

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the William J. Clinton
Presidential Library Staff.**

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: National AIDS Policy Office

Series/Staff Member:

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 19423

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Haiti

Stack:

S

Row:

66

Section:

7

Shelf:

7

Position:

1



2101 Wilson Blvd. - Suite 710
Arlington, VA 22201

Phone: (703) 516-9779
Fax: (703) 516-9781

FAMILY HEALTH INTERNATIONAL

TO:

NAME:

LATHONA ROMOCKI

LOCATION:

WHITE HOUSE AIDS POLICY OFFICE

FAX #:

(202) 632-1096

FROM:

NAME:

MARY O'GRADY

DATE:

13 OCTOBER 1995

TOTAL #OF PAGES:

~~2~~ 3

(including this page)

Lathona -

Attached includes more background.

Best,

Mary
OO

USAID's Response

USAID's Aba Sida ("Down with AIDS" in Creole) Project began in April 1991. Five months later, after donor support to Haiti's public sector was withdrawn as a result of a military coup d'état, Aba SIDA revised its strategic plan to focus solely on building the capacity of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Most Aba SIDA activities are implemented by the AIDS Control and Prevention Project (AIDSCAP), which began in 1992. AIDSCAP works with NGOs and other local partners to strengthen their ability to:

- o promote sexual behavior change;
- o increase access to condoms; and
- o improve the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of STDs that increase people's risk of acquiring or transmitting HIV.

In addition, AIDSCAP sponsors research to identify better ways to encourage behavior change and advocacy efforts to build support for policies that enhance HIV prevention. A local organization, Institut Haitien de l'Enfance, monitors the progress of all AIDSCAP projects and is collecting the data needed to evaluate their impact.

Meeting Challenges

World AIDS Day 1993 fell during a particularly troubled period in Haiti, amid political instability and sporadic violence. Yet on that day--December 1--AIDSCAP organized a series of activities that raised awareness about AIDS among Haitians and boosted the morale of the grassroots organizations involved in prevention efforts. Young people released hundreds of helium balloons printed with the message "Think, AIDS is Still Here," a major radio station devoted all its advertising time to HIV prevention messages, and World AIDS Day events drew extensive television, radio and newspaper coverage.

The World AIDS Day campaign is only one example of AIDSCAP's success in working with local groups to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Creative, effective HIV/AIDS prevention activities continued despite political turmoil and uncertainty, an international fuel embargo, strikes, the closing of schools, and rioting and violence that resulted in the evacuation of United Nations personnel.

Participants attribute much of the program's success to its flexibility in responding to changing conditions. When factories were closed, a prevention program for factory workers sent its volunteers into the neighborhoods. When a planned mailing of AIDS information to 3,500 households had to be canceled because mail service was suspended, efforts to reach youth and their parents through informal community meetings and education posts were intensified.

Strengthening NGOs

During the turbulent years under Haiti's military government, the prevention efforts of local NGOs and international private voluntary organizations (PVOs) were the nation's only HIV/AIDS program. USAID has worked closely with these groups and the private sector to promote a coordinated, comprehensive response to the epidemic in Haiti and to ensure that NGOs have the skills needed to sustain prevention programs in the future.

AIDSCAP offered an integrated strategy of communication to change behavior, condom social marketing, and STD control to NGOs in a country with no national strategy for HIV/AIDS prevention. Haitian NGOs have adopted this strategy and adapted it to meet local needs.

Through technical assistance and training, AIDSCAP has built the capacity of 29 NGOs to design, manage and evaluate HIV/AIDS prevention projects. AIDSCAP also holds regular meetings of all project managers to encourage NGOs to share research results, educational materials and other information. All AIDSCAP implementing agencies are using Cornell-GHESKIO's counseling manual and many of them use a peer educator manual for youth developed by the NGO Volontariat pour le Développement d'Haiti.

