to help shape the advocacy strategy of the Joint Learning Initiative on Children and AIDS.
- ◆ GAA developed a strategy for launching a new civil-society network to mobilize child-focused advocacy in the global South.

Preventing and Treating Pediatric HIV/AIDS

- ◆ After extensive lobbying by GAA and others, the International Drug Purchase Facility (UNITAID) awarded UNICEF and the World Health Organization \$21 million over two years to support the acceleration of PMTCT programs in eight high HIV burden countries in Africa and Asia.
- ◆ GAA attended the Second Global Partners Forum on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV Infection in Johannesburg in November 2007, where we met with officials representing national governments and major implementing agencies, to help identify gaps in the advocacy arena and promote a targeted PMTCT+ initiative through the Global Fund during Round 8.
- ◆ Both PEPFAR and the Global Fund are now reporting on access to pediatric treatment, and PEPFAR is close to achieving the target advanced by GAA's Treat the Children campaign of ensuring that at least 15% of those receiving ARV therapy are children under the age of 15.
- ◆ Thanks in large part to GAA's advocacy, the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator has agreed to launch a public-private initiative to accelerate the development of pediatric diagnostics in 2008, possibly in collaboration with UNICEF.
- ◆ UNICEF has responded favorably to a proposed civil-society initiative to increase country-level demand for investments in pediatric treatment and PMTCT+ services through the Global Fund, and GAA will be advancing this concept in partnership with the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, Global Action for Children, and others.
- ◆ As a result of advocacy by GAA and others, several pediatric fixed-dose combination drugs were released over the past year, including important second-line drugs, and many more pediatric drugs have been approved for use by PEPFAR.
- ◆ GAA is advocating with national programs and donor governments for implementation of all four pillars of comprehensive PMTCT+ services, including the prevention of unintended pregnancies.
- ◆ As a result of GAA's ongoing advocacy for a family-centered response to pediatric AIDS, UNICEF and PEPFAR are now routinely including family-centered care as a priority goal in organizational guidelines and policy documents.
- ◆ UNICEF is using GAA's policy analysis to support its own advocacy to scale up prevention and treatment of pediatric AIDS as part of the Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS campaign.
- ◆ In conjunction with the March 2007 advocacy summit, GAA issued an advocacy plan that helped guide the development of targets for scaling up prevention and treatment of pediatric HIV/AIDS.

Accelerating Universal Basic Education and School Fee Abolition

- ◆ GAA remains the only AIDS organization working to revitalize the Fast Track Initiative, and continued to play a leadership role in efforts to mobilize increased resources and secure reforms that will make the FTI more effective and accountable. For example, FTI's steering committee has been restructured to include beneficiary countries, UNICEF, and two civil-society representatives.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy helped persuade Congress to link \$265 million in possible education funding to the Fast Track Initiative and reaffirm its commitment to school fee elimination.
- ◆ GAA helped secure congressional support for legislation that would increase authorization for U.S. basic education funding from \$1 billion in FY2008 to \$3 billion in FY2012.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy in conjunction with the G8 summit highlighted the need to fully fund the Fast Track Initiative and ensure FTI's ability to provide long-term financing to support national education plans.
- ◆ Thanks in part to GAA's advocacy, President Bush announced a new education initiative that reaffirms the U.S. commitment to the Fast Track Initiative and focuses on six countries with FTI-endorsed education plans: Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Liberia, Mali, and Yemen.

- ◆ GAA continued to support the School Fee Abolition Initiative spearheaded by UNICEF and the World Bank, and helped develop new operational guidelines for countries seeking to eliminate school fees. In June, we attended a SFAI meeting in Mali that produced a statement by ministers of education and finance from 23 countries supporting school fee abolition.
- ◆ We continued to monitor the implementation of a \$15-million pilot program administered by USAID to ensure that it supports the most effective strategy for eliminating school fees.
- ◆ GAA has initiated a dialogue with high-level officials FTI officials to develop a sustainable resource mobilization strategy, including a possible debt-for-education initiative.

Ensuring Comprehensive Care and Support for Orphans and Vulnerable Children

- ◆ GAA helped secure a renewed congressional commitment to allocating 10% of PEPFAR's budget to OVC programs, which should result in over \$400 million in funding during FY2008.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy in advance of the G8 summit helped prompt an announcement that the Bush administration would seek to extend PEPFAR for five years and expand the U.S. AIDS initiative's focus on OVC care and support, with the goal of supporting an additional five million orphans.
- ◆ GAA's response to the first progress report on the *Assistance for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Developing Countries Act of 2005* highlighted the U.S. government's failure to fully implement this landmark legislation, and called for specific reforms, including the appointment of a high-level OVC advisor with funding and staffing authority, improved coordination among U.S. agencies serving OVC, and greater transparency and accountability.
- ◆ GAA also helped ensure the inclusion of OVC needs in a joint civil-society platform that is having a significant impact in shaping the 2008 campaign debate on global AIDS issues.
- ◆ Prior to the March 2007 advocacy summit in Brussels, GAA released a new advocacy agenda for advancing a holistic approach to child well-being and ensuring that all children can develop to their full physical, cognitive, and social-emotional potential.

