

BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB

# SECURE THE FUTURE®

*Care and support for Women and Children in Africa with HIV/AIDS*



CREATING A LEGACY OF HOPE  
IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

# A Legacy of Commitment to Fighting HIV/

This is the story of *SECURE THE FUTURE*<sup>®</sup>, an innovative, comprehensive, multi-year initiative to combat the devastation caused by HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa – person by person, village by village, country by country.

It is the story of an unprecedented commitment and public/private collaboration that is creating a legacy of hope and help among people in need in the face of one of humankind's greatest crises – the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Since its inception in 1999, *SECURE THE FUTURE* has grown in size and scope to support some 200 individual programs through a commitment totaling \$150 million. It is sharing widely – through publications and conferences – knowledge learned about what it takes to combat the disease and its effects in developing countries where resources are limited.

highest level ever. The worst affected region continues to be sub-Saharan Africa, where nearly two-thirds of the total or 25.4 million people – including 13.3 million women and 1.9 million children – are living with HIV.

In 2004, there were 3.1 million AIDS deaths and 4.9 million new AIDS infections worldwide. Of these totals, 2.3 million deaths and 3.1 million new HIV infections were in sub-Saharan Africa. An estimated 12 million children in the region under age 17 have been orphaned by AIDS.

## FRAMING AN INNOVATIVE RESPONSE

In 1999, as the pandemic was growing in scope and impact, Bristol-Myers Squibb saw a clear responsibility to act philanthropically to fight the disease. The company's mission is *to extend and enhance human life*, and as a global leader in HIV/AIDS medicines, it was well-positioned to address the crisis.

As the company was considering approaches, the Secretary General of the U.N., Kofi Annan, asked Bristol-Myers Squibb to take a leadership role in helping to fight the pandemic in Africa in an unprecedented manner.

Bristol-Myers Squibb and the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation – acting with significant resources and partners in Africa and in the global AIDS and

healthcare communities – created *SECURE THE FUTURE*. This initiative was, and still is, the largest corporate commitment of its kind to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Among the organizations that initially participated with the company in developing the initiative are: UNAIDS, Baylor College of Medicine,



## WHERE THE NEED IS GREAT

The number of people living with HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa and the number who have died from it, provided by UNAIDS and WHO, is telling.

At the end of 2004, an estimated 39.4 million people in the world were living with HIV – the



Houston, Tex., Harvard AIDS Institute, Boston, Mass., and IAPAC, the International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care.

The focus of the initiative is care and support for women and children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. The goal is to build a range of innovative, cost-effective model programs where medical, educational and community social-support needs are great and resources are limited.

Programs funded through *SECURE THE FUTURE* support medical research and care; community outreach and education; and building capacity to fight the disease through education and training of medical and other health care professionals and by establishing new facilities and infrastructure.

Programs are designed consultatively with sensitivity to local traditions and customs and are aligned with national AIDS plans. Local Technical Advisory Committees review and recommend programs through a participatory and transparent grant-making process.

Over the years, government leaders; Ministries of Health; medical institutions in the U.S. and Africa; physicians and other health care professionals; non-governmental, community-based and faith-based organizations and people living with AIDS, have worked together to address the crisis through *SECURE THE FUTURE*.

In fostering African solutions to African problems, the initiative is providing models of action and hope for people and communities in sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere around the world.

# A Legacy of Commitment to Fighting HIV/

## THE GROUND WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS

*SECURE THE FUTURE* programs support people in and beyond the medical clinic – that is, not only for the half-hour when they visit a clinic or take their medications but also for the other 23½ hours of the day. Counseling, food security, income-generation, home-based care, treatment, education, interventions and other sources of support are managed by partners within communities. There are educational programs for parents, teachers, teenagers and schoolchildren, and support programs for older women who care for children or grandchildren. Other programs link traditional healers with medical specialists and patients with volunteer “buddies.”

The initiative also funds clinical trials in anti-retroviral therapy; prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV; opportunistic infections such as respiratory viruses and hepatitis; and tuberculosis in HIV-infected people. It also funds psychosocial studies focused on such areas as stigmatization.