AIDSCAP helps Haitian NGOs prepare for the eventual withdrawal of donor funding by improving their institutional capacity to sustain HIV/AIDS prevention programs. With AIDSCAP support, the Implementing Agency for Cooperation and Training (IMPACT) is

developing its prevention program with sex workers into an autonomous Haitian institution. AIDSCAP financial and technical assistance is also enabling the STD referral center at Cornell-GHESKIO to become a national center of excellence for STD research and training.

Empowering Women

In Haiti, as in most parts of the world, women are particularly vulnerable to HIV because their low social and economic status makes it difficult for them to negotiate safer sex with their partners. AIDSCAP is informing women about HIV/AIDS and helping them improve their sexual negotiating skills through programs in community health care facilities, family planning clinics and workplaces. It also concentrates on reaching men with information and condoms, because women cannot protect themselves without the cooperation of their partners.

Workplace programs have proved a particularly effective way to reach sexually active women and men. Workers trained as peer educators by the Groupe de Lutte Anti-SIDA (GLAS) have educated almost 18,000 of their peers in 35 factories in Port-au-Prince about HIV/AIDS. The Centre de Promotion des Femmes Ouvrières (CFPO) has reached about 2,500 women workers through roundtable discussions.

Save the Children works with a coalition of 10 local NGOs in the Central Plateau to improve STD services and educate young women

about HIV/AIDS prevention through peer educators and specially trained traditional birth attendants. The program has fostered a productive collaboration among the NGOs, who have reached more than 1,500 women.

Most recently AIDSCAP has concentrated on policy efforts to incorporate gender concerns into future HIV/AIDS prevention strategies in Haiti. In May 1995 AIDSCAP brought together representatives of 18 organizations to draft recommendations for preventing further spread of HIV among Haitian women and girls. AIDSCAP is providing funds and technical assistance to the Alliance des Femmes Haitiennes (ADH), a coalition of 34 women's organizations, to organize a series of forums to solicit additional recommendations and to ensure that these recommendations are included in the Haitian National Plan of Action for AIDS.

Reaching Youth

Youth is a time of experimentation, when young people may engage in unprotected sex, drug use or other risky behavior to assert their independence. It is also the time when an individual's attitudes and behavioral patterns are established, so early intervention is crucial.

AIDSCAP-supported activities for youth inform them about how to avoid sexually transmitted diseases, strengthen peer support for abstinence and other preventive measures, and encourage dialogue about sexuality and HIV/AIDS between parents and children. By mid-

1995, these projects had reached more than 8,000 youth.

The Haitian Center for Social Services (CHASS) targets youth ages 15 to 24 in and around Carrefour, one of the poorest slums in southern Port-au-Prince. Community educators conduct door-to-door visits to inform youth and their parents about HIV/AIDS/STD prevention and to invite them to participate in group discussions. The Voluntary Center for the Development of Haiti (VDH) is training and supervising a network of 200 peer educators to motivate youth in the northern region to adopt safer sexual practices.

In 1993, AIDSCAP funded Alerte SIDA!, a communication campaign organized by the Association de Santé Publique d'Haiti, which educated 20,000 young people about HIV/AIDS through peer education, televised discussion programs and school-based activities. The campaign encouraged family dialogue about sexuality, STDs and HIV/AIDS by reaching 10,000 parents.

Promoting Behavior Change

AIDSCAP and its partners used a combination of face-to-face communication and mass media to reach more than 500,000 people during the first three years of the project. Over 275,000 brochures, booklets, posters, videos and other educational materials about HIV/AIDS prevention have been distributed.

Communication projects are designed to inform people about HIV/AIDS, encourage them to adopt safer sexual practices, and

create a social environment that supports individual behavior change. They are coordinated with condom programs and improved STD services to ensure that people have the tools and services they need to adopt safer sexual behavior. Examples of innovative AIDSCAP communication projects include:

- o use of a video showing 10 different scenarios for sexual negotiation to stimulate discussion among women about how to persuade their partners to use condoms;
- o a monthly radio call-in show on HIV/STD prevention that gives young people an open, nonjudgmental, anonymous forum for expressing ideas and discussing concerns;
- o "Sultana mon Amor," a drama broadcast weekly on national television, that uses the story of a young woman whose husband dies of AIDS to promote safer sexual behavior.

