STRATEGIC FOCUS

The CDC office works closely with Zimbabwe’s Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) to further expand the robust national HIV response. CDC has implemented programs in a step-wise fashion to build capacity and technical expertise, and enhance the Zimbabwe infrastructure necessary for a sustainable, high impact HIV response.

Current areas of strategic focus include:

- HIV prevention, testing, care, and treatment
- Integration of HIV and tuberculosis (TB) management, and TB infection control
- Laboratory support for HIV and TB diagnosis and monitoring
- Health systems strengthening: Surveillance, quality improvement, and health information systems

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision

- VMMC is the cornerstone of biomedical HIV prevention in Zimbabwe; an estimated one new HIV infection is averted with every 8 male circumcisions. In 2016, CDC supported nearly 60,000 circumcisions.

Surveys, Surveillance and Program Information

- Zimbabwe was one of 3 countries to pioneer the Population-Based HIV Impact Assessment (ZIMPHIA), revealing a decrease in national HIV prevalence from 15.1% (2010) to 14.0% (2016) in 15-49 year olds
- A national tablet-based electronic health record (EHR) system has been piloted by CDC, endorsed by the MOHCC at the end of 2016, and national rollout begins in 2017

HIV Treatment Program

- Working together, CDC and MOHCC has dramatically increased the number of patients on ART, and the country is rapidly approaching the 90-90-90 goals for epidemic control. This is largely the result of technical and financial assistance, direct human resource support, and strong coordination among stakeholders.

Laboratory Support

- Availability of viral load testing for PLHIV on ART has dramatically increased from 5% in December 2015 to approximately 41% by December 2016, after 6 new platforms were placed in labs across the country by CDC. Capacity building also continues to be a key priority through support for proficiency testing and strong quality management.