Following are examples from the initiative's broad range of programs:

### Community-Based Treatment Support Program for Sustainable Care

In the third year of the initiative, Ministries of Health, Technical Advisory Committee members and other program leaders recommended combining the best of learnings from community and medical care grants into models that could provide effective, comprehensive care, increase access to medicines and monitoring and establish broad-based community support in extremely resource constrained remote and rural areas.

The result is the Community-Based Treatment Support Program – a new concept in community-based HIV/AIDS treatment and support – and six model collaborative centers. The centers are based at HIV/AIDS clinics at Ladysmith Provincial Hospital, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa; Mbabane Referral Hospital, Mbabane, Swaziland; Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Maseru, Lesotho; Bobonong Primary Hospital, Bobirwa



Sub-District, Botswana; Katima Mulilo Hospital, Caprivi Region, Namibia; and Koulikoro Reference Health Center, Koulikoro District, Mali.

Within these programs, community mobilization efforts reduce stigma and lack of knowledge about HIV transmission, and help at-risk people get tested. Those who test negative receive counseling and information about preventing infection. Those who test positive are flowed into care and treatment programs. These programs provide Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) to pregnant women to prevent mother-to-child transmission and to other eligible patients. For people who are not put on drug immediately, the program provides care for opportunistic infections, health status monitoring, and a range of community support.

This collaborative approach to public health combines the strengths of the private health sector, the public health sector, and nongovernmental, community and faith-based organizations. The intent is to successfully demonstrate that effective treatment and care through community support can be delivered in very resource constrained environments.

## Building Capacity and Infrastructure for Medical Treatment and Care

### *Children's HIV/AIDS Clinical Centers of Excellence*

*SECURE THE FUTURE* grants are now funding five children's clinical centers in sub-Saharan Africa focused on caring for children with HIV/AIDS, one in operation since 2003, two to be opened in December 2005 and two in 2006. Locations for an additional two centers have not yet been determined.

The Botswana-Baylor College of Medicine Children's Clinical Center of Excellence in Gaborone, Botswana, has on treatment more than 1,200 HIV-infected children, one of the largest concentrations on HIV-infected children



in care in any center worldwide. In partnership with the government of Botswana, the center is staffed by Baylor and health care professionals from Botswana and other African countries.

This state-of-the-art center has a large outpatient clinic, procedure rooms, pharmacy, laboratory, medical library, conference center and offices. Nutritional, psychological, social and child-life services are provided along with comprehensive primary and HIV/AIDS specialty care. In addition to caring for children and other family members, the center is used for training health care professionals and conducting research.

Centers modeled on the Botswana facility and funded by the initiative are scheduled to be opened by December 2005 in Maseru, Lesotho and Mbabane, Swaziland, and in 2006 in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, and Kampala, Uganda. Ultimately, the centers will provide services directly to as many as 3,000 children at any one time and will have outreach programs that can serve 10,000 to 20,000 children in surrounding areas.

## Creating a Pediatric AIDS Corps

To help staff the children's HIV/AIDS clinical centers, SECURE THE FUTURE and Baylor College of Medicine have created a pediatric AIDS corps to send up to 250 doctors to Africa to treat approximately 80,000 children over the next five years and train local health care professionals. Recruitment of physicians began in June 2005.

## Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation NGO Training Institute

Because NGOs and CBOs (nongovernmental and community-based organizations) play a critical role in helping communities deal with the pandemic, strengthening these organizations' ability to develop, execute and scale up programs is an essential need. The initiative has funded an NGO Training Institute to develop and build management, good governance and leadership capacity. Pilot programs in southern Africa are being delivered by a consortium of NGOs, training institutions of higher learning and other partners, creating a series of best practices and model training modules.

## Education, Training, Infrastructure to fight HIV/AIDS

Programs funded through the initiative also include: the first HIV/AIDS Reference Laboratory in Botswana, operated by the Botswana-Harvard Partnership; a bi-directional Physician Exchange Program between Baylor College of Medicine and southern Africa; the Baylor College of Nursing's model curriculum on HIV/AIDS, endorsed by UNAIDS and adopted in 47 countries; and a distance learning Public Health Masters Degree program at the Medical University of Southern Africa.