Increasing Access to Condoms

Add PSI text.

Improving STD Treatment

In 1992 Haiti had no national STD control program, and little was known about STD prevalence in the country. An AIDSCAP assessment found that almost half the women attending two urban prenatal clinics had at least one STD. Most people did not receive adequate treatment for STDs, pregnant women were rarely screened for syphilis, and self-medication with antibiotics sold on the street--a practice that has led to antibiotic resistance in many countries--was common.

In collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), AIDSCAP is improving STD prevention and treatment in Haiti through research, training, technical assistance and institutional development. From 1992 to 1995, AIDSCAP sponsored the training of more than 400 clinicians, counselors and laboratory technicians in the skills needed to provide comprehensive STD services.

AIDSCAP's success in using local research results to build consensus on a standardized approach to STD diagnosis and treatment is one of its most important achievements in Haiti. Based on the World Health Organization's guidelines, this preventive approach relies primarily on a clinician's assessment of a patient's signs and symptoms rather than expensive and often unavailable laboratory tests. AIDSCAP helped encourage coordination among the three main STD programs in Haiti, which are now sharing data and promoting this treatment method.

AIDSCAP is supporting comprehensive STD control programs conducted by the Centre pour le Developpement de la Santé (CDS) in northeastern Haiti and by a coalition of 10 NGOs in the Central Plateau. These programs train staff to provide education and counseling to STD patients and their partners and to promote safer sexual behavior, including condom use.

After two and a half years, an assessment found that STD case management in CDS centers had improved significantly. Drugs donated by PAHO were available in all of the centers and the percentage of clinicians treating the most common STD syndrome properly had increased from 10 to 69 percent. The NGO coalition program, which began in 1994, has established systematic syphilis screening at prenatal clinics in the Central Plateau. Adoption of the new guidelines for STD case management has resulted in a 50 percent decrease in laboratory service costs.

To ensure the sustainability of improvements in STD care and prevention, AIDSCAP is working with Cornell-GHESKIO to develop a national center of excellence in STD research, training and counseling. By training health care providers throughout the island in laboratory and clinical diagnosis, case management and counseling, the center is creating a cadre of Haitian STD experts.

Caring for People Living with HIV/AIDS

Most USAID programs focus on HIV prevention. But as the number of people with AIDS in Haiti continues to increase, AIDSCAP has begun to expand its support for counseling and care for people living

with AIDS. In addition to funding HIV and STD counseling, AIDSCAP has initiated a small grants program to help NGOs create effective, affordable models of AIDS care and management and to demonstrate effective links between care and prevention.

Three NGOs were awarded AIDS care and management grants in 1994. Grace Children's Hospital is training health personnel and traditional healers to provide home care to people living with HIV/AIDS in 10 slum areas of Port-au-Prince. It is also creating income-generating activities for HIV-positive women and women caring for family members with AIDS. Hospital Albert Schweitzer is using the grant to change its emphasis from hospital care to community-based HIV prevention and home-based management of people with HIV/AIDS. A third grantee, Hôpital de Fermathe, is training health workers, community volunteers and family members to care for people with AIDS and providing financial support, including scholarships and child care, to 82 families affected by HIV/AIDS.

Facing the Future

Recognizing that HIV/AIDS poses one of the greatest threats to Haiti's future, USAID is committed to working with the country's public and private sectors to expand and sustain effective prevention efforts. The Agency will focus on rebuilding the nation's health system, integrating HIV/AIDS prevention into basic health services, and fostering partnerships between the public sector and NGOs to slow the spread of the virus. One of USAID's highest priorities will be raising awareness and promoting behavior

change among young people to ensure a safe and healthy future for the next generation of Haitians.