ADVANCING WOMEN'S EQUALITY

Over the past year, GAA achieved progress toward the intermediate outcomes of (1) promoting effective integration of HIV and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services; and (2) mobilizing a comprehensive response to violence against women—a key driver and consequence of HIV/AIDS.

Supporting the Effective Integration of HIV and SRH Programs

- ◆ GAA efforts to increase Global Fund investments in programs that integrate SRH and HIV services, in partnership with Population Action International (PAI), Interact Worldwide, and the International Planned Parenthood Federation, among others, helped secure a one-year \$2.7 grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to PAI to support Country Coordinating Mechanisms to develop and submit Round 8 Global Fund proposals that integrate SRH and HIV prevention, treatment, and care. GAA has been named a major partner (and subgrantee) on this project, which offers a critical opportunity to test of concept for creating country-level demand to drive multilateral investments in essential health and development programs.
- ◆ In September 2007, GAA and Interact Worldwide published a shadow report assessing six proposals to integrate SRH and HIV/AIDS services submitted as part of the Global Fund's Round 7.
- ◆ GAA helped persuade the Global Fund's board of directors to adopt a decision point on gender that will provide a framework for hiring dedicated staff and scaling up investments in targeted initiatives to address gender issues, including SRH/HIV integration and gender-based violence.
- ◆ The PEPFAR reauthorization debate provided an opportunity for GAA to highlight the need to integrate SRH and HIV/AIDS programs.
- ◆ GAA provided technical assistance to service providers in Rwanda to support the submission of a Round 7 Global Fund proposal to integrate SRH and HIV services, which was recently awarded a \$63.9 million grant and provides the first national model for comprehensive SRH/HIV integration.
- ◆ GAA, Advocates for Youth, and the Open Society Institute coordinated a presentation on SRH/HIV integration at the April 2007 meeting of the Global Fund's board of directors.

- ◆ In March 2007, GAA, Advocates for Youth, Interact Worldwide, International HIV/AIDS Alliance, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), and PAI released updated guidelines to assist service providers in submitting integrated SRH/HIV proposals to the Global Fund.
- ◆ The same coalition of partners released a toolkit intended to assist local service providers in developing and submitting Global Fund grant proposals that integrate SRH and HIV services.
- ◆ GAA, Interact Worldwide, International HIV/AIDS Alliance, IPPF, and PAI released an advocacy action plan to accelerate SRH integration in HIV/AIDS and malaria proposals to the Global Fund.
- ◆ GAA also released a report on improving the Global Fund's performance by strengthening its procurement and supply management, including procurement of reproductive health commodities.

Mobilizing a Comprehensive Response to Violence Against Women and Children

- ◆ GAA helped ensure the inclusion of programs to address violence against women in UNAIDS costing estimates for the first time.
- ◆ GAA succeeded in joining the inner circle of advocates working on a Capitol Hill strategy to promote the *International Violence Against Women Act (I-VAWA)*, and is the only global health group playing an active role in securing support for I-VAWA.
- ◆ We continued our efforts to secure bipartisan support for legislation that would authorize the U.S. government to enhance the capacity of health workers in poor countries to respond to violence, and integrate violence and SRH interventions into HIV/AIDS programs.
- ◆ GAA published a September 2007 report highlighting the need to ensure that national education plans, donor governments, and multilateral agencies, including the Fast Track Initiative, address the problem of school-related violence.
- ◆ GAA is partnering with USAID to push the Fast Track Initiative to require national education plans to incorporate school-related violence more robustly and systematically.
- ◆ In March 2007, we released a progress report on GAA's Zero Tolerance campaign to promote a comprehensive response to violence against women and children, including increased funding commitments from donor and affected country governments and multilateral institutions.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy helped secure appropriations language requesting increased funding for both microcredit programs and the UNIFEM Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence Against Women.
- ◆ GAA provided a catalytic grant to South Africa's Treatment Action Campaign to facilitate TAC's efforts to address gender-based violence.

MOBILIZING INCREASED RESOURCES AND ENSURING AID EFFECTIVENESS

GAA's work over the past year focused on the intermediate outcomes of (1) increasing funding for global HIV/AIDS, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria; (2) expanding and reforming U.S. development assistance; (3) strengthening the Global Fund and monitoring other global stakeholders; and (4) reforming international financing institutions to ensure they strengthen the ability of poor countries to scale up essential HIV/AIDS and development programs.