## Medical Research Results

Among the more than 50 clinical research, laboratory, psychosocial and epidemiological studies funded by the initiative was a study that resulted in development of a fast, low-cost CD4-count test for HIV – important because the cost of monitoring has long been a barrier to effective treatment in Africa. Another study demonstrated that convenient, postnatal single-dose antiretroviral therapy can reduce mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

SECURE THE FUTURE programs are designed to meet best practice standards, demonstrate outcomes and impact and be closely aligned with and complementary of Ministry of Health priorities as well as to meet national health priorities and initiative objectives. The Yale University Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA), at the Yale School of Public Health, New Haven, Conn., is the primary organization responsible for monitoring and evaluating programs.

## WHAT IT TAKES

SECURE THE FUTURE's role in fighting AIDS in Africa is an evolving story. Program leaders consistently review that role and how relevant the initiative is as needs change over time and as other organizations join the battle. The crisis clearly demands an innovative, broad-based and creative response. And, the initiative today is doing just that.

To learn more about the SECURE THE FUTURE, and lessons learned through its programs, or to apply for fellowships, please visit: [www.securethefuture.com](http://www.securethefuture.com).

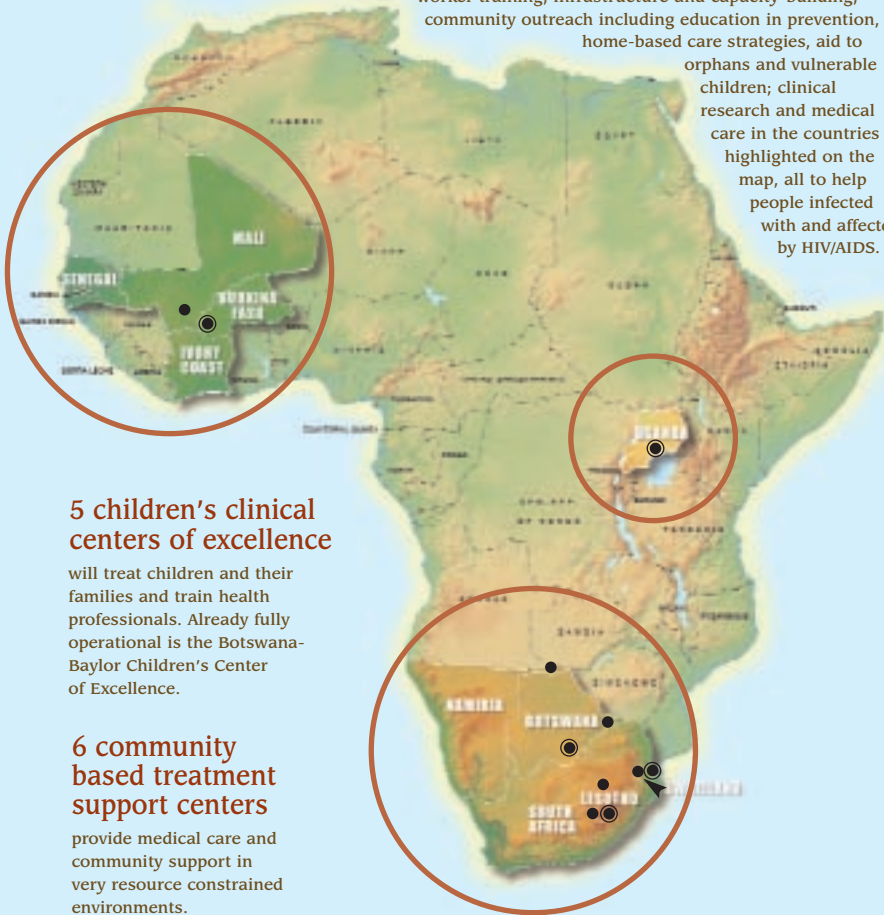
## SECURE THE FUTURE<sup>®</sup>

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- children's clinical center
- community center

### 10 Countries — more than 200 Grants

SECURE THE FUTURE has provided grants totaling \$150 million for a wide range of programs including public health worker training, infrastructure and capacity-building, community outreach including education in prevention, home-based care strategies, aid to orphans and vulnerable children; clinical research and medical care in the countries highlighted on the map, all to help people infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS.



### 5 children's clinical centers of excellence

will treat children and their families and train health professionals. Already fully operational is the Botswana-Baylor Children's Center of Excellence.

### 6 community based treatment support centers

provide medical care and community support in very resource constrained environments.



**Bristol-Myers Squibb**

*Hope, Triumph and the Miracle of Medicine™*

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