AIDSCAP Partners

Association de Santé Publique d'Haiti
Centre de Promotion des Femmes Ouvrières
Center for the Development of Human Resources
Centre Pour le Développement de la Santé
Comité d'Action Jeunes d'Haiti
Cornell-GHESKIO (Groupe Haitien d'Etudes de Sarcome de Kaposi
et des Infections Opportuniste)
Grace Children's Hospital
Groupe de Lutte Anti-SIDA
Haitian Institute for Community Health
Haitian Social Service Center
Hospital Albert Schweitzer
Hôpital de Fermathe
Implementing Agency for Coordination and Training
Interaide
Institut Haitien de l'Enfance
Population Services International
Les Producteurs Haitiennes Reunis
Save the Children
Volontariat pour le Développement d'Haiti

I N T E R O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M

Date: 25-Oct-1995 08:26am EST
From: Anne Phillips
APHILLIPS@A1@FHI
Dept: Policy Research

Utilization

Tel No:

TO: lromocki@a1@fhidc

Subject: tipper gore

I am just now reading in the newspaper Haiti-Observateur about Mrs. Gore's visit to Port-au-Prince. There is an account here of her visit to a health center in Cité Soleil (one that FHI has worked with) and being met by "manifestations" including being welcomed by a "pluie de pierres". One of the embassy vehicles was damaged (I think that the windsheild was shattered).

Anyway, the story goes on to say that the paper has learned that the attack on her entourage was ordered by Aristide to give her "what she deserves" and give her a taste of "popular justice" for "crimes (she) committed against democracy!

The story then goes on to say that she invited a Haitian named Toto Constant to the president and vice-president's swearing-in ceremony. This guy is big in FRAPH, the biggest opposition group to Aristide and responsible for many of the atrocities committed in Haiti over the past few years. Then the story says that Constant denies that Mrs. Gore invited him.

Then the story says that Aristide considers Al Gore a FRAPHist! It even claims he carries a card!

Then the story says that American officials found out that the demonstration and rock-throwing was ordered by Aristide because the Gores blew off a reception at Aristide's house they were supposed to attend that night, and that the Gores left without Al attending the opening of parliment, which he was scheduled to attend.

I bet that was the trip of their lives!

Anne



2101 Wilson Blvd. - Suite 710
Arlington, VA 22201

Phone: (703) 516-9779
Fax: (703) 516-9781

FAMILY HEALTH INTERNATIONAL

TO:

NAME: Lafoma Ronocki

LOCATION: WHITE HOUSE AIDS POLICY OFFICE

FAX #: (202) 632-1096

FROM:

NAME: MARY O'GRADY

DATE: 13 OCTOBER 1995 TOTAL #OF PAGES: 2
(including this page)

Lafoma -

*Use from attached as you wish -
they're from Eddy. I reworked
them or Peter read them also.*

*Thanks,
Mary*

FAMILY HEALTH INTERNATIONAL

TALKING POINTS FOR MRS. GORE ABOUT HIV/AIDS IN HAITI 10/13/95

- 1) Haiti has no national AIDS coordinator nor an official HIV/AIDS plan. The country needs a National AIDS Commission with a high-level National AIDS Commissioner.
- 2) The U.S. Agency for International Development funding for HIV/AIDS prevention and care through the AIDS Control and Prevention (AIDSCAP) Project has been cut from \$2 million in FY 1995 to \$240,000 for FY 1996.
- 3) President Aristide should encourage the private sector to get involved with and fund HIV/AIDS prevention and care initiatives by having the Haitian Government provide funding to good community-level programs that can be used as models.
- 4) There is a great need for sex education to be taught in schools as early as age nine, because by age 12 some children already have engaged in sexual intercourse.
- 5) Haitians who are living with HIV need more care and support through social services as well as better protection of their rights. Those living with HIV experience discrimination in addition to inadequate health care and provision of social service options.
- 6) HIV/AIDS prevention and care should be integrated into Haiti's basic health services.



