



COMMUNITY HIV LINK – NORTHERN COAST

JULY 2014 – 2017 | IMPLEMENTER: CENTER FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT (COHED)

Working in Nghe An and Hai Phong provinces, the Community HIV Link – Northern Coast project works to build on efforts to control the spread of HIV/AIDS in Vietnam. To sustain current prevention and treatment activities, local civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) must increase their contribution to the national HIV Program. This project develops local organizations capacity to reach the most at risk populations and link them with HIV/AIDS services that they need.

REACHES AT-RISK POPULATIONS

To ensure that the individuals most at risk for HIV receive testing and treatment, the project mobilizes and trains a network of community-based supporters to conduct outreach activities to reach and serve key populations and link them to HIV services. Efforts are focused on case-finding, community-based outreach and referral to HIV/AIDS services for individuals with new HIV diagnoses and existing patients who have been not been receiving treatment.

IMPROVES ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

The project provides technical support to CBOs that provide HIV services to strengthen their outreach and referral skills. Organizational assessments followed by tailored training, mentoring and coaching improve the technical, management and financial aspects of the CSOs/CBOs, enabling them to strengthen and sustain their operation in the future.

ENHANCES COORDINATION

The project coordinates with provincial and district health services providers to develop better referral systems and ensure that community-level data collected is recognized in the provincial HIV monitoring and evaluation system. The project also helps CBOs join national advocacy networks to improve their role and visibility in the HIV response

RESULTS

In the first year, the project successfully reached over 11,000 individuals within the most at-risk populations and found over 500 new cases of HIV. Over 230 new patients were put on anti-retroviral treatment and over 220 patients that were lost to-follow up returned to care through the project's outreach and referral services.

In the photo: A community-based supporter provides counseling and outreach services at a client's house; COHED
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