



## U.S. Military HIV Research Program (MHRP) HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment

Funded by PEPFAR

### Implementing the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

PEPFAR, the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, is the largest effort ever by a single nation to combat an epidemic. The program has saved 25 million lives, prevented countless new infections, and helped several countries achieve epidemic control – all while boosting global health security.

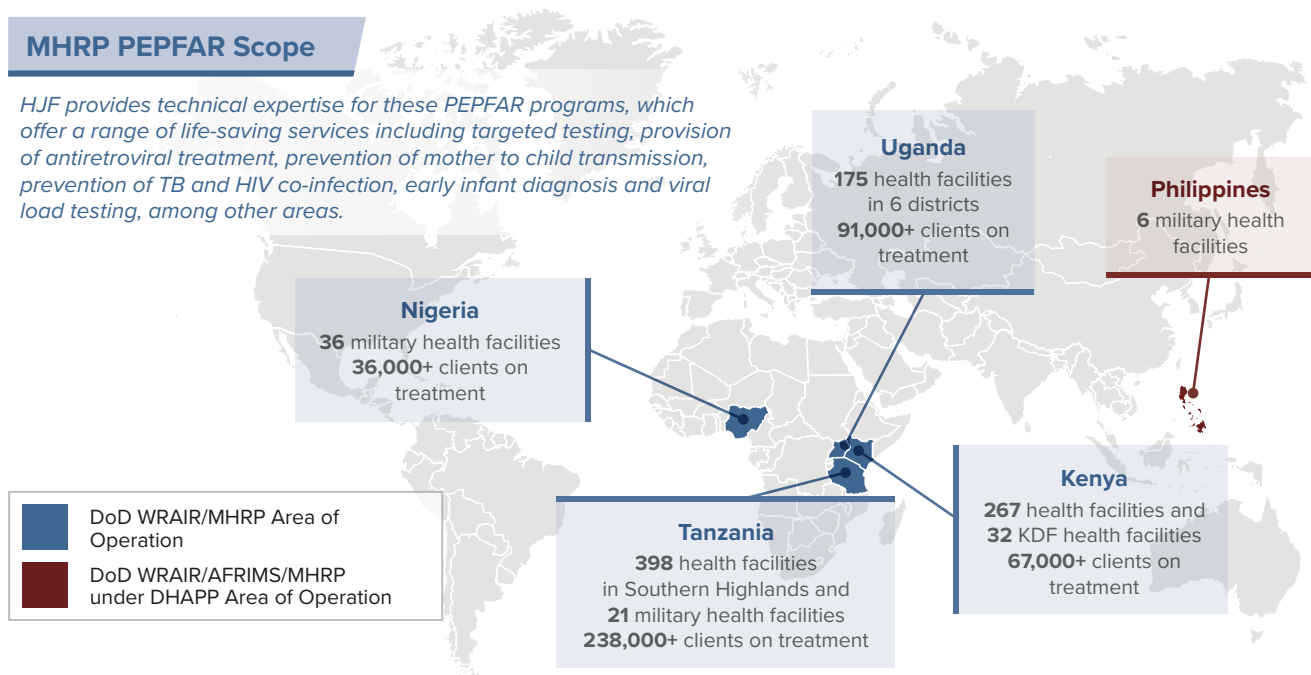
Since 2005, the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine (HJF) has partnered with the U.S. Military HIV Research Program (MHRP) at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research to implement comprehensive HIV prevention, testing, care, and treatment services in Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Uganda, and in 2021 expanded to the Philippines.

What sets our PEPFAR programs apart is their broad reach. They serve both military and civilian populations across urban, peri-urban and rural areas, supporting more than 900 health facilities. In close collaboration with ministries of health and defense, and community-based organizations, we currently support treatment for more than 425,000 individuals.

HJF teams support evidence-based interventions to help drive effective, efficient and sustainable health care systems. These investments create a more resilient health system for partner countries to confront current and future health challenges and increase global health security.

#### MHRP PEPFAR Scope

*HJF provides technical expertise for these PEPFAR programs, which offer a range of life-saving services including targeted testing, provision of antiretroviral treatment, prevention of mother to child transmission, prevention of TB and HIV co-infection, early infant diagnosis and viral load testing, among other areas.*



PEPFAR activities are carried out through partners and HJF subsidiaries: HJF Medical Research International in Kenya and Tanzania, HJFMRI Ltd/Gte in Nigeria, and Makerere University Walter Reed Program in Uganda.

HJFMRI implements PEPFAR activities in Africa under WRAIR-Africa, which is located on the campus of the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) in Nairobi. MHRP's military-to-military PEPFAR programs are conducted in collaboration with the Department of Defense HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (DHAPP).







## Bringing Services to Communities

HJFMRI works in western Kenya in the South Rift Valley, where much of the population is highly transient. HJFMRI has devised ways to bring services to communities, including mobile clinics and community posts in outlying areas of Kericho, Kenya, to provide accessible, decentralized HIV testing, care and treatment.



## Leveraging PEPFAR and Research

MHRP conducts research in partnership with organizations that also implement PEPFAR, which has led to more cost-efficient, mutually reinforcing countermeasure development research and service delivery. In addition, PEPFAR-linked facilities and labs support disease surveillance, providing the U.S. with early warning of emerging infectious disease threats.

The African Cohort Study (AFRICOS), now in its twelfth year, enables researchers to track the impact of clinical practices, biological factors and comorbidities on HIV progression and other health outcomes. HJF scientists and program specialists have been critical to translating AFRICOS findings to best practices and health policy for HIV care and treatment.

**Adult Care and Treatment:** Our programs embrace a person-centered approach to health service delivery. We partner with national and regional governments to ensure supportive policy and private sector engagement to address HIV service delivery gaps by promoting context-appropriate innovation and affordability.

**Pediatric Care and Treatment:** We prioritize activities geared towards improving access to quality child and family-centered care within military and civilian treatment facilities with a focus on optimizing ART regimens. Facility-based mentorship helps to ensure children are initiated and maintained on ART with regular supervision by qualified clinicians.

**Linkage to Prevention and Treatment Services:** We are committed to ensuring that HIV testing is seamlessly coupled with timely linkage to appropriate HIV prevention, care and treatment services.

**Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT):** These programs contribute to healthier outcomes for mothers and marked reductions in HIV acquisition among exposed infants.

## Sustainable Progress

**Data-Driven Decision Making:** In collaboration with local government, facility, and community-based organization leadership, we organize regular data review meetings that highlight successes and challenges and provide opportunities for joint decision-making to further refine programmatic efforts. In parallel, our in-country PEPFAR teams continue to strengthen the capacity of local partners to utilize real time programmatic data effectively, enabling rapid course-correction when needed.

**Capacity Building and Sustainability:** We are committed to strengthening healthcare systems and building local capacity to sustain HIV interventions that are culturally appropriate and responsive to local contexts. This aligns with PEPFAR's community-centered approach, promoting more effective, sustainable, and comprehensive HIV responses.