Headquarters:
P.O. Box 13930
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 USA
Telephone: 919-544-7040
Telex: 579442 . Fax: 919-544-7261

AIDSCAP Department:
2101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700
Arlington, VA 22201
Telephone: 703-516-9779 . Fax: 703-516-9781
Voice Mail: 703-516-0460

USAID's HIV/AIDS Prevention Program in Haiti

As part of USAID's Aba Sida ("Down with AIDS" in Creole) Project, the AIDS Control and Prevention Project (AIDSCAP) works with more than 29 nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to enhance their ability to promote sexual behavior change, increase access to condoms, and improve treatment and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) that increase people's risk of acquiring or transmitting HIV.

Despite daunting political and economic obstacles, the accomplishments of AIDSCAP's program in Haiti equal or even exceed those of HIV prevention programs in other countries. During its first three years the program has:

- o Enhanced the capacity of 29 NGOs to plan, manage and evaluate comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programs;
- o Sponsored the first forums on women and AIDS in Haiti and initiated a dialogue to ensure that women's concerns are addressed in the country's new HIV/AIDS plan;
- o Achieved consensus among the three main STD programs in the country on a standardized preventive approach to STD diagnosis and treatment;
- o Trained more than 5,500 health workers, NGO personnel and community volunteers in the skills they need to sustain HIV/AIDS prevention programs;
- o Educated more than half a million people about how to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS and distributed over 275,000 educational materials;
- o Sold or distributed more than 13 million condoms, increasing annual condom sales by 40 percent; and
- o Established some of the first HIV/AIDS prevention programs for youth in Haiti, reaching more than 8,000 young people.

HIV Prevention for Women

Save the Children has worked with a coalition of 10 local NGOs in the Central Plateau to improve STD services and educate more than 1,500 young women about HIV/AIDS prevention through peer educators and traditional birth attendants. An **IMPACT** (the Implementing Agency for Cooperation and Training) outreach project is providing HIV/AIDS education and condoms to sex workers and their clients in 7 port cities.

Reaching Youth

The **Voluntary Center for the Development of Haiti (VDH)** is training and supervising a network of 200 peer educators to motivate youth in the northern region to adopt safer sexual practices. Community educators trained and supervised by the **Haitian Center for Social Services (CHASS)** conduct door-to-door visits in one of the poorest slums in Port-au-Prince to inform youth and their parents about HIV/AIDS/STD prevention.

Educating Men and Women in the Workplace

The Centre de Promotion des Femmes Ouvrières (CFPO) has reached about 2,500 women workers through roundtable discussions in the workplace and is conducting seminars on AIDS for workers and their families. Workers trained as peer educators by the Groupe de Lutte Anti-SIDA (GLAS) have educated almost 18,000 of their peers in 35 factories in Port-au-Prince about HIV/AIDS.

Communication for Behavior Change

Examples of innovative AIDSCAP communication projects include: use of a video showing 10 different scenarios for sexual negotiation to stimulate discussion among women about how to persuade their partners to use condoms; a monthly radio call-in show on HIV/STD prevention that gives young people a forum for discussing concerns; and "Sultana mon Amor," a drama about the impact of HIV/AIDS, broadcast weekly on national television.

Condom Social Marketing

Population Services International's condom social marketing project uses marketing expertise and creative promotions to increase condom use in Haiti. It has improved access to condoms throughout the country with an innovative strategy that uses a network of 200 community outreach workers as sales agents.

Improving STD Treatment

AIDSCAP is supporting comprehensive STD control programs conducted by the Centre pour le Developpement de la Santé (CDS) in northeastern Haiti and by the Save the Children-led coalition of 10 NGOs in the Central Plateau. These programs train staff to provide education and counseling to STD patients and their partners and to promote safer sexual behavior, including condom use. To ensure the sustainability of improvements in STD care and prevention, AIDSCAP is working with Cornell-GHESKIO to develop a national center of excellence in STD research, training and counseling.