Mobilizing Increased Financial Resources

- ◆ GAA played a lead role in advocacy to ensure that UNAIDS produced resource need estimates that reflect the costs of achieving universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment by 2010.
- ◆ GAA's response to revised UNAIDS epidemiological estimates highlighted the need for increased funding to provide basic HIV/AIDS services to millions of people worldwide, and secured coverage from ABC News, Al Jazeera, Associated Press, Christian Broadcasting Network, *New York Times*, and Voice of America, among others, as well as a meeting with the Washington Post editorial board.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy helped persuade Congress to boost global AIDS funding to \$6.4 billion in fiscal year 2008, including \$850 to \$890 million for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. While the FY2008 appropriations bill remains pending, we anticipate a 42% increase in global AIDS funding and as much as a 23% increase in support for the Global Fund over FY2007.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy played a key role in persuading Congress to allocate \$4.55 billion for global AIDS programs in fiscal year 2007, including \$724 million for the Global Fund.

- ◆ GAA helped advance a platform calling on the U.S. presidential candidates to adopt concrete plans to address HIV/AIDS, including allocating \$50 billion over five years to scale up universal access.
- ◆ GAA's media outreach in response to the new International Health Partnerships focused on the need for increased financing from G8 governments in order to achieve universal access by 2010.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy around the October replenishment meeting focused on the need to hold G8 governments accountable for their pledge to support tripling the size of the Global Fund. As part of this work, we secured an op-ed by Sir Elton John in The Guardian that called on the U.K. government to increase its contribution to the Fund. Unfortunately, the Berlin meeting resulted in actual and projected pledges of \$9.7 billion for 2008-2010, roughly \$8 billion short of the amount needed. (An interim replenishment meeting will be held in 2009 in order to fill this gap.)
- ◆ Thanks in part to advocacy by GAA and others, G8 leaders at the June summit reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring full replenishment of the Global Fund and achieving universal access to HIV/AIDS services by 2010. However, GAA joined in critiquing the G8's commitment of \$60 billion as falling far short of the amount needed to fight HIV/AIDS and address other issues in Africa, including strengthening health systems.
- ◆ Germany has committed €200 million over five years to support the Debt2Health initiative, including €50 million to convert debt owed by Indonesia into Global Fund-approved programs, and GAA is working to mobilize government and civil-society support for Debt2Health negotiations with Kenya, Pakistan, and Peru.
- ◆ GAA's efforts to drive increased demand helped ensure that Round 7 of the Global Fund was the largest ever, with \$1.1 billion in grants scheduled for disbursement over the next two year.
- ◆ GAA helped mobilize support for legislation to allocate an additional \$50 million for programs to prevent and treat tuberculosis, which kills as many as half of all people with HIV/AIDS.

Expanding and Reforming U.S. Development Assistance

- ◆ As part of the 2008 presidential campaign, GAA helped advance a platform calling on the U.S. presidential candidates to direct an additional 1% of the U.S. budget to fighting AIDS and poverty.
- ◆ GAA is leading efforts to improve the coordination and effectiveness of U.S. development assistance by creating a Cabinet-level, poverty-focused development agency, and we co-authored a policy brief to encourage the HELP Commission to endorse the creation of such an agency.

Strengthening the Global Fund and Monitoring Other Stakeholders

- ◆ In partnership with Health GAP, RESULTS, and other groups, GAA continued to advance an advocacy agenda for strengthening the Global Fund and maximizing its accountability.
- ◆ GAA joined the "15% Now!" campaign to hold African governments accountable for their commitment to allocate 15% of annual national budgets to the health sector, and we supported advocacy at a recent meeting of African health ministers.
- ◆ GAA coordinated a global petition urging G8 leaders to honor their commitments to increase aid levels, support the Global Fund, address the health worker shortage, and accelerate universal basic education. Launched by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and supported by over 30 global civil-society organizations, including Africa Action, Amnesty International, Physicians for Human Rights, and the World AIDS Campaign, the petition attracted over 10,000 signatures in less than three weeks.

Reforming International Financial Institutions

- ◆ GAA's advocacy helped persuade the House of Representatives to adopt language restricting the International Monetary Fund's imposition of wage ceilings that restrict the ability of poor countries to invest additional resources in health and education programs.
- ◆ GAA is supporting an "IMF Watch" initiative to reform International Monetary Fund policies that block achievement of universal access to HIV services and other health and development goals.
- ◆ GAA's advocacy helped ensure that the World Bank's revised Health, Nutrition and Population strategy includes commitments to health system strengthening and expanded access to sexual and reproductive health services, and we continue to monitor implementation of that strategy.