Caring for People Living with HIV/AIDS

AIDSCAP has awarded three small grants to help NGOs create effective models of AIDS care and management and to demonstrate effective links between care and prevention. Grace Children's Hospital is training health personnel and traditional healers to provide home care to people living with HIV/AIDS in 10 slum areas of Port-au-Prince. It is also creating income-generating activities for HIV-positive women and women caring for family members with AIDS. Albert Schweitzer Hospital is using the grant to change its emphasis from hospital care to community-based HIV prevention and home-based management of people with HIV/AIDS. Hôpital de Fermathe, is training health workers, community volunteers and family members to care for people with AIDS and providing financial support, including scholarships and child care, to 82 families affected by HIV/AIDS.

Building Capacity

The Haitian Institute for Community Health (INHSAC) conducted an assessment of the training needs of NGOs implementing the Aba SIDA project. Based on this assessment, the Institute is providing training in HIV/AIDS counseling, care, communication, condom logistics, and project management and evaluation to more than 800 NGO staff.



2101 Wilson Blvd. - Suite 710
Arlington, VA 22201

Phone: (703) 516-9779
Fax: (703) 516-9781

FAMILY HEALTH INTERNATIONAL

TO:

NAME:

LATONIA ROMOCKI

LOCATION:

WHITE HOUSE AIDS POLICY OFFICE

FAX #:

(202) 682-1096

FROM:

NAME:

MARY O'GRADY

DATE:

12 OCTOBER 1995

TOTAL #OF PAGES:

3

(including this page)

Latonia -

Attached is what AIDSCAP is up to in Haiti.

Best,
Mary

AIDSCAP IN HAITI

COLLABORATING AGENCIES INCLUDE:

Save the Children
Groupe de Lutte Anti-SIDA
Cornell-GHESKIO

Institut Haitien de la Santé Communautaire
Implementing Agency for Cooperation and Training
Centre pour le Développement et la Santé
Centre de Promotion des Femmes Ouvrières

PREKOMAS

Centre Haitien pour le Service Social
Institut Haitien de l'Enfance



AIDSCAP SUBPROJECTS INCLUDE:

Community
Education for
AIDS Prevention

AIDS in the
Workplace

Counseling
HIV-positive People
and STD/HIV Training

Training for Health
Care Workers

Condom Social
Marketing

Outreach and STD
Clinic Enhancement

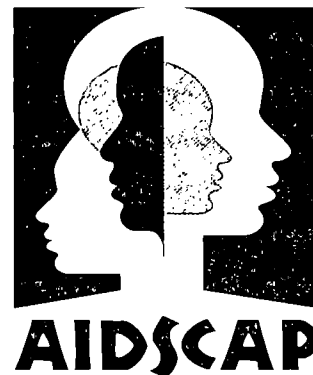
Evaluation of the
AIDSCAP/Haiti
Program

The first cases of AIDS in Haiti were recognized in 1982. Out of a population of 6.5 million, a total of 3,086 AIDS cases had been reported in Haiti by December 31, 1990. It is believed that the prevalence of HIV infection increases at a rate of 1 percent every year in Haiti's urban areas. The first cases of AIDS were detected among bisexual men, but heterosexual contact is now the primary mode of HIV transmission. The male-to-female ratio of infection is 1:1, and rates of infection are generally higher in urban areas than rural areas.

AIDSCAP STRATEGY

Despite political and economic obstacles, extensive prevention efforts continue throughout the country. In collaboration with USAID's Aba SIDA Project, AIDSCAP is working to achieve a measurable impact on the spread of HIV by strengthening the capacity of Haitian nongovernmental organizations and the private sector to design, implement, and monitor HIV prevention interventions.

Interventions target adolescents, sex workers, sexually active men and women, and people with AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and tuberculosis. They focus on reducing STDs, behavior change communication, and promotion and provision of condoms. These primary strategies are supported by evaluation, behavioral research, and policy advocacy.



For more information please contact the
AIDSCAP Resident Advisor
P.O. Box 1261
76, Rue Capois
Port-au-Prince, HAITI
Tel: (509) 229328
Fax: (509) 238825



Project 936-5972.31-4692046
Contract HRN-5972-C-00-4001-00